

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2019**

Present The Mayor, Councillor G.E. Horton, (GEH) (in the chair).

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

Councillors not present: Mrs. S. Crew (SC), M. Locking (ML) and D. Turner (DT).

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, the Town Clerk's Assistant, Mrs. M.C. Vincent, a representative from Masons Chartered Surveyors, six members of the public and one member of the press were also present.

Public Forum

- A member of the public wished to voice her objections to the selling of the Cemetery Lodge.
- A member of the public reported to the Council on a Pie Festival which was being organised in Louth on 3rd April 2019, which would include a pie trail.
- A member of the Louth Market Auctioneers updated the Council on progress at the Livestock Market and concluded that by July it should be ready as a provision for the wider community to use. He also highlighted the issue with signage for the Linden Walk car park (which is free to use) and was also looking to increase its general state of tidiness and look into any tourism provision available.
- Cllr. GEH reported that he had been at the Livestock Market when a school was being shown around and was pleased to see they were given information regarding the processing of livestock from meat to table.
- Cllr. Mrs. PFW objected to Labour members of the Council using the Council's decision to lower the precept for political gain in the local media.

Police, District and County Councillors Consultation

- Apologies from the Louth Town Policing Team were noted.
- Cllr. RJ reported that the next meeting at ELDC was to decide their precept.
- Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that she has seen the health statistics for Louth and they were quite poor. Further, she reported that the Health Scrutiny Panel at ELDC would meet on 1st March 2019. A new Chief Executive was now in post at ELDC and a new Officer structure was being put into place. Cllr. Mrs. JMS also thanked LTC who had contributed significantly to the Conservation Scrutiny Panel survey.
- Cllr. GEH reported that a meeting between himself, Mr. R. Barlow (CEO of ELDC), Ms V. Burgess (ELDC) and the Town Clerk would be taking place on 8th March 2019 and that Councillors should forward any questions that they would like to be asked.

334. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Mrs. SC and ML.

335. Chairman's Remarks

Cllr. GEH reported that he was still enjoying his year as Mayor, meeting people and seeing the many volunteers who put in so many hours of work in the town.

336. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations

Councillors declared the following interests:

- a. FWPT in agenda item 9 - as a Member of ELDC licencing;
- b. CG in agenda items 9,13,14,18 - as a Member of ELDC;
- c. Mrs. PFW in any item from or relating to ELDC - as a Member of ELDC and agenda item 8 - as an ELDC representative on the Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board;
- d. RJ in agenda items 9,13,14,16 and 18 - as a Member of ELDC;
- e. DEW in agenda item 20 - as an allotment holder;
- f. Mrs. EB in agenda item 15 - as on the Independent Appeals Panel for the Education Trust;

- g. GEH in agenda items 9,13,14,16, 18 - as a Member of ELDC and on item 14 (to note there was no pecuniary interest in the building referred to) – as a business operator in the vicinity;
- h. Mrs. JMS in agenda items 9,13,14.16, 18 - as a member of ELDC.

337. Council Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 15th January 2019.

338. Committee Minutes

Committee Minutes were received and it was **RESOLVED** by vote of the Council to adopt them as follows:

- a. Personnel Committee meeting held on 6th November 2018 - proposed by Cllr. DEW, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL.
- b. Community Resources Committee meeting held on 20th November 2018 - proposed by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. LHW.
- c. Planning Committee meeting held on 4th December 2018 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL.
- d. Planning Committee meeting held on 8th January 2019 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. RJ.

339. Town Clerk’s Report/Update

- a. The Council noted that the corridor between the foyer and the Court Room would be painted during the second half of the coming week.
- b. Councillors were asked to let the Town Clerk’s Assistant know if they would be attending the Panorama Talk with the Louth Lions on Saturday 2nd March 2019.
- c. The Council noted the tabled report presented by the Town Clerk.

340. Closed Session

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. EB it was **RESOLVED** to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the information to be discussed being of a confidential commercial third party and sensitive nature in relation to the

a. Cemetery Lodge

- i) Following protracted discussions concerning the offers and objections received Cllr. AL made a proposal which was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL. A recorded vote of the Council was taken, and it was **RESOLVED** to sell the Cemetery Lodge. The vote was recorded as follows:

Councillors For Selling	Councillors Against Selling
Mrs. E. Ballard, D. Ford, C. Green, D. Hobson, G.E. Horton, R.A. Jackson, A. Leonard, Mrs. S.E. Locking, Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders, Mrs. M. Ottaway, F.W.P. Treanor, D.E. Wing	Mrs. D. Blakey, J. Garrett, D.J.E. Hall, Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman, L.M. Stephenson, Mrs. P.F. Watson
12 For Selling	6 Against Selling

- b. Following a proposal by Cllr. LMS seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** that:
 - i) From the offers received a sale should be pursued from the Council’s top two and, in the event of problems with both, the issue should return to Council for discussion.
 - ii) That the following press statement be made. “After very lengthy discussions and by majority vote, Louth Town Council has agreed to sell the cemetery lodge”.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting should move back into open session.

Due to the late hour and following a proposal by Cllr. RJ, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. EB it was **RESOLVED:**

- (1) to defer agenda items 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 on the Town Council agenda, and the entire Governance and Finance meeting, pending reorganisation of the meetings on 5th March 2019, and
- (2) that item 14 be withdrawn from the Town Council agenda, as following a member of the Louth Market Auctioneers statements in the public forum it was deemed unnecessary.

- 341. Keddington Lock**
Following a proposal by Cllr. RJ, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that whilst the area of Keddington Lock was not within the parish boundary and therefore not within the remit of Louth Town Council, the Council would keep an eye on the situation and lobby as required.
- 342. ELDC Review of Sex Establishment Licensing Policy - Consultation**
Following a proposal by Cllr. CG seconded by Cllr. AL, it was **RESOLVED** not to make a corporate response.
- 343. LCC Draft Statement of Community Involvement - Consultation**
Following a proposal by Cllr. CG seconded by Cllr. AL, it was **RESOLVED** not to make a corporate response.
- 344. Louth 6th Form Options**
The Council discussed their objections and following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. PFW, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to contact the MP for Louth and Horncastle, the Director of Education at LCC, the Louth Academy and Mr. C. Leyland as the Chairman of the Skills Group of the Lincolnshire Enterprise Partnership and ask for a meeting to discuss and see if there was a way forward. Note: Town Clerk also to contact Mablethorpe Town Council to see if there was anything that could be done in partnership, as their children would also be affected by this news since the closure of Tennyson High School in Mablethorpe.
- 345. CCTV**
The Council received a tabled update from Cllr. Mrs. EB as their representative on the 7 Town's CCTV Partnership. Cllr. Mrs JMS requested that the Council be given itemised costs for each camera.
- 346. Elections**
The Town Clerk reported that she had attended an elections briefing at ELDC earlier that day and that she now had a nomination pack for each seat on the Town Council. She reported that this year nomination papers **MUST** be hand delivered, with a prior appointment made, with ELDC. The Clerk then reported on crucial dates for this process, on 'purdah' restrictions and other salient details.
- 347. Discretionary Rate Relief**
Following a proposal by Cllr. AL seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to support an application for Discretionary Rate Relief from Louth Men's Shed and give delegated authority to the Town Clerk to sign the paperwork on behalf of the Council.
- 348. Next Meeting**
Cllr. GEH thanked Councillors for their attendance and the Council noted that the next meeting of Louth Town Council and the Governance and Finance Committee would now take place on 5th March 2019.

The Meeting Closed at 10.07pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____