

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROBED TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2017**

Present Councillor Mrs. E. Ballard JP (in the chair)

Councillors: Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), C. Green (CG), J. Garrett (JG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), M. Locking (ML), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. J. Speed (JS), Mrs. M. Ottaway MBE (MO), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), D. Turner (DT), Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW), D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: G.E. Horton (GEH)

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley, her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, two members of the public, one member of the press, the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend N. Brown and the Mayor's Serjeant, Mr. G. Darnell were also present.

Reverend N. Brown said prayers before the commencement of the meeting.

Members of the public spoke in the Public Forum, as follows:

- A lady spoke pleading her case to be allowed to retain a bench she had installed in the Cemetery in situ.
- A lady thanked the volunteers who had manned the Emergency Evacuation Centre the previous week during the few days when it had been feared that a storm surge might occur in coastal areas. She asked District Councillors to look into creating a contingency to ensure that homeless people sleeping rough in the sand dunes are kept safe. Cllr. LMS wondered if a letter should be sent expressing the Town Council's concern that they had not been kept abreast of plans to open the Emergency Evacuation Centre in the Meridian Leisure Centre. Cllr JMS suggested that councillors provide feedback to ELDC if required.
- Reverend N. Brown informed those present that the heating in St. James' Church was to be replaced. Also, to allow work to take place the Corporation Pews would have to be temporarily removed and the Church would be shut for approximately two weeks while asbestos was removed.

376. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor GEH and Cllr. Mrs. JS explained that due to health reasons she might need to leave during the evening.

377. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor ran through some of the events she had been to since the last Robed Town Council meeting on 18th October and highlighted particularly her Christmas Day visit to Louth Hospital and the Salvation Army, her visit to Fir Close Care Home on Boxing Day to celebrate one of their residents, Mrs. Carter's 100th Birthday and the Louth Dolphin's Swimming Club's Annual Presentation Evening. Finally, she also confirmed that the Tour of the Wolds cycling event to be centred around Louth would definitely take place on 8th and 9th April.

378. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman reported that Mrs. G. Robertson, former Mayoress had been admitted to Scunthorpe Hospital and Mr. R. Featherstone; former Councillor had been admitted to Grimsby Hospital. It was agreed that Get Well Soon cards should be sent to both from the Council.

379. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations

Declarations of interest were received as follows:

- a. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from or relating to ELDC – as a member of ELDC.
- b. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 8a, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19 – as a member of ELDC.
- c. Cllr. FWPT – agenda items 10, 12a and b, 14, 15, 16 – as a member of ELDC.
- d. Cllr. CG – agenda items 10, 12b, 14, 15, 16 – as a member of ELDC.
- e. Cllr. RJ – agenda items 10, 12a and b, 14, 15, 16 and 18 – as a member of ELDC

380. Council Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. PFW it was **RESOLVED** that the notes of the meeting held on 13th December 2017 be approved as the Minutes.

381. Committee Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the resolutions contained within the following minutes:

- a. Planning Committee – 29th November 2016 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. DJEH
Planning Committee – 13th December 2016 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. DJEH
- b. Governance and Finance Committee – 29th November 2016 – proposed by Cllr. FWPT, seconded by Cllr. DEW.

382. Publications

The Council noted that the following publications had been received and were available to view in the office:

- a. LCR (Local Council Review) Winter 2016 articles – Power to the People, NALC Referendum Opposition Campaign (Precept), Recreation Features.
- b. Clerks and Councils Direct January 2017

383. Correspondence

The Council noted that the following correspondence had been received:

- a. From: Scope Re: House to house collections will take place from 03/04 – 23/04/17 and 02/04 – 22/04/18.
- b. From: Local Resident re Dog Fouling on Linden Walk / Cinder Lane – Councillors reported that some action had been taken by the spraying of 'No Dog Fouling' signs on the pavements in the area.

384. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Town Clerk reported that permission had been received from the Almshouses for the use of their premises in the beacon lighting ceremony to take place in 2018. She also confirmed that the Lincolnshire Voices of the Great War display had also been booked for use at The Sessions House in November 2018.. Finally, she reminded Councillors to check their emails and their declarations of interest on the Town Council website to ensure that they were all up to date and correct.

385. Area Forum

It was agreed that Councillor Mrs. SC should attend the Area Forum at London Road Pavilion on Monday 27th March 2017 on behalf of the Town Clerk and with the Mayor as this meeting will have a Planning bias.

386. Temporary Road Closures

The Council noted the following temporary road closures, for essential maintenance works:

- a. Various Roads Industrial Estate 01/02/17 – 17/02/17 3 days in this period.
- b. Almond Crescent, Trinity Lane (Monks Dyke Road to 60m North) and Wood Lane (Virginia Drive to 70m East) 06/02/17 – 24/02/17 Up to 5 days in this period.

