

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROBED TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH  
ON TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017**

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

**Councillors:** Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), J. Garret (JG), C. Green (CG), 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), Mrs. J. Speed (JS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT) and D. Turner (DT)

**Councillors not present:** E. Ballard JP (EB), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), D.E. Wing (DEW)

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, Rev. N. Brown and the Mayor's Serjeant, Mr. G. Darnell were also present.

Cllr. GEH spoke in the public forum drawing Cllrs. attention to an event mainly happening in Grimsby where divers would be going down looking for local ships that were sunk during World War I. He reported that they had been given a lottery award of £10,000 to help with accumulating this historical data and he said that they could be given a further award of £5,000 but people have to vote to support it. Therefore, he asked Cllrs. to sign the form in his possession to show their support.

**125. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors L.M. Stephenson, D.E. Wing and Mrs. E. Ballard.

**126. Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor went through each of the engagements that she had attended since the last Robed Town Council meeting expounding each and praising them enthusiastically.

**127. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman invited Cllr. AL to speak as it would be the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hubbard's Hills being gifted to the people of Louth this year. Cllr. AL thanked the Council for gifting an extra £10,000 to Hubbard's Hills this year and reported that the money had been spent installing a new beach area near the stepping stones and having the stepping stones raised to their original level. A new handrail had also been made and installed at the side of the steps leading to the top path and the footpath entrance to the golf course. He also confirmed that the Trust would be looking to repair the disabled ramp soon.

**128. Declarations of Interest**

- a. Cllr. GEH – agenda item 19 – as a business owner in the vicinity.
- b. Cllr. Mrs. MO – agenda item 16 – as a member of the practice.
- c. Cllrs. CG and FWPT – agenda items 9c, 10b, 18 and 19 – as a member of ELDC.
- d. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 5, 9c, 10b, 18 and 19 – as a member of ELDC.
- e. Cllr. RJ – agenda items 5, 9c, 10b, 18 and 19 – as a member of ELDC.
- f. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from or relating to ELDC – as a member of ELDC.

**129. County and District Councillors Report**

**LCC**

Neither of the LCC County Councillors were in attendance.

**ELDC**

Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that: 1) scrutiny regarding the future of local government in Lincolnshire was currently underway and a consultation on this starts on Monday. 2) A consultation on Louth Cattle Market is also due to start on Monday. 3) Dr. Staunton recently visited ELDC and gave a talk on the NHS at a Health Scrutiny group meeting. 4) She had tried to call in the planning application on the Strawberry Field on Legbourne Road but had been told she was much too late. 5) Recent planning training had confirmed that residents who brought their comments to the Town Council after it had considered the relevant application could still be considered and the Council's view could be altered, by resolution, if required.

Cllr. FWPT reported that he had attended a meeting at the Trinity centre to discuss the merger of Coningsby, Tetford and Newmarket Surgeries.

**130. Council Minutes**

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. PFW, seconded by Cllr. GEH it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**131. Committee Minutes**

The Council **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the following committee meetings and adopt the resolutions contained therein:

- a. Planning Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 – Proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. DJEH.
- b. Planning Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – Proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. DJEH.
- c. Governance and Finance Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 – Proposed by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO.
- d. Community Resources Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 – Proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL.
- e. Community Resources Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – Proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL.

**132. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding**

The Town Clerk had no outstanding matters to report on.

**133. Councillors Proposals**

The Council considered the following proposals from Councillors and noted or resolved as follows:

- a. From: Councillor Mrs Crew – asks Louth TC to discuss and format a Social Media Policy – it was agreed that the Town Clerk would request a copy of ELDC's policy from the Monitoring Officer and would bring the item back.
- b. From: Councillor Mrs Crew – that Louth TC should join the Tree Charter (LALC News) - It was agreed that this item should be deferred and brought back for future discussion.
- c. From: Councillor Makinson-Sanders - asks the Town Council to send a strongly worded letter to East Lindsey District Council asking why after 25 plus years there is still no action taken to tidy up the empty buildings on the east of Ugate - i.e. The old Hat Box and David's supermarket, which are in an important street in the Conservation Area and close to a Grade 1 listed building. Cllr. AL declared an interest in this item. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JS, seconded by Cllr. DJEH it was **RESOLVED** that a letter requesting action should be sent to the properties in the first instance which should include a 28 day deadline from the date of the letter for a response, if no response received then progress the enquiry to the next legal level.

**134. Correspondence**

The Council considered correspondence received and noted or agreed on action as follows:

- a. From: Local Resident Re: Nomination for Freedom of the Town – following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS – to defer.
- b. From: ELDC Re: Confirmation that Navigation Warehouse has been listed as an Asset of Community Value – noted.
- c. From: LCC Highways Re: Proposed Parish Forums and Parish Annual Walkabouts – noted.

