

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL
Unapproved
Minutes of the Town Council meeting held in the Community Room
Thursday 21st January, 2010

98/09 Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie (Chair) Cllr. V. Bettle
Cllr. M. Dew Cllr. E. Edwards
Cllr. A. Hoskyns Cllr. P. Hughes-Stanton
Cllr. R. Streames

In attendance: Mrs. R. Day District Cllr. C. Guglielmi
Ms. A. Collitt (Harwich & Manningtree Standard)
Mr. I. Taylor (Until 99/09) Mrs. W. Saint-James – Clerk

Prior to opening the meeting Cllr. Lay-Flurrie introduced Mr. I. Taylor, Asst. Head of Technical & Procurement (Parking Services) for Tendring District Council, who gave a talk on the Considerate Parking Initiative. He explained that this Initiative aims to promote considerate parking in order to avoid further regulation. An official ticket is issued, by an authorised official, to a vehicle that is inconsiderately (not illegally) parked to highlight the anti-social or inconsiderate nature of the parking. A database of tickets issued is kept by the police. Mr. Taylor was seeking support and the Councillors felt it was a good initiative. A full discussion at the next Council meeting was agreed.

Cllr. Lay-Flurrie thanked Mr. Taylor for coming and the meeting opened at 8.00 p.m.

99/09 Apologies for absence There were no apologies.

100/09 Minutes of the previous meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 17th December were approved. Proposed by Cllr. Edwards and seconded by Cllr. Dew.

101/09 Declaration of interests Cllr. Hughes-Stanton declared that she no longer worked at Ambit Magazine.

102/09 Matters arising from the minutes

103/05a) Cllr. Dew stated that there was a Conservation Area consultative exhibition in the library together with a plan to look after it. The consultant would like a response from the Council, particularly regarding the boundary of the conservation area. Cllr. Dew asked the Councillors to complete the questionnaire so that a response can be submitted. **Action: Councillors/Clerk**

126/05 Guide Book Clerk to contact Lawford and Mistley Councils to ascertain if they want to proceed with a reprint to be distributed mainly in public areas and to commercial premises. If this is agreed then Kath Lees will be asked to provide an estimate of costs. **Action: Clerk**

120/08b) Request for a dropped kerb on South Street Cllr. Lay-Flurrie informed the meeting that this work had been completed. **Item Discharged**

69/09 Appointment of Clerk **Item Discharged**

71/09c) Trees off Malthouse Road Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and the Clerk visited the site and ascertained that the row of conifers is in Mistley and the 2 Scot's Pines are our Council's responsibility. Following a meeting with Clive Dawson from TDC it was

agreed to crown lift the two trees.

Action: Clerk

89/09 Lights in the Co-op car park The Co-op are looking at the possibility of a sensor that will override the time clock.

91/09 To approve the Town Council's budget and precept request for 2010-2011

Item Discharged

92/09 To set meeting dates for 2010

Item Discharged

94/09b) Parking on the corner of York Street and Oxford Road Cllrs. Lay-Flurrie, Dew and Hoskyns had a meeting at the site. Cllr. Lay-Flurrie reported that ECC Highways were not in favour of yellow lines. The police have agreed to monitor the situation whilst on foot patrol.

95/09 To discuss a project to improve the High Street Clerk to arrange a meeting with the ECC Urban Design Team and TDC Planning Services. **Action: Clerk**

103/09 Open session Mrs. Day had hoped to report a complaint to the PCSOs regarding noisy, regular drivers racing up the High Street but they did not attend the meeting. Mrs. Day had taken the vehicles' registration numbers and would report the matter directly to the police.

Regarding the Co-op car park lights Mrs. Day stated that their staff have their own car park at the rear of the store and therefore the car park lights are not required so early. Clerk to write to the Co-op to ask if the car park lights could stay off until the gate opens to the public at 7.30 a.m.

