

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH  
ON TUESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

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

**Councillors:** Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), C. Green (CG), J. Garrett (JG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. M. Ottaway MBE (MO), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), D. Turner (DT) and Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW)

**Councillors not present:** M. Locking (ML), L.M. Stephenson (LMS) and D.E. Wing (DEW)

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

Members of public spoke in the Public Forum, as follows:

- A lady reported her concerns and objections to the Former Julian Bower Playing Field planning application and in particular her concern that the new documentation available on the ELDC web site regarding the Water Drainage Strategy was inaccurate.
- A lady spoke about the Former Julian Bower Playing Field planning application and urged Councillors (before considering the application again) to read the two chapters of her book (circulated on email via the Town Clerk) which support the extremely high potential of the site being of supreme national historical importance and gave full details of inadequacies and inaccuracies of the Allan Archeology Survey supervised by LCC. She further reported that should the proposed development take place the best view, in Louth, of St. James' Church would be obliterated. She urged Councillors not to support the planning application, when the time came.
- Cllr. AL spoke about a piece he had recently seen in the local paper in which Cllr. A. Grist, District Councillor and Portfolio Holder for Market Towns had comments on the recent ELDC Car Parking Policy Review, on which Louth Town Council had been consulted. Cllr. Leonard reported that Cllr. Grist had made it quite clear that the District Council had never intended to make changes to car parks which might result in a loss of revenue to them, but an increase in business for the rest of the town. Cllr. Leonard opined that the consultation had been useless and a waste of time and money.
- Cllr. CG reported that he had arranged a public meeting regarding the Brackenborough Road planning application which had taken place on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Over 100 concerned members of the public had attended to listen to and question a representative of the developers.

**212. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors ML, LMS and DEW.

**213. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman announced that it would be Lincolnshire Day on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October and Cllr. FWPT had kindly volunteered to put up the Lincolnshire Flag at the Sessions House for which she thanked him. She also drew Councillors attention to a tabled list of forthcoming dates for their diaries which were as follows:

- a. 11<sup>th</sup> November – Armistice Day – 11am at War Memorial
- b. 13<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service – The Mayor confirmed that the proceedings would end after the Church Service and there would be no return parade from the Church to the Royal British Legion because the Police had withdrawn their support for this part of the proceedings due to cost and staffing issues. It was agreed that a letter expressing the Council's dismay and sadness should be sent to the Police, copy to the RBL.
- c. 27<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas Market and Lights Switch On at 3.30pm. Stewards required to assist between 3pm and 3.45pm.

- d. 19<sup>th</sup> December – Carols for All at St. James’ Church and Mayor’s Christmas Get Together (details to follow).

The Chairman also reported as follows:

- That notice of an Interim Review of Polling District and Stations had been received and she urged Councillors to look at the consultation online.
- That the Town and Parish E-News had a list of ongoing projects. The list mentioned Louth once and Skegness many times.
- That Skegness Court was to close on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September and at her last sitting she had been offered some of the old books to bring back for Louth Town Council. She had rescued all of the ones which had Louth on the spines.
- That Estuary TV had interviewed her asking for her views on Louth as a place to live as they would be making a tv show comparing and contrasting Louth with other local areas.
- That the Louth Leader had been in touch asking for her opinion on the retail business White Stuff opening a branch in town
- That Louth had won a Gold award in the recent East Midlands in Bloom Competition and a special award for Least Littered Environment in the East Midlands.

**214. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations**

The following declarations of interest were received:

- a. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from or relating to ELDC– as a member of ELDC.
- b. Cllrs. CG, FWPT, JMS and RJ – agenda items 6a and 7a – as members of ELDC.

**215. Council Minutes**

Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** by vote of the Council that the notes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 be approved as the minutes.

**216. Town Clerk’s Report on Matters Outstanding**

The Town Clerk reported that she had attended a flood project board meeting at which she had been told that the Louth and Horncastle Flood Alleviation Schemes were nearing completion, albeit slightly later than originally intended. Previously it had been reported that the reservoirs would be completed by late summer. However, a number of risks had materialised which had delayed the completion. The delays were due to a number of factors, including heavy rain and difficulties securing suitable material locally for the embankments. She confirmed that the revised programme showed that Louth reservoir would be ready for service in mid-November and the Horncastle reservoir by Christmas. However, prior to these dates the embankments would still provide a reduced risk of flooding to the communities before the scheme became fully operational.

**217. Councillors Feedback**

The Council received feedback from representatives attending the following:

- a. Area Forum – Horncastle, September 19<sup>th</sup> 2016 – Cllr EB.
- b. Community Lincs AGM – Washingborough, September 21<sup>st</sup> 2016 Cllr JMS (tabled report).

**218. Correspondence**

The Council noted that the following correspondence had been received:

- a. From: Resident of North Holme Ward Re: Use of improper procedures by ELDC (ongoing complaint 2010 – current).
- b. From: Resident of Aswell Street Re: Disabled Parking Spaces. Resident has a Blue Badge and Residents Parking Permit. The Parking Permit covers from 8am to 6pm. The resident does not arrive home from work until after this time and has difficulties parking close to their home. LCC does not allow disabled parking bays outside of homes which some other authorities do. Council to consider making request to LCC to support changing the policy for Lincolnshire. Councillors agreed that they wished to be kept up to date of developments regarding this.
- c. From: Resident St Mary’s Ward Re: Legally parked vehicles causing a hazard (junction Schoolhouse Lane / Gospelgate). LCC has looked at issues in this area in the past and has been unable to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of parties involved. Councillors agreed

that the letter should be forwarded with an accompanying note to the Police with a request for enforcement as the problem was causing a hazard.

- d. From: LCC Re: Traffic Management Permit Scheme will come into effect on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**219. Publications Received**

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

- a. LCR – Local Council Review – Autumn 2016

**220. Temporary Road Closures**

The Council noted that the following temporary road closure had been notified to the Town Council:

- a. Elkington Road 17.00 – 20.00hrs Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016 for Bonfire and Firework Display.

**221. Annual Return / External Audit**

The Council noted that Louth Town Council had received an unqualified Audit Report for 2015/1 and that in '*other matters not affecting their opinion*' the auditor had highlighted that Statement 1 and Statement 2 were signed by the Chairman and Clerk after the date of approval. The Chairman and Town Clerk signed the statements when the Minute references were available which consequently led to the later dates being entered. The auditor had requested that this be noted and carried out correctly in future years. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit will be completed by the Town Clerk and displayed on the Town Council Website as a minimum requirement. Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should pay the External Auditor their Fees of £600 plus VAT.

**222. Next Meeting**

Councillors noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

The Meeting Closed at 8.22pm.

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

Dated \_\_\_\_\_