

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

**Minutes of the Town Council meeting held in the Community Room
Thursday 18th December 2008**

82/08 Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie Cllr. P. Hughes-Stanton
Cllr. R. Streames Cllr. M. Dew
Cllr. A. Hoskyns

In attendance: Ms. S. Elks (Harwich & Manningtree Standard)
Ms. R. Kenneison – Clerk

83/08 Apologies for absence Cllr. V. Bettle, Cllr. E. Edwards, District Cllr. C. Guglielmi. PCSO D. Cuthbert.

84/08 Minutes of the previous meetings The minutes of the meeting of 20th November were approved and signed. Proposed Cllr. Streames, seconded Cllr. Dew.

85/08 Declaration of interests Nothing to report.

86/08 Matters arising from the minutes

103/05a) Conservation area Management Plan Cllr. Dew reported that a consultant has now been booked to carry this out; work is expected to start in February.

82/06 Public access at Mistletoe Quay Cllr. Lines of TDC has now heard from all interested parties and is trying to convene a meeting between them.

87/07 Weight Restriction Cllr. Dew observed that the title of this section should be altered to width restriction. **Action: Clerk**

117/08 Foundry Court Day Centre Cllr. Dew said that a luncheon club was now operating two days a week, and that an advice session for carers was also being run. Organisation need to come forward to offer to provide services. The Town Council agreed in principle that the two computers should be donated to the wellbeing centre as soon as good use can be made of them.

20/08 Highways and lighting issues The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to remind them of the need to repair it. In addition she was asked to request Highways contact Cllr. Streames directly about the junction of Railway Street and Brook Street. **Action: Clerk**

66/08 Access Survey The Clerk was asked to chase Highways about the state of the pedestrian crossing outside Boots: it is programmed for works but is in a poor state. Cllr. Dew added that he had met with Highways about the dropped kerbs and so forth; one dropped kerb requires considerable work to make it safe. During their tour of the town various other necessary repairs were noted.

67/08 Condition of the old stable in Stour Street the Clerk reported that Barclays had been in touch and seemed willing to carry out repairs.

79/08 Meeting Dates The Clerk will not be available for April's meeting and therefore Cllr. Hughes-Stanton proposed that Town Assembly be moved from April to 21st May; seconded by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and approved. **Item discharged**

81/08 Addition of a name to the War Memorial It was agreed to proceed once the addition of the name to the Merchant Navy Memorial at Tower Hill was officially approved.

87/08 Open session

The Mayor welcomed Sonia Elks, a new reporter from the Manningtree and Harwich Standard.

88/08 Reports from Representatives on Committees

a) Cllr. Hughes-Stanton reported that the Stour Valley Market Towns Partnership is seeking advice from the relevant bodies to ensure that a robust action plan is developed.

b) Cllr. Hoskyns reported that the Cemetery Committee had met and had made a small profit.

c) Cllr. Dew reported from the PCSO three parishes meeting. The PCSOs would be retaining their late shifts to deal with the youths who congregate around the town, and that the point had been made that the local electors wish to see them out and about on their rounds. The Clerk added that the number of crimes in November was the same as for the same period last year.

89/08 To finalise the Council’s budget for 2009/10 The budget for 2009/10 was proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and approved. The precept will be held at £14,516, the same as last year, as it was felt to be unfair to increase demands on ratepayers in the current economic climate. Some funds will be drawn from reserves (which have been built up steadily over the past few years) to allow the installation of a better street light at the junction of South Street and Brook Street. The Clerk said she would place a summary of the budget on the board by the library. **Action: Clerk**

90/08 To consider writing to the Co-op Cllr. Dew and Cllr. Lay-Flurrie said a number of issues had been raised by members of the public about the new car park. the clerk was asked to write to the Co-op to request a disabled space near Riverside Surgery (but NOT causing a reduction in the number of long-term spaces, which the Council would like to see increased back up to twelve); to ask if the recycling area could be laid out in a safer way, make the no entry signage to the central ‘herringbone’ section clearer, and to ensure the long-term maintenance of the new plantings. She was also asked to add that the car park looks far more attractive than it did, and to thank the Co-op for improvements in pedestrian access. Proposed Cllr. Lay-Flurrie, seconded Cllr. Hoskyns. **Action: Clerk**

91/08 To approve payment of the following cheques

A&J Lighting Solutions (repair)	£100.46
Clerk’s salary and expenses	£812.18 (includes backdated pay award)

And for urgent payment:

A&J Lighting Solutions (another repair)	£88.49
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Proposed Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded Cllr. Lay-Flurrie

92/08 Correspondence

For reply and attention a) The Clerk flagged up a number of items for the attention of the Councillors. **Action: Clerk**

b) The following post had been added to the wallet since the agenda was written: Marine conservation Society; Babergh DC planning information; TDC forward plan, TDC tax base information; Local Council Review.

Signed..... Dated.....

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT TO THE MEETING OF 15th January 2009

Report prepared 9th January

39/03 Condition of building at 33 South Street I have been contacted by the Buildings Preservation Trust, who have carried a feasibility study on this property. However, due to the absence of TDC's Conservation Officer on sick leave, they have not been able to make progress with their proposal. They will be writing to TDC to enquire how it will professional advice at any point when there is no conservation officer actually in post.

103/05a) Conservation Area Nothing further to report.

126/05 Guide book Work is continuing.

82/06 Public access at Mistley Quay Nothing further to report.

119/06 Proposed Tesco Store nothing further to report.

83/07 Width restriction I have spoken to Highways about this; apparently if a certain number of accidents occur due to large vehicles at a particular location, the police can request that a weight restriction be imposed. This is highly relevant to recurrent problems on Brook Street and Oxford Road.

100/07a) Riverside Lease Nothing further to report.

118/07 Foundry Court Day Centre Councillors to report.

20/08 Assorted highways and lighting issues I have spoken to Highways and have been told that the pedestrian crossing by Boots is scheduled for repair at the end of this month.

55/08 Youth Drop-in Centre Nothing further to report.

66/08 Access Survey Nothing further to report.

67/08 Condition of old stable in Stour Street Work appears to have started on repairs.

81/08a) Addition of a name to the war memorial Nothing further to report.

81/08d) Overcrowded bus no response as yet from First Bus.

81/08e) Maintenance of Co-op car park **Item for discharge**

89/08 Council's budget for 2009/10 This has been publicised **Item for discharge**

90/08 Issues with the Fiveways car park I have written to the Co-op and await a reply.