**135. Publications**

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

- a. Local Council Review Summer 2017 – featuring Community Fitness, Drones, Minister for Communities and encouraging volunteering.
- b. LALC News No 162 (circulated electronically / copy in office).
- c. Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service AONB Annual Report 2016/17

**136. Road Closures**

The Council noted the following:

- a. Wood Lane – 17/07/17 – 20/07/17 for essential maintenance works.
- b. Butcher Lane – 17/07/17 – 28/07/17 as and when required for essential maintenance works by Northern Powergrid.
- c. Eastgate (Cannon Street to Market Place) – 16/07/17 for essential maintenance works by Foxhall Construction Ltd.

**137. Road Naming**

The Council considered suggestions for the following road naming:

- a. Land South of Keddington House, Keddington Road. Due to the proximity of the former railway line and signal box the Town Clerk has investigated a recent proposal by Councillor Garrett for Margaret Wintringham who was the Liberal MP for Louth from 1921 to 1924 and amongst other achievements campaigned for Women Only Railway Carriages. The layout of the site would lend itself to the use of Wintringham Way. Following a proposal by Cllr. JG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** that Wintringham Way should be used.

**138. Flood Alleviation Scheme**

The Council noted that the official opening ceremonies at Horncastle and Louth would take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and would be attended by senior figures from all Authorities involved, past and present officials from the Environment Agency and Government ministers. Members of the project Board (Town Clerk) and the current Mayor Councillor Mrs Watson and two members of the Former River Lud Liaison Group had also been invited. An exhibition of the scheme was being created by the EA and would be available to view in Louth. Council to consider holding local celebration (as the scheme sites are in private ownership they cannot be used). The Council also noted: 1) that the Town Clerk had secured a donation for Spout Yard Park for their summer celebrations and riverside planting scheme from VBA (Construction Company) and 2) that precept fund for Scheme Maintenance 2016/17 £11,122 would not be called on as the official completion is in 2017/18 and to refer funds to FOG for consideration.

Cllrs. DJEH and RJ declared an interest in this item as they had a relative on the Spout Yard Group.

Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. DT and **RESOLVED** by vote of the Council that the Events Working Group should look into LTC holding a celebration of their own.

It was also agreed that the Town Clerk should make further enquiries as to whether Cllr. DH, who had been the flood warden for several years before they were phased out and who had seen the town through many incidents, could be invited on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

**139. Watts Lane**

The Council noted that Cllr. Dodds was unable to attend and had sent her apologies. Therefore, the item was deferred to a future meeting.

**140. Medical Practice Merger**

The Council noted that a consultation period to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 had been launched regarding the proposed merger of New Coningsby Surgery, Newmarket Medical Practice and The Wold Practice (Tetford) to be known as the East Lindsey Medical Group. A second road show event would be held in Louth on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017 at 7pm at the Trinity Centre. The Council considered making a corporate response and noted that the online / paper form available to patients was unsuitable for LTC use. It was agreed that a representative from each of the three surgeries in Louth should be invited to attend a Town Council meeting to discuss Health.

**141. Louth United Charity Trustee**

The Council noted that Mr. F. Robertson's term of office would expire in August 2017. Two nominations were made of Cllr. AL (proposed by Cllr. DH, seconded by Cllr. SC) and Mr. F. Robertson (proposed by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. CG). Following a vote of the Council it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. AL be nominated to act as a trustee on Louth United Charities on behalf of Louth Town Council.

**142. Area Forum**

The Council noted that the next Area Forum meetings would be held in September with the closest available being at The Pavilion, London Road on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017. They were also reminded that they had resolved earlier in the year to nominate attendees on a meeting by meeting basis dependent on the agenda focus. The workshops at this round of meetings will be 1) Understanding Our Communities and 2) Community Led Housing (attached). Following a proposal

by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Mrs. SC should attend and following a proposal by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. RJ it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. DJEH should also attend and that they should report back.

**143. Livestock Market**

The Council discussed an urgent briefing by the leader of ELDC which had been held on 05/07/2017 regarding the Executive Board Report (ELDC Meeting 12/07/2017) on the Livestock Market, Louth. Cllr. JG opined that ELDC should be looking to invest in the current site and should formulate a plan to give it a viable future. Cllr. Mrs. JS thought that the current site was underused and it should be used as a venue for Wool Fairs and Art Exhibitions, amongst other things. Other issues raised were that Newark Cattle Market's current operatives might be looking to retire and so the market there might be discontinued. Cllrs. questioned whether the site could be made a Community Asset. Cllrs. also wondered whether the authority of the full Council had ever been sought to go down this path and on a side note whether anyone had ever been consulted on whether they wanted the District Council to spend £350,000 of ratepayers money on the SO Festival which did not benefit Louth. Cllrs. hoped that ELDC had not purposely underused and under-maintained the site solely to ensure a sale of the site and to reap the profit.

Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Grist be invited to speak on this.

**144. Next Meeting**

The Council noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017.

The Meeting Closed at 9.20pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman)      Dated \_\_\_\_\_