

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held in the Community Room Thursday 14th June 2007

27/07 Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie
Cllr. M Dew
Cllr. A. Hoskyns
Cllr. Hughes-Stanton
Cllr. R. Streames

In attendance: Rev. P. Prestney (St. Mary's, Lawford) (to middle item 16/07)
Mr. J. Dwan (H and M Standard)
Ms. R. Kenneison – Clerk

28/07 Apologies for absence Cllr. Edwards and P.C. Phillips.

29/06 Minutes of the previous meetings The minutes of the meeting of 17th May were approved and signed, Proposed Cllr. Hughes-Stanton, seconded Cllr. Hoskyns.

30/07 Declaration of interests There were no changes to the Declarations of Interest.

31/07 Matters arising from the minutes

103/05a) Conservation area Some of the Councillors had made additions to the Mayor's list, and the Clerk was asked to write to TDC. **Action: Clerk**

126/05 Guide book The Clerk said that she had obtained a quote from another company for this, and in addition a local graphic designer had expressed an interest in taking on the project on a commercial basis. The Clerk was asked to pursue both possibilities.

Action: Clerk

23/07 Lease for the Community Room No new lease has been received. **Action: Clerk**

32/07 Open session It was decided to include Agenda Item 7 here, as Rev. Prestney had another pressing engagement. She acknowledged that there were recurrent problems caused by bored youths in the area and explained that Churches Together were hoping to set up a trust to run a "youth bus", which would spend a night a week in a different location. It would be a place where young people could meet and would be staffed by volunteers. She was at the very earliest stages of seeing what support she could expect from local councils. The Councillors were very supportive and she is to report back within the next few months.

The Clerk reported on behalf of PC Chris Phillips that he is now the neighbourhood specialist officer and will be involved with crime prevention.

33/07 To receive reports from representatives on committees

a) Cllr. Hughes-Stanton said that several applications had been received: **06/02033/FUL** and **06/02037/LBC**, applying to convert the space above Aldis Fashions from offices to flats; **07/00906/TCA**, to lop tree on grass by 65 South Street; and **07/00689/FUL** and **07/690/LBC**, changes to the conversion works at 9, South Street. There had been no objections to any of these.

b) Cllr. Streames said he was unable to attend the meeting of the Community Rail Partnership due to other commitments. He reported from the Welcome Home Field Committee that Mistley Cricket Club was hoping to expand.

c) Cllr. Dew said that following an examination by the Audit Commission, TDC had been praised for excellent management of limited resources and been shown to be the best district council in Essex for value for money. He said he would like people to be aware that 90% of what they pay in Council Tax is passed straight to Essex CC, the police, the Fire Services and the parishes and that TDC does all its work out of the remainder.

34/07 To appoint a co-opted councillor Prior to the meeting the Councillors had interviewed the two candidates for the post, Mr. R. Race and Dr. V. Bettle. They felt both would be very capable of doing the job but after some discussion opted for Dr. Bettle. Proposed Cllr. Lay-Flurrie, seconded Cllr. Hoskyns. Cllr. Streames wished it recorded that Dr. Bettle was his GP but that this had not influenced his decision.

35/07 To approve payment of the following cheques Proposed Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded Cllr. Dew.

Modney Concepts (skateboard equipment)	£350.00
R. Kenneison (Petty Cash)	£50.00
Stour Sailing Club (towards costs of regatta)	£50.00
B.W. Clarkson (internal audit)	£35.00
TCVS	£25.00
Clerk's salary and expenses	£690.56

It was also agreed that when the invoice for the hire of the equipment from Modney Concepts arrives, the cheque for the balance can be signed. The Clerk was also asked to add Cllr. Lay-Flurrie to the list of cheque signatories.

The audit by Mr. Clarkson had revealed no problems whatsoever and Cllr. Dew and the Council expressed their congratulations to the Clerk for a swift and successful audit.

36/07 To discuss leisure facilities in the area Following reports in the local press that funding is likely to be made available to improve leisure facilities within Tendring, the Councillors decided to write to Cllr. Oxley. They said that Manningtree, Mistley and Lawford combined, along with their surrounding villages, are quite big enough to justify the large covered pool for which they have been waiting for some thirty years. In the meantime, they felt it would be helpful to improve parking at the sports hall at the High School. **Action: Clerk**

37/07 Correspondence For reply and attention

a) Last month's wallet had included a report on a small town going 'plastic bag free'. The Clerk was asked to make enquires to see if this would be feasible for Manningtree. **Action: Clerk**

b) The Air Cadets had written with an invitation to their awards ceremony. The Mayor said she would be attending.

c) PCSO Cuthbert had written to explain that he plans to run a five-a-side league over the summer and asking for financial support for the hire of the hall and so forth. Cllr. Hughes-Stanton proposed £100, seconded Cllr. Hoskyns and approved. **Action: Clerk**

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CLERK'S REPORT TO THE MEETING OF 14th June 2007

Report prepared 7th June

39/03 Condition of building at 33 South Street The Essex Buildings Preservation Trust has been in contact with TDC regarding this property and is hoping to visit it.

101/05 Possible site for youth shelter I have written again..

103/05a) Conservation Area Councillors to report

117/05b) Highways matters Action still awaited.

126/05 Welcome card and guide book I have contacted another company who have promised to send me information.

24/06 Replacement street light I have been on leave and have not had time to find another supplier.

78/06 Town Plan meeting Nothing further to report.

82/06 Public access at Mistley Quay I have written again to the HSE.

110/06 Possibility of a salt bin on the Marketplace ECC Highways have said they could not place a bin there as there is no access for their lorries, but TDC would be happy for us to purchase and maintain a bin provided we agreed a site with them first.

119/06 Proposed Tesco Store Nothing further to report.

17/07 Memorial to Cllr. Scott I have spoken to Mrs. Scott who said she thought a plaque would be suitable, but would like time to consider the wording.

19/07 Co-option of Councillor Candidates will be called to interview at 7p.m. before the meeting.

22/07 Temporary road closure for Manningtree Festival I am currently making the application.

23/07 Lease for Community Room Nothing has been heard from Colne Housing.

24/07 Improvements to bus shelter I will contact the bus company prior to the meeting and report.

10/07a) Bench on sea wall I have contacted both the resident and the Environment Agency.