



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Carole Mulroney
Vice Chairman: Cllr Helen Robertson
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEIGH-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 19th JULY 2016
AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Carole Mulroney (Chairman), Karen Bowden, Patrick Fox (from minute 47), Donald Fraser, Fr. Clive Hillman, Declan Mulroney, Ron Owen, Valerie Morgan, Caroline Parker, Helen Robertson and Vivien Rosier

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Acting Town Clerk)

Prior to the meeting, Superintendent Gavin Dixon, Mission Port Officer for South Essex Fishermen's Mission spoke of the work and involvement of the Fishermen's Mission in the local area.

Prior to the meeting Gavin Dixon, Leader of King's Church lead Councillors in prayers

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm

42. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked Gavin Dixon for his talk and prayers and welcomed all to the meeting. Permission was given to remove jackets and to remain seated when speaking.

43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Jill Adair, Mark Bromfield Richard Herbert and Jane Ward

44. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr C Mulroney declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters involving Strand Wharf and Leigh Community Centre as a Borough Councillor.

Cllr D Mulroney and Cllr C Mulroney declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters involving Strand Wharf as a committee members of the Leigh Society.

45. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 7TH JUNE 2016

The minutes of the meeting 7th June were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

46. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

There were none.

47. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLORS

The Chairman responded to the question from Cllr Parker as follows:

'There are no governing Standing Orders on the issue of Councillors dress at Council. However, there is a convention that smart dress is appropriate for Council meetings, with a more casual approach for Committees. I believe all Councillors understand their position as Councillors and I rely on them to use their considered judgement when dressing for Council'

COMMITTEES

48. COMMITTEES – **Agenda item 7**

- a) Cllr Robertson presented the minutes which were **NOTED** by Council. There were no recommendations.
- b) Cllr C Mulroney presented the minutes which were **NOTED** by Council. There were no recommendations.
- c) Cllr Morgan presented the minutes which were **NOTED** by Council. The Council **RESOLVED** to increase the allotment rents for 2017/18 as per the recommendation.
- d) Cllr C Mulroney presented the minutes which were **NOTED** by Council.

Minute 8 - Standing Orders & Terms of Reference

Following a proposal (Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr Morgan) to refer the matter back to P&RC, there was discussion regarding Section 5 of Standing Orders and the way the proposed change would be encompassed into the working of the Council. From the discussion, the following was clarified:

- i. Each Committee will have a PDG which can meet at any time but preferably with 2 weeks' notice.
- ii. The PDG will comprise all members of the Committee if they wish to attend. It will be chaired by the parent Committee Chairman unless the Chairman wishes to relinquish the chair to another member who may be a more appropriate chair for the specific subject matter that the PDG was discussing.
- iii. All other members of the Council can attend and co-option of non-Councillors applies.
- iv. If a project requires more research within the PDG and some members are willing to do this then it may be undertaken independently, meeting together if they wish. The Town Clerk and PDG Chairman should be advised. The research is then to be brought back to the PDG for wider discussion and possible recommendations.

It was noted that it already exists that at any time Councillors can undertake independent research and recommendations to a Committee without formal regulations and over prescriptive procedures. The new Committee administration system introduced last year was an example of this.

The Council **DID NOT RESOLVE** the proposal put forward by Cllr Fraser.

The Council **RESOLVED** the recommendation of P&RC and approved the revised Standing Orders and Terms of Reference as resolved by the Committee with the interpretation as in this minute.

Minute 11 – Co-option Policy

The Council **RESOLVED** the recommendation of P&RC and approved the Policy as resolved by the Committee.

Minute 19 – Note Income and Approve Expenditure

The Council **NOTED** the income and **RESOLVED** the expenditure as per the recommendation by P&RC.

DECISION ITEMS

49. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO EALC EXECUTIVE AND LEIGH CRIME PREVENTION PANEL – **Agenda item 8**

Following discussion, the Council **RESOLVED** to write to the Secretary of the Leigh Crime Prevention Panel to inform that at present several Councillors attend the Local Community Meetings where the police are in attendance and to ask for clarification of the work the Panel undertakes as it was understood the Police did not attend its meetings. Furthermore, the Secretary be requested that the Council be contacted should an item on a forthcoming agenda be relevant to LTC.

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Morgan (proposed Cllr Morgan, seconded Cllr Bowden) would be the EALC Executive representative.

50. FISHERIES LOCAL ACTION GROUP – **Agenda Item 9**

Under SO 11, the Chairman deferred consideration of this proposal following advice from the Chairman of FLAG that it was too early to make the request.

51. LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE LEASE AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT – **Agenda Item 10**

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Acting Town Clerk be authorised to execute the legal documentation in the presence of 2 Councillors who shall sign the deed as witnesses.

52. FLY A FLAG FOR THE COMMONWEALTH – **Agenda Item 11**

The Council **RESOLVED** to take part in this initiative.

FOR NOTING

53. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Council **NOTED** the report.

54. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR BONCHURCH WARD

The Council **NOTED** the co-option process.

FINANCIAL

55. COUNCIL MAIN BUDGET REPORT

The Acting Town Clerk reported on the new income item – CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)

56. TRANSFER TO PUBLIC SECTOR SAVINGS

The Council **NOTED** the transfer

The meeting closed at 8.10pm