

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2018**

Present Councillor Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW) (in the chair)

Councillors: E. Ballard JP, Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), J. Garret (JG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), M. Locking (ML), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. M. Ottaway MBE (MO), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), D. Turner (DT) and D.E. Wing (DEW).

Councillors not present: C. Green (CG) and Mrs. J. Speed (JS)

The Acting Proper Officer, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. N. Brown, the Mayor's Serjeant, Mr. G. Darnell, one member of the press and seven members of the public were also present.

Councillors spoke in the public forum as follows:

- Cllr. AL reported that the repair estimates for the Hubbard's Hills ramp have been delayed due to the Christmas break.
- Cllr. RJ stated that she had received an enquiry from a member of the public who wished to know what IT costs were incurred by Hubbard's Hills Trust and how the IT budget was spent. Cllr. AL replied that the Trust had spent approximately the same on IT as they had in the previous year and this was not very much. He confirmed that he would be happy to speak to the enquirer in person.
- Cllr. Mrs. SEL reported that she had had similar enquiries about Hubbard's Hills recently. Cllr. AL confirmed that the Trust were well aware of the public's expectations and assured everyone that three quotes are always sought from local tradesman, if at all possible.
- Cllr. Mrs. JMS mentioned the Anglian Water work taking place in Westgate Fields saying that the work had stopped in very early November and the Contractors had not been seen again since. Residents were complaining about the state of the road, the puddles caused, cars consequently splashing water onto listed buildings which was ruining the mortar, yellow lines redrawn in the wrong places. She wondered if a letter could be sent to Anglian Water, ELDC as the landowners and LCC as those responsible for Highways. It was agreed that this course of action could not be resolved upon by the Council in the public forum, but an opportunity might arise during the Town Council meeting.
- Finally, The Mayor, welcomed candidates for the role of Town Clerk who were observing the meeting.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting proper, the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. N. Brown said prayers.

447. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. CG, DT (who would be late) and LMS (who would also be late).

448. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor ran through the events at which she had attended since the last Robed Town Council meeting on 17th October. These were numerous. She also thanked her Deputy who had attended several events upon her behalf.

449. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman remarked as follows:

- a. Community Use of Facilities at Louth Academy – Councillor Mrs. EB declared an interest in this item as an independent member of a school appeals panel. Councillor JG also declared an interest as his children go to the school – The Chairman informed Councillors that a reply had been received confirming that Mr. Hampson and his Deputy would be

happy to meet the Council, but only in private. It was agreed that the Acting Proper Officer should arrange a separate meeting on a Tuesday evening, as soon as possible.

Cllr. DT arrived at 7.17pm.

- b. Reminding Councillors that a consultation had been received from Lincolnshire East Clinical Commissioning Group entitled Equality Delivery System 2 Survey which had been circulated to Councillors on 8th January 2018. She asked Councillors if they wished to make a corporate response, as standing orders would need to be suspended if so, in order to formulate this. Councillors were of the opinion that no corporate response was required.
- c. Asking for volunteers to attend the General Data Protection Regulations training course being organised by LALC, taking place on 6th February at Cranwell. No volunteers were forthcoming. However, Cllr. Mrs. JMS suggested that perhaps the resident expert at ELDC could be asked to give some training to Louth Town Council.
- d. Finally, the Chairman allowed Cllr. Mrs. EB to update Councillors on CCTV. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders in order that CCTV could be discussed and a decision could be made. Councillors Mrs. JMS, RJ, GEH, Mrs. PFW and FWPT declared an interest in this subject as members of ELDC. Cllr. Mrs. EB reminded Councillors that the Towns and Parishes CCTV Group had met a couple of months ago and a letter had been sent to ELDC establishing that the Town's and Parishes were upset because they did not feel like they were getting their monies worth. Mablethorpe Town Council were in a position to go it alone. Horncastle were to stay with ELDC but were going to refuse to pay the next invoice if services had not improved because they felt that ELDC had not fulfilled their contractual agreement. The Town Clerk of Mablethorpe Town Council, Mr. S. Fletcher, who was present at the meeting, requested permission to speak and was allowed as Standing Orders had been suspended. He stated that Mablethorpe was in a position to stand alone, he believed that for a figure of less than £25,000 this could be achieved. He opined that ELDC's error had been to move the system before the infrastructure was in place. Cllr. DT enquired of Mr. Fletcher if perhaps Mablethorpe would consider working in partnership with Louth and pooling resources. Mr. Fletcher confirmed that Mablethorpe would be open to negotiations. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SC it was **RESOLVED** that Louth Town Council should withhold payment of the next CCTV invoice as Horncastle were to do. Following a further proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. DEW it was **RESOLVED** that Louth Town Council should contact Mablethorpe Town Council and ask formally if they would be prepared to enter into discussions regarding the future provision of CCTV in the two towns and the costs. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** that Standing Orders should be resumed.

450. **Declarations of Interest / Dispensations**

The following declarations of interest were made:

- a. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from ELDC – as a member of ELDC
- b. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 5, 9 and 11 – as a member of ELDC and agenda item 15 – as a member of the Zero Degrees Festival.
- c. Cllr. RJ – agenda items 5, 9a and 11d – as a member of ELDC.

