

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

**Minutes of the Town Council meeting held in the Community Room
Thursday 19th March 2009**

115/08 Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie Cllr. P. Hughes-Stanton
Cllr. A. Hoskyns Cllr. M. Dew
Cllr. E. Edwards Cllr. R. Streames

In attendance: Ms. A. Collitt (Harwich & Manningtree Standard)
Mrs. R. Day
Mrs. E. Wall (to end item 120/08)
Ms. R. Kenneison – Clerk

116/08 Apologies for absence Cllr. V. Bettle, District Cllr. C. Guglielmi, Mistley Police.

117/08 Minutes of the previous meetings The minutes of the meeting of 19th February were approved, following an of 108/08 (Mistley Quay) to read, ‘Cllr. Dew was reported as saying that INTend is contacting all interested parties to scope a future project at the Quay’. Proposed Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded Cllr. Hughes-Stanton and signed.

118/08 Declaration of interests No changes.

119/08 Matters arising from the minutes

100/07a) Riverside lease Lawford had written to propose that the SVMTP partnership should consider taking on the lease. The Clerk was asked to write back to Lawford to explain that the SVMTP cannot take on the lease, which is why Manningtree TC agreed to take it on in the first place. **Action: Clerk**

20/08 Public lighting The Clerk was asked to arrange the repair of the light at the eastern end of Stour Street. **Action: Clerk**

66/08 Access Survey Cllr, Dew reported that the zebra crossing by the chemists is due to be repainted. He added that local users of mobility buggies are checking and letting him know where footpath barriers are too close together.

90/08 Issues with the Fiveways car park Cllr. Dew reported from the meeting with the Co-op, which agreed that the barrier would be locked half an hour after the store closes, though interested parties will be given advance warning of this policy. The lights will be turned off at the same time. The trolleys would be chained at night, and the Co-op would only give one warning to misbehaving youths before contacting the police, and will report all incidents of to the police even if they are not asked to attend. Access to the proposed police office has been agreed. The Clerk said she would circulate a copy of the Co-op’s meeting notes. **Action: Clerk**

100/08 ‘Mayors and chairs’ meeting The Mayor reported that at the meeting she had met the new police Chief Superintendent for the area, Tim Newcomb; one of his aims to make the local town centres safer and more welcoming.

101/08 Regeneration of market area The Mayor said she had received offers of funding and that some money had already been received. ECC has agreed to fill in the gap in the tarmac under the bench below the clock.

120/08 Open session The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

a) Mrs. Day thanked the Council for its concern, and said she was glad that the barrier would now be locked. She said some people park in a way which makes it difficult for other users of the

car park and the Mayor said she would have a look.

Action: Mayor

b) Mrs. Wall, the warden at Quay Courtyard, asked if it would be possible to install a dropped kerb outside the main gates to the complex, on South Street. The Clerk said she would ask Highways.

Action: Clerk

c) The Clerk read out the police report for the month, which recorded an increase in criminal damage, compared to last year.

121/08 Reports from Representatives on Committees

a) Cllr. Hughes-Stanton reported from the SVMTP. She said a delegation had visited the planners at TDC which had raised a number of useful issues. She added that the plans for the Tesco store had not yet been given a committee date.

b) Cllr. Dew said that the Flood Risk Assessments for both the Tesco and the Co-op applications had now been resolved as INTend had negotiated a district-wide protocol with the Environment Agency to simplify matters and speed these assessments up.

c) Cllr. Streames reported from the Welcome Home Field that the horse chestnut trees seemed to have recovered from the disease that had been damaging them.

d) Cllr. Dew reported from TDC that the budget had been agreed and that in response to requests from Council Tax payers, only one booklet had been issued with Council Tax demands this year rather than three. HE noted that TDC spends only 10% of the money it collects: the rest goes mainly to the County Council and the police. The £2,000 small schemes grant per district councillor is to continue. A review of middle and senior management will be carried out with an eye to saving money. The sports activities last summer were so well attended that more are to be run over Easter, and £25,000 has been allocated for more this coming summer.

122/08 To consider the Tesco application and improvements to the town centre Cllr said that that TDC had made it clear that it would be wise to have a list of requests of benefits we would like to see from the proposed Tesco development, even if we ferociously oppose it. These requests can only relate to the immediate environs of the store and its consequences. The Councillors decided that they would like the store to be well screened from the road and nearby houses, using native species and moving the store back to make space if necessary. The Clerk was asked to write to TDC to request this and reiterate the Council's opposition. **Action: Clerk**

123/08 To discuss and approve the draft the new Manningtree, Mistley and Lawford guide The Councillors decided which front cover they preferred, but they had already been outvoted here by Mistley and Lawford parish councils. They approved the draft and wished to record their thanks to the working group and the designer. The Clerk added that grant and advertising income looked as if they would cover production costs.

124/08 To discuss the possibility of amalgamating Manningtree with Lawford and Mistley This issue had been raised by the SVMTP. Cllr. Dew said it had been the main issue raised during the SVMTP public consultation (2002). All three councils would have to agree, and then hold a referendum, which would cost about £3,000 but it could be 'piggybacked' onto another election to bring costs down. The Councillors said they felt they needed to give this some consideration. Cllr. Dew undertook to find out how many Councillors would be needed if a merger took place. **Action: Cllr. Dew**

125/08 To discuss outstanding highways issues at the junction of Railway Street and Brook Street Cllr Streames, Cllr. Dew and a representative from Highways had decided that, if the Council approved, yellow lines should be painted on both sides of Brook

Street for 10m up the hill from the junction to 5m below it. Approved. **Action: Clerk**

126/08 To approve payment of the following cheques

Community First Responders	£200.00
CAB	£280.00
Museum	£75.00
Welcome Home	£300.00

And for urgent payment: Clerk's salary and expenses £745.88

Proposed Cllr. Dew, seconded Cllr. Lay-Flurrie.

127/08 Correspondence

For reply and attention a) The Clerk said that the Big Beach Bash would be held again this year and that a grant request had been received. £100 was agreed for April. **Action: Clerk**
a number of grant requests had been received, and flagged up a number of items for the attention of the Councillors.

b) An invitation had been received from INTend for a rural planning day. The Clerk was asked to request minutes. **Action: Clerk**

c) The following post had been added to the wallet since the agenda was written: ECC: East Essex Area Forum, Parking Standards consultation, Brook Street, Making the Link; TDC: Mistley waterfront, Forward Plan, Summons and Agenda, TCVS, traveler sites, planning information pack; Cartledge; CPRE; EA contacts list.

Signed..... **Dated**.....

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT TO THE MEETING OF 19th March 2009

Report prepared 12th March

39/03 Condition of building at 33 South Street Nothing further to report.

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

126/05 Guide book See Agenda.

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

119/06 Proposed Tesco Store Two of the Councillors, as part of a delegation from SVMTP, have discussed the plans with TDC.

83/07 Width restriction Nothing further to report

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 am in the process of ordering the new light.

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

66/08 Access Survey Nothing further to report.

81/08a) Addition of a name to the war memorial Mr. Hay has been in contact to say that is continuing his researches about his uncle and will keep us informed.

90/08 Issues with the Fiveways car park A meeting has been held with the Co-op; Councillors to report.

100/08 Questions for 'Mayors and Chairs' meeting with TDC Councillors to report.

101/08 Regeneration of market area Mayor to report.