

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held in the Community Room Thursday 18th February, 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

112/09 Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie (Mayor) Cllr. E. Edwards
Cllr. A. Hoskyns Cllr. R. Streames
In attendance: Mrs. R. Day PCSO D. Cuthbert (until 117/09)
Ms. A. Collitt (Harwich & Manningtree Standard)
Mrs. W. Saint-James – Clerk

113/09 Apologies for absence

Cllr. M. Dew and District Cllr. C. Guglielmi (both at Tendring District Council meeting) and Cllr. P. Hughes-Stanton.

114/09 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st January were approved. Proposed by Cllr. Edwards; seconded by Cllr. Hoskyns and signed by the Mayor.

115/09 Declaration of interests

There were no changes.

116/09 Police Report

PCSO Cuthbert informed the meeting that there had been two crimes in the last month compared to five in the same period last year: one common assault (that had been dealt with) and one shoplifting (not yet dealt with). The youth situation was worse this month and he thought a permanent security camera would help the situation. The Mayor confirmed that discussions are ongoing with Mistlely Police and that the MADNAP may be consulted.

117/09 Matters arising from the minutes

39/03 Condition of building at 33 South Street It was agreed that the Clerk should contact TDC for an update on the situation. **Action: Clerk**

126/05 Guide Book Mistlely PC have agreed to a reprint and we are awaiting a decision from Lawford PC.

20/08 Assorted highways and lighting issues It has been agreed with Essex CC that the 4 lamp-posts (identified previously) will be painted in the Spring. **Action: Clerk**

55/08 Youth Drop-in Centre The Mayor had spoken with Malcolm Westwood and reported that The Hub was making good progress, particularly with the younger visitors.

101/08 Regeneration of market area The Mayor had met with Steve Pearce and he will take on the siting of the seats as it must be done correctly. The Mayor would like to appoint Essex Woodlands to plant the tree as they would provide wooden protection to go around it. This was agreed; proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by Cllr. Streames. **Action: Mayor**

71/09c) Trees off Malthouse Road Two quotations had been received and it was decided to proceed with Essex Woodlands. Proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Cllr. Hoskyns. **Action: Clerk**

- 89/09 Lights in the Co-op car park** **Item Discharged**
- 89/09 Removal of light on Station Road** A reply was still awaited from Carl Tozer at ECC and the Clerk was asked to pursue the matter. **Action: Clerk**
- 93/09 To discuss the adoption of the red telephone kiosk** A reply was still awaited from TDC and the Clerk was asked to pursue the matter. **Action: Clerk**
- 94/09a Speeding on Colchester Road** **Item Discharged**
- 94/09b) Parking on the corner of York Street and Oxford Road** The Mayor reported that Sgt. Jay at Mistley Police Station has offered the resident a 'Polite Notice: No Parking' sign for his wall.
- 95/09 To discuss a project to improve the High Street** The Mayor and Cllr. Dew met with Peter Dawson (ECC Urban Design) and Gary Ashby (TDC Planning Services). This resulted in all the points raised being included in the Urban Design plan, particularly the narrowing of 'The Gut' to allow just one vehicle through at a time. Peter Dawson also wished to discuss The Riverside Walk project with Cllr. Hughes-Stanton.
- 103/09 Lights in the Co-op car park** The Clerk had written to the Co-op to ask if the car park lights could be left off until the store opens.
- 105/09 Salt bins** It was agreed that the acquisition and siting of salt bins should be discussed fully at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
- 108/09 Lease of Foreshore** **Item Discharged**

118/09 Open session Mrs. Day said that there was no litter bin at the new Takeaway in Station Road and that there were parking problems. The Mayor confirmed that both issues were being dealt with. Mrs. Day said that the Co-op lights were coming on at 6.30 a.m. now and going off at 7 a.m. In the evenings the lights are off and the gates shut at 9.30 p.m. This was all acceptable. Mrs. Day then said that she had given PCSO Howe details of the 'boy racers' in her area and the Mayor confirmed that the police are now challenging these drivers. It was agreed that the situation needed to be monitored. Mrs. Day asked how to place posters for advertising. The Mayor confirmed that she could use the public noticeboards.

119/09 Reports from Representatives on Committees

- a).** Cllr. Streames reported on his attendance at the Manningtree & Mistley Welcome Home & Memorial Fund AGM saying that the huge increase in public liability insurance will leave them short of funds and that something will need to be done. Cllr. Streames had also attended a TDALC meeting at Beaumont and had been shocked to discover that Planning at TDC had been inspected and declared unfit for purpose and that some are under investigation. Also, at the December meeting they had 'slipped through' an item at the end of the agenda that gave them the power to exclude all 27 local councils from the decision-making process. Cllr. Streames was concerned that, in future, planning applications might not be decided by elected representatives.
- b).** The Mayor brought to the meeting a copy of the new PCSO Contract. She had attended a meeting between Mistley Police and the 3 parishes at which the following matters were discussed: a new CCTV camera; Olivia Churchill to replace PCSO Howe; the Oxford Road parking situation; The Skinners Arms and the ongoing training for speed cameras. Staffing levels remain the same. The Mayor had also attended a presentation by Age Concern and the Pension Agency and added an information pack to the circulation folder.

120/09 To discuss the Considerate Parking Initiative

It was agreed unanimously to adopt this Initiative. Proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by the Mayor. At the last meeting Mr. Taylor had suggested a logo for the parking forms and the Mayor suggested using the Town sign. This was agreed, proposed by the Mayor; seconded by Cllr. Streames. Clerk to contact Mr. Taylor. **Action: Clerk**

121/09 To discuss capital expenditure plans for street lighting

No capital expenditure for street lighting was planned for the next five years.

122/09 New representative for the Tendring District Association of Local Councils

Cllr. Streames offered to replace Cllr. Bettle as representative to the TDALC. Proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Cllrs. Hoskyns and Edwards.

123/09 To discuss S137 payments

The councillors regretted being unable to donate to the Manningtree-Frankenberg Partnership Association as no provision had been made in the budget. Grants to Manningtree Museum and Manningtree & Mistley Welcome Home & Memorial Fund were agreed as per budget and payable in March. **Action: Clerk**

124/09 New Trustee for Manningtree & Mistley Welcome Home & Memorial Fund

It was agreed to take the Trustees' recommendation and appoint Mr. Alan Coley as the new trustee. Proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Cllr. Streames. **Action: Clerk**

125/09 To approve payment of the following cheque:-

Environmental Design £399.50

and for urgent payment: SLCC (£50.00) and Status Office Supplies (£11.34). Proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by the Mayor.

126/09 Correspondence

a). The Clerk was instructed to write to the Planning Inspectorate in support of the appeal lodged with regard to 23 High Street, Manningtree. **Action: Clerk**

b). It was agreed that Manifest Theatre could place an A board on Market Cross on the evenings of their productions provided it did not cause an obstruction and was removed promptly. Proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by the Mayor. **Action: Clerk**

c). Several items of mail had been received post-agenda and included in the circulation wallet: TDC Forward Plan 101; TDC St. George's Day Ball; Essex Playing Fields Association newsletter; TDC Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme 2010/11; NALC consultations; EERA courses; Letters from TDC re. salt boxes; Energy Saving Trust; Community Voluntary Services February mailshot; Plus Publishing Services; IDC Greenscapes and new NSPCC helpline number.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....