451. **County and District Councillors Report**

The Chairman drew Councillors attention to a tabled report from County and District Councillor Mrs. S. Dodds who had given her apologies. District Cllr. RJ reported that the Local Plan consultation deadline was 16th February. District Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that planning fees were set to rise by 20%. There would be a scrutiny exercise into the relationship between ELDC and Housing Associations. The Cattle Market negotiations seemed to have stalled but ELDC were still committed to saving it. The Boars head had been repainted and would be deep cleaned imminently ready to be rented out at approx. £16,000 PA. ELDC had a new website which it was felt was much better and offered much more opportunity for residents to transact their business with ELDC online.

452. Council Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. PFW, seconded by Cllr. GEH it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the notes of the Town Council meeting held on 28th November, 2017, making them the official Minutes.

453. Committee Minutes

The following Minutes of Committee Meetings were received and resolutions contained therein were adopted by resolution of the council:

- a. Planning Committee – 28th November 2017 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr Mrs. MO.
- b. Governance and Finance Committee – 17th October 2017 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. EB, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL
- c. Personnel Committee – 28th November 2017 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. DEW

454. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Acting Proper Officer reported that notification had been received from LCC that road closures would be implemented on George Street, as and when required, from 22nd January to 5th February in order that essential maintenance works could be carried out by M&M Contractors. Cllrs. were concerned that residents had not been properly informed of these proposals and it was agreed that the Acting Proper Officer should contact LCC to question this and whether the opposite side of the road would still be available to residents to park on.

455. Correspondence Received

The Council noted that the following correspondence had been received and resolved as necessary:

- a. ELDC Area Forums to take place in March 2018 – Cllrs. to consider suggesting agenda items – it was agreed that Cllrs. would email their suggestions to the Clerk.
- b. Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership – Community Speedwatch Initiative (attached). Cllrs. to put forward names of volunteers who might be interested in getting involved.
- c. Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service – Revised AONB Management Plan 2018- 2023 (draft) circulated electronically 11/12/2017. Council to resolve upon whether to submit corporate comments, (using the form provided). Deadline 31/1/18. It was agreed that this would be placed on the next Planning Agenda.
- d. Local resident by email – request to explore the opportunity created by Government regarding expanding rail connections for Louth. Following a proposal by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SC it was **RESOLVED** that a reply should be sent to the resident informing them that while the Council thought this an excellent idea they were of the opinion that the cost would be too high and prohibitive. Making it unviable in these economic times.

456. Approval for Payment

Following a proposal by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that the Acting Proper Officer should arrange for the payment of the next (6 monthly) instalment of the Council's Public Works Loan, falling due 31st January 2018, in the amount of £10,256.71.

457. Precept

- a. Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to approve a recommendation from the Governance and Finance Committee meeting of 19th December 2017 to approve a precept request of £269,286, which on a Tax Base of 4,933 would represent an annual charge of £54.58 for a band D Council Tax Payer and a 7.9% increase on 2017/18.
- b. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Acting Proper Officer to complete the necessary precept request form and submit to ELDC (Collection Authority) by 22nd January 2017.

458. National Commemorations 2018

The Council considered the following:

- a. Request from National Holocaust Memorial Day to recognise HMD 2018 on Saturday 27th January 2018. It was agreed with Rev. N. Brown (present at the meeting) that those

Councillors wishing to should attend a service at St. James' Church on 27th January at 12.30pm in which HMD commemorations would be included.

- b. Events Group to arrange meeting regarding a) Nations Tribute 11/11/2018 and b) exhibition material that has been secured for November 2018. It was agreed that the Acting Proper Office would email the group members and ask them to arrange a meeting.

Cllrs. Mrs. LMS arrived at 8.14pm.

459. Temporary Road Closure

The Council noted that the following had been received:

- a. A153 (A16 to 200m South) Raithby cum Maltby / Louth 15/01/2018 – 23/02/2018 up to 5 nights in this period for essential maintenance works.
- b. Mayfield Crescent – 08/01/2018 – 15/01/2018 essential maintenance works by M&M Contractors
- c. Kidgate – 12/02/2018 – 16/02/2018 Essential Maintenance Work by M&M Contractors

460. Road Naming

The Council considered the following proposals for road names but were not in agreement with them:

- a. Land adjacent 82 Eastfield Road – (Road1 and Road 2) (Map in office)
 - i. Road 1 The Park or Park Field Drive
 - ii. Road 2 Parkside Drive or Park End Road

It was agreed that Councillors would email to the Acting Proper Officer their alternative suggestions and this item would be included on the next Planning agenda for discussion.

461. Deferred Grant Application

The Council considered making a grant to the following from the Tourism Budget:

- a. Zero Degrees Festival – support for website (deferred as recommended by FOG)
- b. Louth Lions – general support for tourist related events - classic car show, bike night, bonfire, duck race etc.

Cllrs. Mrs. SC declared an interest as a member of the Lions.

Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** that Zero Degrees be awarded £500 and Louth Lions be awarded £250.

462. Next Meeting

The Council noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was 20th February 2018.

The Meeting Closed at 8.35pm

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____