



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Carole Mulroney
Vice Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEIGH-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 12th DECEMBER 2012 AT THE LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Carole Mulroney (Chairman), Mark Bromfield, Margaret Cotgrove, Richard Herbert, Jerry Holden, Pat Holden, Paul Lawrence, Caroline Parker, Cliff Passmore, Patsy Ryan and David Stanley

Also in attendance: Paul Beckerson (Town Clerk) and Major John Carmichael (Salvation Army). Prior to the meeting prayers were read by Major John Carmichael.

The meeting opened at 7.32pm

75. OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Cliff Passmore after his illness and wished Cllr Donald Fraser, who had given apologies because of a cold, a speedy recovery. The Chairman had attended the Toy Service at the Salvation Army and the Rotary Carol Service with Cllr Margaret Cotgrove. The Community Transport trip to Fiddler on the Roof was well attended. The Fund Raising Quiz Event attracted over 100 people.

The Farmer's Market would take place on Saturday 22nd December and Carols on Strand Wharf on 15th December. The Annual Salvation Army Carol Service was on the 23rd December to which all members were invited. A meeting had taken place with Southend BC over the future of the Library Service in Leigh and there would be a meeting with Royal Mail on 13th December to discuss options for pick up points as a result of the closure of the London Road Sorting Office.

76. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were none

77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Alex Coulson, Syrie Cox, Geoff Crawford, Donald Fraser and John Wren

78. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none

79. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none

80. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the 14th November 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

81. COMMITTEES

- a) Planning Committee – The minutes of the meetings held on the 13th and 27th November 2012 were **noted**.
- b) Leisure, Foreshore & Environment Committee – The minutes of the meeting held on the 15th November 2012 were **noted** with the exception of minute 42.

Minute 42:

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** to Council that the Fishing Festival be suspended for the year 2013/14 in order to allow time to review the content and format and that a budget of £1,500 be set and earmarked for the year 2014/15.

Some members spoke against this recommendation. In their view the event was valued by the Fishing Industry and there was sufficient time to re-evaluate during the months running up to the event and to get more involvement from other stakeholders and contributors.

It was suggested that participants be written to to ascertain if they found the event useful. There was general agreement that the Festival needed broadening to a general maritime theme and it was essential to know if people will become involved.

Cllr David Stanley proposed and was seconded by Cllr Patsy Ryan that the recommendation be amended as follows -

That the Fishing Festival be re-launched in 2014 as a Marine Festival and that a budget of £1,500 be set in the 2013/14 budget and earmarked for the year 2014/15.

On being put to vote the amended proposal was **carried**.

- d) Allotments Committee – The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st November 2012 were **noted**.
- e) Leigh Community Centre Committee – The minutes of the meetings held on 20th November and 4th December 2012 were **noted** with a point of clarification in minute 14 regarding the delegation of hiring of staff - that the appointment is confirmed by the Personnel Sub-Committee.
- f) Finance & General Purposes Committee – The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th November 2012 were **noted** with the exception of Minute 127

Council considered the following **RECOMMENDATION**:

Minute 127: CCLA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT TO NOTE BALANCE & CONSIDER LEVEL OF INVESTMENT

The Committee **noted** that £25,000 had been invested in the fund. The Vice Chairman of F&GPC proposed, seconded by Cllr Carole Mulroney that a further £50,000 be invested.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that a further £50,000 is invested in the fund.

RESOLVED that the recommendation be agreed

82. HOUSING CRISIS IN SOUTH EAST ESSEX – To consider a response to report prepared by Friends of the Earth – (Appendix 1 to the agenda)

Members discussed the thrust of the report which advocated intensifying development in urban areas, by increasing the height of buildings and greater density. It was pointed out that the statement referring to the Haven's Hospice as residential was incorrect.

The report was **noted**.

83. CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES & QUESTIONS TO RAISE AT THE SBC RATEPAYERS FORUM (Chairman and Vice Chairman attend on the Council's behalf) – (Appendix 2 to the agenda)

Members were requested to bring their suggestions and questions to the next Council meeting.

84. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED that the Income and Expenditure Report 2131/I&E be approved – (Appendix 3 to the agenda)

The meeting closed at 8.18pm