

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 28th MARCH 2017**

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

Councillors: Mrs. S. Crew (SC), C. Green (CG), J. Garrett (JG), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), 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), D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), M. Locking (ML) and Mrs. P.F. Watson

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley, her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, one member of the press, the Mayor's Chaplain and the Mayor's Serjeant were also present.

Councillors spoke in the Public Forum, as follows:

- Cllr. Mrs. JMS expressed her concern that Louth needs to look its best when the TV cameras are around for the Tour of the Wolds cycle race taking place on 8th and 9th April. She reported that she had tried to ascertain from ELDC what arrangements had been made for street cleaning etc., but had not received a satisfactory reply. She asked that everyone keep an eye out for litter as they go about their day to day business and keep Louth as tidy as possible.
- Cllr. AL raised concerns over the piece of land recently sold off by ELDC to the neighbouring resident on the corner of Ugate and Kidate. He opined that current 'fencing' and signage methods and a drainage issue were not in keeping with the conservation area. It was agreed that the pieces of land sold off by ELDC should be a future agenda item.

507. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. DB, DJEH, Mrs. SEL, ML and Mrs. PFW.

508. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor remarked that she was pleased to see her Mayor's Serjeant back in good health again. She then reported on the engagements that she had attended since the last Robed Town Council meeting which included meeting Princess Anne on a visit to LRAC, the High Sheriff's Service, the Lions Charter Dinner, Commonwealth Day and Horncastle Civic Service.

509. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman remarked that the Tour of the Wolds cycle race would take place in Louth on 8th and 9th April. She wondered what the route would be and whether there would be any street cleaning/litter picking taking place. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the organisers Magna Vitae enquiring as to the route and other activities/events which would be taking place in conjunction with the race. The Town Clerk reported that she had purchased bunting to be put up around the town. However, the contractor whom she had asked to erect this had gone out of business. Cllrs. suggested Safe 'n' Sound the CCTV maintenance contractor for the work or Cllr. DT offered to provide the contact details of a company he knew. Finally, the Chairman informed the Council that LCC Cllr. Mr. Davies, LCC Executive Member for Highways would meet with herself and the Town Clerk on Monday 3rd April to discuss the grass cutting situation, amongst other things.

510. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received as follows:

- a. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 13, 14, 16 and 17b – as a member of ELDC.
- b. Cllrs. DG and FWPT – agenda items 9b, 14, 16 and 17b – as a member of ELDC.
- c. Cllr. RJ – agenda item 9b – as her sister in law is involved and agenda items 14, 16 and 17b – as a member of ELDC.

511. 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 Council Meeting held on 21st February 2017

512. Committee Minutes

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

- a. Planning Committee – 31st January 2017 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. AL.
- b. Planning Committee – 21st February 2017 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. AL.
- c. Community Resources – 17th January 2017 – proposed by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. DT.
- d. Community Resources – 21st February 2017 – proposed by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. DT.
- e. Governance and Finance Committee – 3rd January 2017 – proposed by Cllr. FWPT, seconded by Cllr. DEW.

513. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Town Clerk confirmed that the exercise to ensure members Registers of Interest were up to date had been completed. Amended forms had been added to the web site and ELDC had been informed. Finally, the Town Clerk reported that the LCC Elections notices were in place, as required and the period of purdah had commenced.

514. Publications

Councillors noted that the following publications had been received:

- a. Clerks and Councils Direct March 2017
- b. LALC News No 161

515. Correspondence Received

Councillors noted that the following correspondence had been received:

- a. From LCC (Councillor Worth) Re – Shared Ambulance and Fire Station for Louth (attached). Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JS it was **RESOLVED** that a letter should be sent supporting LCC in this decision confirming that we agree with the amalgamation in principle but we have concerns about the area in question as it is a bottleneck in the town and with the planned housing development the situation will only get worse.
- b. Cllr. RJ left the meeting during discussion of this item. Following a proposal by Cllr. LMS, seconded by Cllr. GEH it was **RESOLVED** to support an application by the Spout Yard Management Trust for rate relief and to authorise the Town Clerk to complete the form accordingly and forward to the ELDC ward member.