387. Requests raised at 13th December 2016 Meeting

The Council discussed the following items, raised at the meeting on 13th December 2016 in the public forum:

- a. Cllr. GEH raised parking issues on the corner of Mayfield Crescent and asked for a letter to be sent listing their issues and asking for clarification of the measures put in place to mitigate these problems when the planning application was passed for the shop extension and the flats above the shop. *Extract from planning decision 2013 - The parking spaces and access onto Mayfield Crescent shown on approved drawing number 4679:01 Rev B received by the Local Planning Authority on the 29th August 2013 must be completed in full before the enlarged shop is brought into use and must be made available for use by customers of the shop or delivery vehicles, at all times when the business is in operation, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning*

Authority. Reason: To ensure that adequate parking provision is available at all times for people using the site (LTC originally objected to this planning application and supported it following amendments). Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** that this item should be deferred until Cllr. GEH was in attendance to discuss.

- b. Cllr. GEH also reported that he had received complaints about the condition of Railway Walk and he asked for a letter to be sent to ELDC. It was agreed that a concerned letter should be sent to ELDC.
- c. Cllr. JMS passed on concerns raised by residents of Albany Road who were having trouble crossing Newmarket to the shop. The Town Clerk reported that LCC had surveyed traffic in the area in the last couple of years and had been unable to justify any additional measures. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to LCC anyway.
- d. Cllr. JMS also reported that there had been a lot of vandalism in Gospelgate since the street lights had been placed on timers. It was agreed that a letter be sent highlighting our concerns.
- e. Cllr. JMS also reported that parking on grass verges and thus ruining them was also becoming rife in the town. It was agreed that Councillors would inform the Town Clerk of any areas of concern.

388. LCC Petition / Grass Cutting

The Chairman confirmed that the LTC petition regarding Grass Cutting to be sent to Lincolnshire County Council ready for their full council meeting on 24th February 2017 had been launched and so far the response was good. She reminded Councillors that completed petition sheets should be returned to the Town Clerk by 6th February as LCC required receipt of them by 9th February.

389. ELDC Transformation Programme

The Council agreed that the update received of the ELDC Transformation Programme did not contain anything else that would impact the Town Council directly. Although, it was agreed that a full update on the Cattle Market should be requested by the Town Clerk.

390. ELDC Local Plan (Deferred from 29th November 2016)

The Council noted that consultation papers for East Lindsey District Council Local Plan Publication were considered on 29th November 2016 and that ELDC had invited formal representations on the legal compliance and soundness of the document by 5pm 25th January 2017. At that time it was agreed that Councillors would peruse the document and submit their thoughts to the Town Clerk for compilation into a corporate response for ratification on 17th January 2017. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had received comments from three Councillors. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to send a strongly worded letter to ELDC complaining that the plan does not address the issues that LTC brought up regarding infrastructure such as poor roads, local surface water flooding problems, water supply shortages, little or no local retail units, amenities and community networks and it does not seem to cater for the sustainability issues Louth faces nor addresses S106 obligations to create sustainable development with distinctive character.

391. Multi User Route (Danelaw)

The Council considered making a corporate response to a consultation regarding the delivery of a Multi-User Path (MUP) which extends from the East Lindsey coastline along the Louth Navigation and then connects with the Water Rail Way MUP (potentially via the disused GNR Louth to Bardney train line), providing access for pedestrian, cycle, equestrian and disabled users and would bring multiple economic, social and environmental benefits to local residents and visitors to the area. It was agreed that the Council should tick yes to confirm that they would use a non-motorised (traffic free) multi-user route from Tetney Lock via Louth Canal linking Louth to Wragby, Horncastle, Woodhall Spa and Water Rail Way, if it was made available. That they should tick all of the available user group choices available and all of the choices listed that might apply as an issue when accessing the multi-user path. It was also agreed that all of the choices listed should be ticked regarding what facilities should be included if a multi-user path were created and that toilets and bins should be suggested under the option 'other'. That yes should be ticked to the question does LTC support the creation of a multi-user path and finally, that bins and toilets should be suggested as facilities to include, in the box provided for any other information.

392. Approval for Payment

Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of the 6 monthly instalment for loan due 31st January 2017 of £10,256.71 (£8,689.10 Principal and £1567.61). Balance remaining £75,590.75 payments will be complete 2021.

393. Precept Approval

Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. DEW it was **RESOLVED**

- a. To approve a precept request for 2017/18 of £243,084. Representing an increase of 5.1% in cash terms and 4.7% on Band D Council Tax.
- b. To give delegated authority to the Town Clerk to complete necessary form and submit to ELDC (Collection Authority) by 23rd January 2017.

394. Lincolnshire Healthcare STP

District Councillors reported that ELDC had recently discussed the matter. Cllr. Mrs. PFW who represents ELDC on the Lincolnshire Health Scrutiny Panel confirmed that the plans would go out to public consultation in May 2017. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would recirculate a link to the report for Cllrs. perusal. Cllrs. to contact the Town Clerk with any items that they may wish to discuss at a future meeting. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. PFW, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that Mr. G. James should be asked to speak to the Council before the start of Purdah.

395. Next Meeting

Councillors noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was 21st February 2017.

The Meeting Closed at 9.22pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____