



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Keith Evans | **Vice Chairman:** Cllr Dr David Bowry

Town Clerk: Helen Symmons PSLCC



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE
TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Present: Cllrs: David Bowry, Vinice Cowell, Doug Cracknell, Keith Evans (Chairman), Anita Forde, Paul Gilson, Jill Healey, Emma Mills, Leslie Parris, James Preston, Rory Windass and Andy Wilkins

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Town Clerk) and 1 member of the public

Absent: Cllrs: Katie Cohen, Alan Hart, Carole Mulrone **and Craig Watt**

MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7.31 pm

52. ONE-MINUTE SILENCE

The Council fell silent for a minute to pay respects to her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

53. CHAIRMAN AND HOUSEKEEPING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and updated Councillors on his civic duties including those as Patron of the Leigh Horticultural Society where he attended their latest show and handed out prizes; attending various civic services and civic matters over the national period of mourning with the Town Clerk and opened the recent U3A Shopping history exhibition. He will be hosting a lunchtime music fundraiser for Gold Geese in the community centre café 1st October.

54. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Hart, Mulrone **and Watt**

The Chairman then read out a letter of resignation from Cllr Cohen due to work and family commitments.

55. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest in any agenda item where Southend City Council are mentioned.

56. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 19TH JULY 2022

The minutes of the meeting 19th July 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and signed.

57. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

There were none.

58. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none

59. SOUTHEND CITY COUNCIL

Cllr Evans in his capacity as a city councillor advised that there had been no meetings during the period of national mourning. The Cost of Living Working Party had met but nothing had been heard as to outcomes.

60. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The report was noted. Cllr Healey gave an update on her activities with regard to the bus issues and Cllr Cracknell reported on his training urging other councillors to consider it next time.

Following a proposal (Cllr Gilson, seconded Cllr Cowell) it was **RESOLVED** that in view that nothing had been sent from Council to the bus company since May, that the Town Clerk would write a letter of representation on behalf of Council. Cllr Healey and Cllr Evans said they would assist.

COMMITTEES / PDGS AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

61. COMMITTEES - **Agenda item 10**

- a) The minutes of the Planning, Licensing and Highways Committee were presented by Cllr Cowell as Chairman of the Committee and **NOTED**
- b) The minutes of the Community & Culture Committee were presented by Cllr Forde as Vice Chairman of the Committee and **NOTED**.
- c) The minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee were presented by Cllr Bowry as Chairman of the Committee and **NOTED with the following exceptions**

Minute 17 – Council **RESOLVED** the Recruitment & Selection Policy.

Minute 18 – Council **RESOLVED** the Volunteer Policy

Minute 22 - Council **RESOLVED** the expenditure

62. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

An Airport Consultive Committee meeting will be taking place in October.

OTHER DECISION ITEMS

63. MOTION FROM CLLR EVANS, SECONDED CLLR COHEN **Agenda item 12**

Council **RESOLVED** to hold a Working Party meeting to investigate the provision of a warm hub within the Community Centre and/or collaborate with other community groups.

Cllrs Cowell, Evans, Gilson, Mills, Parris, Windass and Wilkins wished to be part of the Working Party. A meeting will be held by zoom which the Town Clerk will arrange.

64. SUPPORT FOR UKRANIAN REFUGESS

Following discussion, the Council felt that the sessions had achieved their purpose as it brought people together and facilitated them meeting others and forming relationships. Council would monitor if a further call for social sessions was made. The Office is able to signpost any enquiries received and it was agreed the website would be updated to aid with this to inform what support was on offer in the City.

65. EXECUTION OF LEGAL DEEDS **Agenda item 14**

Council **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk could execute the documents appropriately on behalf of Council.

FOR NOTING / CONSIDERATION

66. OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE

Council **NOTED** the report and also that other Council members attended in a personal capacity.

67. SAFE SUN PROJECT

Council **NOTED** the report.

68. OLD MESS ROOM

Council **NOTED** the report.

69. MEMORIALS FOR SIR DAVID

Council **NOTED** the report.

70. STRATEGIC PLAN

Council **NOTED** the report

71. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)

Council **NOTED** the report and congratulated staff on a clear audit.

72. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council Magazine – Council **NOTED** the report.

Councillor Litter Pick Project – after much discussion and following a proposal (Cllr Cowell, Cllr Gilson) Council **RESOLVED** that they would continue with individual litter picks and hold community seasonal litter picks.

CONSULTATIONS

73. LEIGH TRAFFIC CALMING PILOT – CONSULTATION

The Council commented on the consultation as follows which the Town Clerk would submit:

Whilst we are appreciative that only raised entry tables will be installed, we do feel there will be a large impact on residential areas using this approach with very little gain. This is because regardless elsewhere and in between the tables, drivers will speed, evoking a slow and speed syndrome which ultimately could lead to noise and air pollution. We feel it would be better to have average speed checks throughout a larger area so a consistent 20mph limit would be adhered to in and beyond the proposed area.

We note the height of the raised entry tables is relatively low but this will still cause wear and tear on both cars, trade vehicles and the roads, and often discomfort for disabled drivers and cyclists.

As this is a pilot scheme, we would be interested to know how Southend City Council will monitor the effectiveness.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm