

**MINUTES OF THE LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 14th JANUARY 2020**

Present The Mayor, F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT) (in the chair).

Councillors: Mrs. E. Ballard (EB), J. Baskett (JB), M. Bellwood (MB), L. Cooney (LMC), A. Cox (AC), S. Crew (SC), D. Ford (DF), J. Garrett (JG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), D. Jackman (DJ), A. Leonard (AL), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), K. Norman (KN), J. Simmons (JS), Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW) and D. Wing (DEW).

Councillors not present: H. Filer (HF) and G.E. Horton (GEH).

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, the Town Clerk's Assistant, Mrs. M. Vincent (acting as Mayor's Serjeant), Fr. J. Younger (Mayor's Chaplain), Cllr. R. Jackson (ELDC), Cllr. S. Parkin (LCC), a member of the press and 4 members of the public were also present.

Public Forum

- A member of the public (Chair of Louth Town FC) thanked the Town Council for their support in objecting to the development on the former Park Avenue football ground. He reported that he was in discussions still with Sports England.
- Cllr. AL reported that Hubbard's Hills Trust was planting 40 trees (to replace the 92 that were unsafe and felled), new bins were being installed and that the roof on the toilet block was being redone.
- Cllr. Parkin reported on the new Lincolnshire County Council Highways Strategy which she would forward to the Town Clerk.
- Cllr. Jackson reported on the Rough Sleeping Scrutiny at ELDC.
- Cllr. AL reported on the forthcoming plan to move the ELDC HQs to Horncastle.
- Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported on ELDC's CCTV Scrutiny. She also reported on car parking and resident permits in Louth.
- There were also discussions on: the shop fronts on Update, flooding at the car park on the Grimsby Road near Bridge Street, Christmas delivery of parcels with ECHO (East Coast Homeless), the condition of Kiln Lane wall, St Mary's Triangle refurbishment and ELDC planning conditions not being adhered to.

300. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors HF, GEH and Cllr. T. Bridges (LCC).

301. Chairman's Remarks

Cllr. FWPT reported that the Christmas decorations in Louth had been excellent and thanked Cllr. DJ for all the work she had personally undertaken. He also reported that the Mayor's Serjeant was currently very poorly and unable to carry out Civic duties.

302. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations

Cllr. Mrs. PFW – item 10 as a member of the LPGS Advisory Board.

Cllr. DJEH – anything related to ELDC but wished to speak on item 11.

Cllr. Mrs. JMS – items 7,9 and 11 as a member of ELDC.

Cllr. AL – items 7,9 and 11 as a member of ELDC and item 9 as a competitor food outlet.

303. Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the notes of the Council Meeting held on 26th November 2019 and approve these as the minutes.

304. Committee Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm receipt of the minutes and adopt the resolutions contained therein of the following Committee Meetings: Governance and Finance 22nd October 2019; Planning 5th November 2019.

305. Town Clerk's Remarks

The Town Clerk brought Councillors' attention to her tabled report. Cllr. SC asked if the hedge where the

town sign had been newly erected could be cut back so that the sign could be easily seen. The Town Clerk reported that we were still waiting for LCC Highways to cut this back, and it had been the sign contractors that had trimmed the hedge back in the first place when they erected the sign.

306. CCTV

It was **RESOLVED** to agree on and authorise the new CCTV Agreement with ELDC - the Mayor duly signed the agreement.

307. Tidy Louth Working Group

Cllr. DF gave a report of the TLWG. He reported that the group had been in discussion with Colin Horton, the Tree Officer at ELDC, who had been very helpful regarding the trees in Louth.

308. Louth Pie Day

It was **RESOLVED** to provide £288 from the tourism budget for this event in order for the organiser to purchase four banners to be used in 2020 and subsequent years.

309. LGPS

The Council noted and approved the Discretionary Statement, compiled from the template provided by LGPS.

310. Housing Moratorium

It was **RESOLVED** to request a meeting with the Leader of ELDC and the Head of Planning to discuss the Town Council's concerns regarding Planning in Louth with a long-term view of increasing amenities required for all the extra housing stock or to look at creating a separate new settlement outside of the town's boundary.

311. Events Working Group

Cllr. JS updated the Council on proposed events for both the 100th Anniversary of the Louth Flood and the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and reported that they were working with both St. James's Church and the Louth Museum to co-ordinate events. The Council agreed that a celebration evening on Saturday May 9th in the evening (ticketed with profits going to the Mayor's Charity) was a good idea. Cllr. MB may organise a collection of vintage vehicles at the Cattle Market, but this would clash with the VE market and celebrations event being organised by Louth Independent Traders. A Civic Service would be held on Sunday 10th May at St James' Church.

Flood Anniversary: A walking leaflet with map of 1920 flood would be produced, coverage in the Louth Love Magazine was planned along with a small exhibition at Sessions House of post flood 2007 operations. The installation of a commemorative wreath and either a tree or bench would also be looked into.

312. Precept

- a. It was **RESOLVED** by a recorded vote to approve a precept request for 2020/21 of £315,680, which for a band D Council Tax Payer would result in an annual charge of £61.32, a monthly charge of £5.11 and a weekly charge of £1.18, which equated to a decrease of 3.87%.

For	Against	Abstained
Cllrs. Mrs. EB, JB, MB, SC, DH, DJ, AL, Mrs. SEL, Mrs. JMS, KN, JS, FWPT, PW, DEW	Cllrs. JG, DJEH	Cllrs. AC, LMC, DF

- b. It was **RESOLVED** to give delegated authority to the Town Clerk to complete the necessary form and submit to ELDC (Collection Authority) by the 20th January 2020 deadline.

313. Public Works Loan Board

The Council noted that the next (6 monthly) instalment of the Council's Public Works Loan was due on 31st January in the amount of £10,256.71. (£9,705.03 Principal and £551.68 Interest) and the balance remaining was £29,659.99. Payments would be complete 2021.

314. Closed Session Items

It was **RESOLVED** to go into Closed Session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the business to be discussed in the following item, information being of a confidential, commercial, third party and sensitive nature in relation to:

- a. **Apiary** - It was **RESOLVED** to agree to expenditure on legal services costs.
- b. **Cemetery Equipment** – The Council received a report from the Town Clerk. It was **RESOLVED** that in accordance with its powers under the Open Spaces Act 1906, s10 the Council approve the purchase of a Husqvarna R316TsX AWD from Louth Tractors at a cost of £5,700 including VAT. Costs to be taken from EMR Cem Equipment Replacement, current balance £4,434 and Cem Equipment Replacement, current balance £2,000 and that Louth Tractors be asked to store the item, if possible, until the container had been installed at the Cemetery.

It was **RESOLVED** to come out of Closed Session.

315. Next Meeting

The Council noted that the date of the next scheduled Town Council meeting was 24th March 2020.

The Meeting Closed at 8.47pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Dated _____