



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Richard Herbert
Vice Chairman: Cllr Syrie Cox
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2015 AT THE LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present Cllrs: Patsy Ryan (Chairman), Syrie Cox (until Min 154), Donald Fraser, Richard Herbert (until Min 150), Pat Holden, Carole Mulroney, Caroline Parker (until Min 154) and Jane Ward

In Attendance: Paul Beckerson (Town Clerk) and Paul Nizinskyj (Echo Reporter)

The meeting opened at 7.37pm

146. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

147. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Paul Lawrence and David Stanley

148. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Carole Mulroney declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Elm Road Brief as a Southend Borough Councillor.

149. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 28th JANUARY 2015

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 28th January 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

150. STRATEGY AND TOWN PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES 13th JANUARY 2015 (Appendix 1 to the agenda)

Minute 11 - COUNCIL RESTRUCTURE – Consideration of recommendation contained in the minute:

An amendment was put to delete the wording in **Project Development Groups** 7th paragraph 'normally in the alternate month of their parent committee'

Proposed Cllr Richard Herbert; Seconded Cllr Carole Mulroney

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment.

A proposal was put that the Community Transport Sub-Committee be added in Sub-Committees listed under Environment & Leisure.

Proposed Cllr Donald Fraser; Seconded Cllr Carole Mulroney

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the amended restructure to Council for adoption and **noted** the minutes.

The Committee considered the proposed **Calendar of Meetings** (Appendix 2 to the agenda).

An amendment was put to hold the Council on a Wednesday and Environment and Leisure meetings on Thursday.

Proposed Cllr Carole Mulroney; Seconded Cllr Donald Fraser

On being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

A further amendment was put that Council and Environment and Leisure be held on a Wednesday.

Proposed Cllr Pat Holden; Seconded Cllr Donald Fraser

On being put to the vote the amendment was **LOST**.

The Calendar of meetings without amendment was put to the vote.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the Calendar of meetings to Council for adoption.

Transitional Arrangements set out in Report 2469/PB (Appendix 3 to the agenda)

An amendment was proposed to the recommendation;

That a review be undertaken after the first 3 months and 6 months

Proposed Cllr Richard Herbert; Seconded Cllr Carole Mulroney

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment

A further proposal was put that the proposed addition of T&HC members to Community Facilities and Planning, Licensing and Highways be deleted.

Proposed Cllr Donald Fraser as this was not seconded it fell.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the proposals set out in the report to Council and that it shall be reviewed at 3 months and 6 months.

Revised Terms of Reference – (Appendix 4 to the agenda)

Cllr Richard Herbert left the meeting

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the revised Terms of Reference to Council for adoption.

Finance Regulation consequential amendments – Change of F&GPC to P&RC

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the changes outlined on the agenda to Council for adoption.

151. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKING PARTY 6th JANUARY 2015 – Information Report 2468/CEWP (Appendix 5 to the agenda)

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the report.

152. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKING PARTY 26th JANUARY 2015 – Information Report 2475/CEWP (Appendix 6 to the agenda)

Cllr Jane Ward was thanked for all her work in preparation for the event on 5th February.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to **note** the report.

153. REVISED BUDGET SETTING PROCEDURE – Report 2465/PB – Officer's Report (Appendix 7 to the agenda)

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the procedure to Council for adoption.

154. ELM ROAD DEVELOPMENT BRIEF MODIFICATIONS – Report 2473/PB – Officer's Report (Appendix 8 to the agenda)

The Committee considered the proposed response contained in the report.

A proposal was put to delete the second bullet point and amend the first to cover both aspects:

Add at end of bullet point 1 'and that the ability to open up the site for this purpose has been abandoned'

Proposed Cllr Carole Mulrone; Seconded Cllr Jane Ward

The Committee **AGREED** the amendment and deletion.

A proposal was put to amend bullet point 3:

'That the loss of car parking on the site in an area of high parking stress will have a serious detrimental effect on the commercial centre of Leigh and the surrounding residential streets'

Proposed Cllr Carole Mulrone; Seconded Cllr Caroline Parker

The Committee **AGREED** the amendment

A proposal was put to add an additional bullet point:

'The residual parking space will preclude the dual use aspect as original proposed'

Proposed Cllr Carole Mulrone; Seconded Cllr Caroline Parker

The Committee **AGREED** the proposal

Cllrs Caroline Parker and Syrie Cox left the meeting

- That LTC regrets that the possibility of creating a Civic Hub and Town Square is no longer an option and that the ability to open up the site for this purpose has been abandoned.
- That the ability to bring the dead frontages to life on the Elm Road frontage has been abandoned.
- That the loss of car parking on the site in an area of high parking stress will have a serious detrimental effect on the commercial centre of Leigh and the surrounding residential streets
- That the residual parking space required for the development will preclude the dual use aspect as originally proposed.
- That as a matter of principle the close proximity of busy community and commercial space and residential units is not compatible.
- Further that the red line be amended to include the Council Depot and that the text should be amended to take note of the 30 years lease now being drawn up for the Community Centre.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the response set out above to Council.

155. GENERAL PURPOSES BUDGET Report 2470/GP as at 28th January 2015 (Information Report for **noting**) (Appendix 9 to the agenda)

The report was **noted**.

156. REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were none.

157. OFFICE AND COMMITTEE BUDGETS (information Reports for **noting**)

- Office Budget Report 2471/FGP as at 28th January 2015 (Appendix 10 to the agenda)

The report was **noted**.

- Committee Income and Expenditure Report 2472/FGP as at 28th January 2015 (Appendix 11 to the agenda)

It was noted that the true reserve figure should be £94,452

The report was **noted**.

158. TO NOTE INCOME AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

See report 2476/I&E (Appendix 12 to the agenda)

The Committee noted the income and **RECOMMENDED** the expenditure to Council.

159. BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES as at 28th January 2015 were **noted**.

The meeting closed at 8.54pm