

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 22nd AUGUST 2017**

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

Councillors: Mrs. S. Crew (SC), J. Garret (JG), C. Green (CG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. M. Ottaway MBE (MO), Mrs. J. Speed (JS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), D. Turner (DT) and D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: M. Locking (ML), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW), D. Hobson (DH), Mrs. E. Ballard (EB),

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley, her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, one member of the press and four members of the public were also present.

204. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. EB, Mrs. DB, DH, ML, Mrs. SEL, LMS and Mrs. PFW.

205. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman remarked that he had received complaints from residents, who in the darkness caused by LCC turning off the street lamps, had fallen over various roadworks which were rife in the town. The Chairman thought that ensuring their barriers etc., were sufficiently lit at night would be the responsibility of the contractor. Following a proposal by Cllr. JG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SC it was **RESOLVED** to write to LCC, sending a copy to Flexidig and Virgin, voicing concerns over the illumination of the works, overfilling of skips, damage being caused to road, backfilling not being done adequately, etc.

206. Declarations of Interest

- a. Cllr. CG – agenda items 11 and 13 – as a member of ELDC and 12 – as a friend of a doctor at James Street Surgery.
- b. Cllrs. Mrs. JMS, FWPT and RJ – agenda items 11 and 13 – as members of ELDC.
- c. Cllr. GEH – agenda items 4 and 11 – as a member of ELDC.

207. County and District Councillors Report

Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that the District Council would be holding its next Executive Board meeting at the Town Hall in Louth on 27th September from 6pm where a recommendation on the Cattle Market will be decided upon. Cllr. RJ reported that the Wellbeing Service was being put out for tender again and scrutiny of this would commence next month. She also reported that scrutiny on Consultation and Engagement would be starting soon.

208. Council Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. DEW it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2017.

209. Committee Minutes

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

- a. Planning Committee – 27th June 2017 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. SC, seconded by Cllr. DJEH
- b. Community Resources Committee – 27th June 2017 – proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL.

210. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Town Clerk had no outstanding matters to report on.

211. Correspondence

The Council noted that the following correspondence had been received:

- a. From: Larkfleet Homes Re: Community Fund – changes to the scheme (attached).

212. Temporary Road Closures

The Council noted the following Temporary Road Closures:

- a. Queen St – Burnt Hill Lane to 25m west – 03/09/2017 for essential maintenance work.

213. Road Naming

Following a proposal by Cllr. DEW, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should support the use of Primrose Hollow as the name for the ‘land adjoining rock cottage’.

214. Livestock Market

Cllr. GEH declared that he would not be taking part in any vote or discussion on this item as he had a pecuniary interest.

- a. The Council received feedback from Councillors who attended the recent ELDC Public Meeting as follows: the meeting had been very well supported by farmers from all over the district and it was felt it was an overwhelming success with 99% of attendees wanting to see the continuation of the current market on the current site. It was thought that ELDC had misreported their earnings from the site as they had not taken into account that up until recently they had also received a substantial rent from the Boars Head and it had been their decision to close this. It also seemed that the profit made from the car park had not been declared which would skew the figures. Young farmers had been vocal in saying the Cattle Market was a large part of their future and they were worried about the effect the uncertainty over the cattle market was having on young farmers mental health. There were concerns that the issue by ELDC, of a Notice to Quit on the Auctioneers, was misleading and made the issue look like it had already been decided. Members were disappointed that only two members of the Executive Board had been present at the public meeting, surely they all had a moral obligation to attend. Mr. Robinson, a partner in the Louth Cattle Market Auctioneers had given a good report stating that any refurb would not cost £700,000 and giving sound reasoning behind this, suggesting that ELDC had embellished the figures. It was thought that the Boars Head should be brought back into use for training. Finally, it was reported that some good points re. animal welfare had been raised regarding increased travel times if Louth Cattle Market ceases.
- b. Cllr. AL reported that the legal advisor was away on holiday. He would report back as soon as possible.
- c. Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JS it was **RESOLVED** that in support of local opinion Councillor Leonard and the Town Clerk should arrange to meet with ELDC Leader, Councillor Craig Leyland and Finance Portfolio Holder, Councillor Nick Guyatt before 5th September 2017. The meeting should explore working with ELDC to move forward on a partnership basis to retain and enhance the Livestock Market site and offer. This should be considered Option 5 and to be put to the Executive Board on 27th September 2017. Option 3 is a default position should this not be successful. Cllr. Mrs. JMS abstained from voting.

215. Health Meeting

The Council discussed responses to date from GP Practices as to the proposed meeting on 5th September 2017. Representatives from Newmarket and Kidgate surgery would be in attendance.

216. ELDC Local Plan

The Council received feedback from Cllr. Mrs JMS following representation to Local Plan Inspectors on 8th August 2017 at ELDC. Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that she had been distraught at having to sit and listen to both ELDC and LCC adamantly reporting to the Planning Inspector that Louth was sustainable.

217. Next Meeting

The Council noted that the date of the next meeting was Tuesday 5th September 2017 (Extraordinary to deal with Livestock Market Corporate Response and Health in the Town).

The Meeting Closed at 9pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____