Action: Clerk

104/09 Reports from Representatives on Committees

a) District Cllr. Guglielmi stated that there had not been much activity at TDC due to the bad weather. However, if the light pollution problem at the Co-op remained unresolved he would write to the Environmental Dept. to express the Council's concerns.

Regarding 33 South Street he was liaising with TDC and hoped to identify some funds for it. He was pleased that Mr. Taylor's talk was so well received and that the CPI could help resolve the York Street parking problems. He expressed disappointment that Manningtree Post Office had periods of closure during the bad weather whereas his own staff kept the Honeycroft Post Office open. He then recommended that the Councillors take a look at the Mistley Waterfront plan and 'have their say' via the website. Finally he asked for Councillors' views on the Draft Regeneration Strategy.

b) Cllr. Hughes-Stanton reported that the Business Chambers' Christmas raffle was a great success.

c) Cllr. Dew expressed his disappointment that the Police had not been present at this meeting. He also gave his apologies for next month's meeting because he would be at a TDC meeting with a full agenda including the budget.

Action: Clerk

105/09 To consider a salt bin for the High Street Cllr. Streames highlighted a need for 2 additional salt bins: one to be situated at the old Post Office in the High Street and the other at Market Cross. Cllr. Lay-Flurrie suggested that the councillors look at the sites to ascertain their suitability.

Action: Councillors

It was proposed that Cllr. Streames take on co-ordination with Lawford and Mistley Parishes re. the filling of the salt bins and liaise with TDC & Essex Highways. Proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded by Cllr. Dew.

Action: Cllr. Streames

The councillors were dissatisfied with ECC Highways' service during the bad weather. In particular the salt bins were left empty for several weeks. Clerk to write to express the Council's concern.

Action: Clerk

106/09 Co-option of Councillor Cllr. Bettle regretted his resignation but explained that it was due to extra pressures at work. He confirmed that this would be his last meeting. All the councillors expressed their sadness at his decision – everyone would miss him but they wished him well for the future.

Cllr. Bettle’s resignation creates a vacancy on the Council and the Clerk was instructed to advertise the post on the notice-board; in the local paper and on the VisitManningtree website. Closing date for applications agreed for 25th February, 2010. **Action: Clerk**

107/09 Appointment of Auditor The Audit Commission propose to appoint a new auditor for the financial years 2009/10 to 2013/14. This was agreed, proposed by Cllr. Hughes-Stanton and seconded by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie.

108/09 To discuss the Crown Estate lease of foreshore at Manningtree The Crown Estate’s chartered surveyors informed the Council of a rise in rent from £55 p.a. to £70 p.a. as from 1st December, 2009. This was accepted. Proposed by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie and seconded by Cllr. Edwards. **Action: Clerk**

109/09 To discuss a grant for Manningtree Community First Responders An S137 grant was agreed for March, 2010 in the sum of £200. Proposed by Cllr. Edwards and seconded by Cllr. Lay-Flurrie. **Action: Clerk**

110/09 To approve payment of the following cheques

Third quarter cost of PCSOs	£1,002.39
A & J Lighting Solutions	£156.33
E.on Street Lighting bill	£166.09
Clerk’s subscription to SLCC	£72.00

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

111/09 Correspondence

a) For reply and attention The Clerk mentioned several items that require the Councillors’ attention.

b) Several late items of mail had been received post-agenda:- Draft Mistley Waterfront & village urban regeneration area supplementary document; Manningtree Station Road Layout letter; NALC development strategy & business plan 2010-2015; NALC survey on NTS review; TDALC meeting dates & minutes; Tender Round 2010; TDC letter re. ‘improving the planning service’; ECC letter re. Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative; Letter re. Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill; NALCs Local Council Awards; CAMP plan and correspondence; TDC Forward Plan 2010; Friends of Historic Essex Spring Lecture; Development Control Committee Minutes 5.1.10; Strandline.

There being no further business Cllr. Lay-Flurrie closed the meeting at 9.25 p.m.

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