516. Schedule of Council Meeting Dates 2017/18

Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** to approve the attached schedule of meeting dates, prepared to take account of national / local events / bank holidays and staffing requirements and to trial a 7pm start time of meetings with Public Forum at 6.45pm.

517. Past Mayors Group

Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the LGA issued guidelines – *Joining the chain gang – preparing for the role of Civic Mayor – with Louth TC addendum.*

518. Deputy Mayor Elect

The following nominations for Deputy Mayor Elect 2017/18 were put forward for consideration:

- a. Cllr. GEH – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. LHW, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JS
- b. Cllr. DEW – proposed by himself, seconded by Cllr. AL
- c. Cllr. CG – proposed by Cllr. FWPT, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS a secret vote was taken from which it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. GEH be supported as the Deputy Mayor Elect 2017/18.

Cllrs. noted that the advance securement of a Mayor (Chairman) Elect (i.e. Deputy Mayor) and Deputy Mayor (Vice Chairman) Elect assists the office with future arrangements and diary engagements; and both the Mayor (Chairman) and Deputy Mayor (Vice Chairman) 2017/18 would be subject to formal election at the Annual Town Council meeting on the 16th May 2017.

519. Annual Town Meeting

The Council noted that the British Legion Hall, Northgate had been booked for the Annual Town Meeting on 9th May 2017 and that Councillor Adam Grist had been booked to speak on the Wolds Destination Plan and grant receiving Community Groups would be invited to give a short presentation / provide a display regarding the progress of their projects which Louth Town Council had funded. Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SC it was **RESOLVED** that should any council meetings need to be incorporated on this evening to accommodate urgent planning applications and/or sign off the Annual Return the Town Clerk was authorised to call these with a start time of 6pm and no preceding public forum in order to allow stands set up at 6.45pm and Annual Meeting to start at 7.30pm. It was noted that the evening would be concluded by the presentation of the Mayors Cheques. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised to make hospitality provision.

520. ELDC Car Parking Review

The Council noted that ELDC had completed their review and recommendations of their Off Street parking provision for the District had been circulated electronically on 20/03/2017 <http://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/parkingpolicy>. It was agreed that the Council supported the recommendations with the following feedback to be submitted: that LTC supports requests for residents parking schemes in the West of the town, that LTC queries the lack of all-day provision available at Kiln Lane, that the allocation of disabled and family parking in Northgate Co-op car park should be looked at again and disabled parking should be placed closer to the entrance, that there is a general lack of provision for motor cycles and cycles in the town and that bridge street should not include an all day tariff.

Cllr. LMS left the meeting at 9.05pm.

521. LCC Highways Future Operating Model (FOM)

The Council noted that LCC had introduced a new operating model in which the service is commissioned and delivered on 01/02/2017 and have issued new guidelines for the reporting of faults / enquiries (attached correspondence). Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that issues and the possibility of Mr. Ratcliffe and Mr. Sleaford attending a Town Council meeting to discuss should be broached with Mr. Davies when he met with the Town Clerk and Mayor on Monday 3rd April. It was also agreed that Cllrs. Mrs. JMS and GEH should begin compiling a list of relevant questions to put to Mr. Ratcliffe and Mr. Sleaford.

522. ELDC Local Plan Consultation

Cllrs. Mrs. EB, Mrs. SC and Mrs. JMS reported responses to the above given at the ELDC Planning Policy Meeting on 28/03/2017 from which some modifications had been recommended to the Committee. The Council noted that following the signing off of the Plan it would be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination and appointment of an Inspector who would deal with unresolved issues from consultation comments and objections (attached letter).

523. Councillors Feedback

Council received feedback from Councillors attending events:

- a. Mrs Crew attending Water Management Plan Launch 24th February 2017 (notes attached)
- b. Mrs Ballard and Crew from Area Forum 27th March 2017 and issue of document – *Making Comments on a Planning Application?* (attached).

524. Next Meeting

Councillors noted that the date of the next meeting was 11th April 2017.

The Meeting Closed at 9.16pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____