



MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Community Room on
Thursday 15th July, 2010 at 7.30 p.m.**

42/10 Present: Cllr. M. Dew (Mayor) Cllr. E. Edwards (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr. A. Hoskyns Cllr. K. King
Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie Cllr. R. Streames

In attendance: District Cllr. C. Guglielmi PCSO O. Churchill
Ms. C. Tilley (Harwich & Manningtree Standard)
Mrs. J. Day Mrs. W. Saint-James (Clerk)

43/10 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Hughes-Stanton.

44/10 Minute of the previous meeting

A note was added to the minutes of the meeting held on 17th June, to express the councillors' thanks to Ms. Kenneison for recording the minutes at that meeting. The minutes were then approved, proposed by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie, seconded by Cllr. Edwards and signed by the Mayor.

45/10 Declaration of interests There were no declarations of interests or changes to declarations of interests.

46/10 Matters arising from the minutes

20/08 Assorted Highways and Lighting issues

Item Discharged

101/08 Regeneration of market area Cllr. Lay-Flurrie circulated a brochure of metal tree protectors and explained that Jewsons are willing to provide one to protect the tree to be planted at Market Place. Councillors need to decide if they wish to proceed with this. **Action: Councillors.** Cllr. Lay-Flurrie confirmed that there are still two requests for finance outstanding but Boots have refused. There are now enough funds to purchase a bench although these are still being researched. The Councillors decided to meet at the Market Place at 10:00 a.m. on 26th July to discuss the siting of a new bench.

Action: Councillors

135/09 Village of the Year Competition Cllr. Lay-Flurrie explained how she and the clerk attended the Rural Community Council of Essex AGM at Earl's Colne on 7th July where Manningtree won the Ruggles-Brise Trophy for Best Kept Village 2010 Class IV. Cllr. Lay-Flurrie was presented with a certificate and cheque for £150. The Mayor thanked Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and Cllr. King for leading the way; and others for their help. This achievement will be reported in the local Standard on 16th July; the news has been put on the front page of the website and an article will be sent to Community News.

Action: Clerk

34/10 Purchase of a CCTV system for the Market Place With all the funding now in place (a total of £4,775 plus a possible anonymous pledge of £100 to be confirmed) the Mayor proposed that the Council accept the GCS quotation, seconded by Cllr. King. However, District Cllr. Guglielmi informed the meeting of some bad news: that the landlords of the NatWest building now require the Council to enter into a wayleave agreement at a cost of £1,500 before the equipment can be installed in their building. PC Phillips is seeking a reduction in this cost and it was therefore proposed further, by Cllr. King, that the council purchase a 4 channel system, seconded by Cllr. Hoskyns. Following further discussion the councillors voted on an amendment that, if funds allow, the 8 channel system should be purchased, proposed by Cllr. King and seconded by Cllr. Hoskyns. It was agreed that the final decision would be left to the Mayor following liaison with PC Phillips and the clerk. However, the Mayor suggested that an extra meeting may be convened between July and September to expedite the matter.

35/10 Report from the Planning Committee

Item Discharged

38/10 To discuss dropping of litter campaign and weeding of Station Road/High Street Cllr. King circulated a flyer, regarding the tidying up of weeds and litter that she will distribute to households and businesses this week. She confirmed that many shop owners have already tidied up their areas. Cllr. King may visit local schools, after the school holidays, to involve them in the campaign.

Action: Cllr. King

39/10 Completion of High-Speed Broadband survey for Essex County Council

Item Discharged

41/10 Correspondence

Item Discharged

47/10 Open Session

PCSO Churchill stated that there had been 9 reported crimes this month compared to 11 in the same period last year, although it was noted that the burglary had been a false alarm. The Mayor enquired about feedback from the questionnaire that had been distributed but PCSO Churchill confirmed that this was not yet available.

Mrs. Day informed the meeting that the mopeds had been much quieter since the residents had been giving registration numbers to the police. She enquired about the 'Keep Clea' sign in South Street and the council confirmed that this road signage would be completed by contractors soon.

District Cllr. Guglielmi reported that members had voted for a cut in Basic and Special Responsibilities allowances. The officers are drawing up an austerity plan to be announced later in the year which will lead to cuts in services etc. Some projects have already been put on hold.

