

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH  
ON TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2018**

**Present** Councillor G.E. Horton (GEH) (in the chair).

**Councillors:** Mrs. E. Ballard (EB), Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), J. Garrett (JG), C. Green (CG), D. Hobson (DH), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), M. Locking (ML), 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. J. Speed (JS) and D. Turner (DT)

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.M. Phillips and 1 member of the public were also present.

Councillors spoke in the public forum, as follows:

- Cllr. Mrs. EB – thanked everyone for their best wishes and kind words on her retirement as a Magistrate and her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
- Cllr. Mrs. LHW reported that the Independent Traders were to enter the Great British High Street Competition in the Customer Experience Category. She asked that support be given, if required.
- Cllrs. Mrs. PFW and Mrs. DB reported that demolition of the surgery on Queen Street was apparently due to commence imminently. Residents were concerned. Cllrs. Mrs. PFW and Mrs. DB agreed to continue to look into and monitor the situation and give an update in the next public forum.

**County and District Councillors Reports**

- LCC Cllr. T. Bridges commented on agenda item 15 re. LCC policy on Gulley Cleansing, wondering if the 2017/18 stated should have read 2018/19. He reported that he is in touch with a senior highways officer at LCC who says it is a directive from the portfolio holder who he will be meeting with shortly and who he will discuss the issue with. Cllr. JG asked if LCC could take action against the landowners along the A16 coming into Louth from Fotherby, where signage has become unreadable due to overgrown hedgerows. Cllr. Mrs. JMS wondered if a walkaround could be arranged with Mr. Davis to discuss speed limits and road safety in the town. Cllr. GEH enquired what the LCC policy on signage was. Cllr. Bridges agreed to look into all of the above issues and he asked that Councillors email details of any other issues to him: [cllr.t.bridges@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.t.bridges@lincolnshire.gov.uk)
- The Chairman drew Councillors attention to a tabled report from County and District Councillor S. Parkin. Cllr. Mrs. JMS was concerned with the use of acronyms within it, commenting that many would not know their meaning and a report should be inclusive, she wondered if a key could be provided in future. Cllr. DH kindly enlightened those present of the acronym meanings.
- Cllr. Mrs. PFW reported that she had suggested to ELDC the use of vans with mechanised canopies to act as market stalls.
- Cllr. CG reported that his scrutiny of ELDC's relationship with housing associations had been completed and unanimously signed off by ELDC.
- Cllr. RJ reported that: 1) ELDC had passed the Local Plan. 2) Horncastle Town Council were undertaking a trial re. dealing with small planning applications and there was £750,000 of relief available on business rates.
- Cllr. Mrs. JMS confirmed that Horncastle were able to undertake the trial because they were the only place in East Lindsey which had got a neighbourhood plan which had been through every stage required. Cllr. Mrs. JMS also reported that she had spoken to Cllr. Grist of ELDC with a view to inviting him to a meeting to discuss the state of the town and his opinion on this.

**105. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. DT.

**106. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman remarked that he had attended a number of events as Mayor, all of which he had thoroughly enjoyed.

**107. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations**

The following declarations of interest were made:

- a. Cllrs. ML and Mrs. SEL – agenda item 7 – as members of Heritage Lincolnshire.
- b. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from or relating to ELDC – as a member of ELDC.

#### 108. Council Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. FWPT it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 with the addition of Cllr. Mrs. PFW to those present.

#### 109. Committee Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to receive the Minutes of the following Committee Meetings and adopt the resolutions contained therein:

- a. Planning – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO.
- b. Community Resources – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 – proposed by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. LHW.

#### 110. Town Clerk's Report / Update

The Town Clerk drew Councillors attention to her tabled report which was noted and she confirmed that further to instructions on 3<sup>rd</sup> July she had contacted the Road Safety Partnership who were to arrange to undertake a speed survey on Queen Street.

#### 111. Heritage Lincolnshire

The Council considered taking part in Lincolnshire Heritage Open Days 2018 which were scheduled for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September. The Council noted that Mrs. M. Hill had volunteered to undertake guided tours on the aforementioned **week** days between 10am and 1pm. Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. EB it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should also open on Saturday and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September and that the building should be manned by Cllrs. Mrs. EB, Mrs. SEL and Mrs. SC plus others if they were available.

#### 112. SLCC National Conference

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to allow the Town Clerk to attend the Society of Local Council Clerk's National Conference, taking place at the Forest Pines Hotel on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October, as a day delegate and that costs should be taken from the G&F EMR Clerks Training budget, current balance £700.

#### 113. NALC National Conference

Further to circulation on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 of details of the above and following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Mrs. EB should attend the NALC National Conference, taking place on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October in Milton Keynes and that tickets, travel and subsistence expenses should be split between the CR budget: Training, current balance £1,700 and the G&F budget Councillors Expenses, current balance £925.

#### 114. LALC AGM

The Council noted that the LALC AGM would take place on 17<sup>th</sup> October at The Venue, Navenby. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. LMS it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. GEH and Mrs. JMS at a cost of £10 per delegate; costs to be taken from the CR budget Training, current balance £1,700.

#### 115. Local Councils Networking Day

Further to circulation of details on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 of the above which would take place on 27<sup>th</sup> September from 9.30am to 4pm at The Bentley Hotel, Newark Road, South Hykeham and following a proposal by Cllr. LMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. EB it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should attend, if possible and that costs should be taken from the CR budget Training, current balance £1,700.

**116. Keddington Lock**

Further to circulation on 2<sup>nd</sup> July of an email from Louth Navigation Trust regarding the above and following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SC it was **RESOLVED** that a letter should be sent to Mrs. V. Atkins MP, Cllr. Craig Leyland (Leader of ELDC), LCC, England Waterways Association, the Environment Agency and Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board expressing the Council’s concerns and pushing for urgent remedial action to be taken.

**117. Cataloguing of Borough Council Documents**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council should not accept an offer to catalogue the documents held by Louth Town Council in relation to the Borough Council.

**118. Street Light – Footpath between Florence Wright Avenue and Pasture Drive**

Further to discussion of this item by Council on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 the Council noted, but requested the relevant County Councillor should be asked if there was anything that they could do, that LCC have contacted land registry and are satisfied that the lamp post in question is on private land. Therefore, they will not re-route the fence enclosing it and they will also not consider installing a new lamp post on the footpath as this will reduce the width of the pavement and restrict wheelchair users/pushchairs etc. LCC’s intention is to disconnect and remove the lamp post and improve the lighting on the adjacent lamp posts to compensate for the removal. LCC would consider allowing LTC to take ownership of the current lamp post along with responsibility for maintenance and the cost of the electricity but this will not eliminate the access issues.

**119. Gully Cleansing – LCC Policy**

The Council noted the following change in LCC policy:

“It is no longer County Council policy to cleanse every gully annually. Instead, cleansing will be targeted at those gullies, offlets, catchpits and chambers where evidence shows it is most needed. This evidence is being gathered during the ongoing cycle of cleansing for 2017/18.”

Following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. RJ it was **RESOLVED** that a letter should be sent to LCC informing them of the Council’s concerns.

**120. Closed Session Item**

Following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting should move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the personally confidential nature of the business to be discussed in relation to the following matters:

- a. Request from a member of the public re. 1797 Map of Louth, held by Louth Town Council. (To be tabled).

It was **RESOLVED** that permission should not be granted for the reframing of the above 1797 Map of Louth.

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

**121. Next Meeting**

The Committee noted that the next scheduled meeting of Louth Town Council would take place on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

The Meeting Closed at 8.37pm.

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

Dated \_\_\_\_\_