



MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Community Room on
Thursday 16th December, 2010 at 7.30 p.m.**

103/10 Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie (Deputy Mayor and Chair)
Cllr. S. Hopkins Cllr. A. Hoskyns
Cllr. R. Streames

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

104/10 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. King, Cllr. Hughes-Stanton and the Mayor.

Cllr. Lay-Flurrie opened the meeting by extending a special welcome to Cllr. Hopkins who joined the Council today.

105/10 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November, having been circulated previously, were approved, proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded by Cllr. Streames and signed by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie.

106/10 Declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interests or changes to declarations of interests.

107/10 Open Session

PCSO Cuthbert reported that there had been 7 crimes in November compared to 4 in the same period last year. He commented that the CCTV was a good deterrent to anti-social behaviour.

Mrs. Day pointed out that the gate at the Co-op car park has remained unlocked at night for the last five weeks and the clerk was asked to investigate the matter. **Action: Clerk**

District Cllr. Guglielmi reported that a new Chief Executive, Ian Davidson, was appointed on 19th October. His appointment would take effect on 3rd January. There were several challenges ahead, e.g. the Financial Settlement. It was now known that there would be a £3.4M deficit by 2012 and £4.4M by 2014. A formal Fundamental Service Review was planned for the new year to identify where savings could be made. He pointed out that the deficit could not be offset by the council's reserves as they existed for emergency purposes and that the cuts were permanent. Thus a long-term solution was necessary.

Public consultation on the Local Development Framework closed on 6th December. This had attracted many people and much publicity. The Council would now consider the comments received.

A comprehensive planning service review was planned to strengthen services offered. Restricted access to District Councillors, whilst on council premises, would be introduced as it was felt that more security was required.

108/10 Matters arising from the minutes

119/06 Proposed Tesco Store Please refer to item 109/10 below. **Item Discharged**

137/09 Acquisition and siting of salt bins Cllr. Streames reported that the first tonne of salt had been delivered to Stour Street as part of the Salt Bag Pilot Scheme. He confirmed that he and Cllr. Dew had filled the salt bins in South Street and Mill Lane and that there was enough left to fill the bins once more.

Whilst ECC Highways have agreed to grit the High Street pavements during inclement weather Cllr. Streames suggested that a new salt bin was still required at Market Cross to service the Quay Street and Compass Court areas. It was proposed that the wall mounted litter bin be

- replaced by a free standing bin from the Library area to make space for it. **Action: Clerk**
- 34/10 Purchase of a CCTV system for the Market Place** **Item Discharged**
- 64/10 Points arising from Open Session on 16th September**
- b. Noticeboard at Wherry Corner. Cllr. Lay-Flurrie is waiting to hear back from the Business Chamber as they are interested in using the board to promote local businesses.
- 67/10 Casual Vacancy for a Town Councillor** **Item Discharged**
- 91/10 Points arising from Open Session on 18th November**
- a. The town clock has been reset to GMT **Item Discharged**
- b. Posters for BT's 'Race to Infinity' campaign have been placed around the town. **Item Discharged**
- 95/10 Improvements to the Market Place** Cllr. Lay-Flurrie needed more time to work on her proposals and would report back at the next meeting. Cllr. Streames requested that additional lighting at Market Place be considered at a later stage.
- 96/10 Derelict condition of empty shops in the High Street** **Item Discharged**
- 97/10 Installation of Broadband to link the CCTV** Delivery of the hub was expected soon and set-up arrangements could then be made.
- 98/10 To approve the Council's budget and precept request for 2011/12** **Item Discharged**
- 99/10 To set an interview date for the 3 applicants for the Town Council vacancy** **Item Discharged**
- 100/10 To discuss an increase in the Handyman's wages** **Item Discharged**

109/10 Report from the Planning Committee

Cllr. Hoskyns reported that there had been 3 planning applications to consider: **Application Ref. 10/01284/FUL** for the installation of ventilation louvres at Manningtree Telephone Exchange in Station Road; **Application Ref. 10/01304/FUL** for the temporary siting of a portakabin at The Surgery, Station Road. The councillors made no objection to these applications.

With regard to **Application Ref. 10/01357/FUL**, for the construction of a Tesco foodstore in Station Road, Cllr. Hoskyns reported that this was discussed in detail at the Planning Committee Meeting on 13th December. The council was granted an extension of the deadline to 7th January. It was noted that no Traffic or Retail Assessments had been sent with the application so these would have to be considered at a later date. Councillors were concerned that the Traffic Survey was commissioned by Tesco and felt that an independent survey should be initiated by ECC Highways. Cllr. Hoskyns proposed that the council object to this planning application on the grounds of Store Design; Local economy issues; Retail impact; Employment land issues and Traffic impact. Councillors voted 5:1 against the approval of this planning application on the grounds of the five distinct areas of objection. The planning committee would consider the Traffic and Retail assessments, when they become available, and a draft response would be circulated for further comment.

110/10 Reports from Representatives on other committees

There were no reports.

111/10 To discuss the proposition that Manningtree becomes a Fairtrade Town

The Councillors agreed that Manningtree should become a Fairtrade Town and passed the following resolution: *'It was resolved that Manningtree Town Council supports Fairtrade and agrees to serve Fairtrade products at their meetings.'* This was proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie.

112/10 To approve the Council's Data Protection Policy

This was approved by the council, proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by Cllr. Streames.

113/10 To approve the Meeting Dates for 2011

These were approved for distribution.

Action: Clerk

114/10 To consider an S137 grant for the Manningtree Community First Responders

This was approved for payment in the new financial year, in the sum of £200 as per budget, proposed by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and seconded by Cllr. Hoskyns.

Action: Clerk

115/10 To consider a contribution of £150 towards the consultation fee for the Article 4 Direction proposed by TDC to support the Conservation Area Management Plan

Cllr. Hoskyns proposed that a fairer split of this cost would be £100 for Manningtree and £200 for Mistley as their parish is so much larger. This was seconded by Cllr. Streames and the clerk was asked to suggest this to Mr. Hornby. **Action: Clerk**

116/10 To approve the following for payment:

Environmental Design (grass cutting)	:	£89.30
Clerk's salary and expenses	:	£721.46
Mr. D. Hitchcock's wages (Handyman)	:	£1,191.66

Plus a late payment of £1, from petty cash, to the Three Parishes Trust Limited as requested by the Mayor. Proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by Cllr. Hopkins.

117/10 Correspondence

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

Planning applications and determinations for the month; Email re. The Big Society Event; Email re. the Journal of Local Planning; email re. severe weather conditions; emails re. salt bin; letter to TDC Planning Services; letters re. the new Three Parishes Trust; letter from Campaign to Protect Rural Essex; email re. Minerals Development Document and Minerals Development Consultation Document; Consultation amendments to Local Council Practitioners' Guide.

b). Some mail had been received post-agenda and included in the correspondence wallet:- Transport assessment and Planning & Retail Statement for the proposed Tesco store; email re. NHS white paper; LCR magazine; email re. standards seminar; ECC letter re. Tender round 2011; ECC guide to winter travel; Three Parishes Trust Ltd. Constitution; Consultation on Essex Local Transport Plan; EALC letter to BBC re. The Vicar of Dibley.

There being no further business Cllr. Lay-Flurrie closed the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....