The top 3 officers are due to retire in the coming year and a temporary Head of Planning, (Elisabeth Wilson) has been appointed. The Spatial Strategy is to be replaced with something simpler and the provision of gypsy sites may no longer be a statutory requirement.

Cllr. Guglielmi presented to the Council cheques and cash to the value of £1,025 from businesses and individuals, together with a pledge for a further £250 from a local business. This was the result of letters sent to over 50 businesses in Manningtree. It was agreed that this was wonderful news.

48/10 Report from the Planning Committee

Cllr. Edwards reported that there had been two applications: **10/00725/TCA** to fell two trees to the ground and stump grind at 25 Colchester Road; and **10/00649/ADV** for a shop fascia sign at 6 Station Road. No objections.

Action: Clerk

49/10 Reports from Representatives on other committees

a. Cllr. Streames had attended the Welcome Home Field meeting and stated that, due to an increase in insurance premiums, it was necessary to increase the rent for the Bowls and Cricket clubs. The Council would also need to review its donation for next year.

b. Cllr. Lay-Flurrie reported on the Frankenberg visit in June. Numbers were down with only 14 visiting this year. Trips to Newmarket, the Orwell and an official reception were arranged. She had attended the British-German Association Parliamentary Day Luncheon with another member where speaker, Lord Heseltine, stressed the importance of dialogue between nations.

Cllr. Lay-Flurrie attended the East Essex Area Forum where Cllr. Page spoke of an expected reduced budget for ECC. However, they still have £50,000 for small schemes grants and we have applied for a grant for £3,000.

Cllr. Lay-Flurrie attended the MADNAP meeting where the CCTV was discussed together with the possibility of a Youth Bus coming to the Town on the evenings when the Hub is closed.

c. Cllr. King and Cllr. Lay-Flurrie both attended the Stour and Orwell Estuaries Forum and each gave a full report on matters such as the RSPB; Shotley Parish Council report; angling/bait digging; wild fowling; pollution and anti-social behaviour on the Orwell; the woodland trust; fly-tipping on beaches and farming. A no bait digging policy at Manningtree was noted.

d. The Mayor had joined the new Hopper Bus on its inaugural run and distributed the timetable. He welcomed the return of this bus service and asked that councillors also distribute the timetable in public places.

The Mayor had represented MTC at the High Sherriff of Essex's Garden Party at his home in Danbury. Several hundred people had attended and he had been pleased to fly the flag for Manningtree.

50/10 Model Standing Orders for local councils (NALC guidelines to be circulated)

The Mayor explained that the new standing orders should be formally adopted and that they would be circulated to all councillors over the next two months. Proposals would be considered and decisions made at the October meeting.

Action: Councillors

51/10 To discuss the Clerk's position following completion of her probationary period

The councillors confirmed satisfactory completion of the clerk's probationary period and confirmed her appointment. The terms of her contract were also agreed.

52/10 To approve payment of the following cheques:-

Environment Design (grass cutting)	£44.65
A.R. Fabb (bar clip for Mayor's chain)	£32.90
TDALC Affiliation Fee	£5.00
ECC for cleaning/painting 4 lighting columns	£164.46
Mistley PC (cost of PCSOs)	£1,002.39
E.on (street lighting)	£166.09

Proposed by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and seconded by Cllr.Hoskyns.

53/10 Correspondence

a). The following matters were brought to the Councillors' attention:

- Agenda for CVS AGM
- ECC Consultation re. concessionary travel passes
- Email re. Community Wildlife Funding
- Flyer re. Stroke Awareness Event
- Email re. Beachwatch Big Weekend 2010
- Email re. Voluntary Sector Strategic Partnership meeting
- Notification of Democracy Day Norfolk
- Notification of Friends of Historic Essex AGM
- CVS volunteer recruitment event

b). Some items of mail had been received post-agenda and included in the circulation wallet:

NHS information on heatwaves; email re. community speedwatch scheme;
Friends of Historic Essex AGM; correspondence re. traffic in the High Street;
Letter re. pedestrian accident in the High Street; ECC letter re. road closure; NALC email re. DIS
Email re. NHS white paper; TDALC Chairman's Report; email re. Minister for Civil Society

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....