

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH  
ON TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

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

**Councillors:** E. Ballard JP, 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), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT)

**Councillors not present:** Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), J. Garret (JG), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), D. Turner (DT) and D.E. Wing (DEW)

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

Councillors spoke in the public forum, as follows:

- Cllr. Mrs. EB complained about the state of the town with its untidy grass and lines of new tarmac down the middle of every pavement left by Flexidig following their work for Virgin Media. The Town Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to LCC to ask them to investigate the state of the work, as they are in charge of overseeing it.
- Cllr. Mrs. JS thought that the new tarmac would blend eventually. She opined that the worst aspect of the works was the fact that they were unlit at night, making them a hazard to pedestrians and road users.
- Cllr. Mrs. JMS complained about the unlit works taking place on Westgate which take up most of the path, making it very dangerous. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had been contacted by a member of the public concerned about the width of pavement left between the new Virgin boxes and the edge of the road. The Town Clerk agreed to write to LCC, Virgin and their Contractor to raise the new issues and chase the outstanding items and bring the issue back, if necessary.
- Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that Anglian Water had been churning up the grass verges in Westgate. But, following extensive lobbying on her part Anglian Water had agreed to completely reinstate the grass that they have ruined.
- Cllr. Mrs. PFW confirmed that this was also the case on Michael Foale Lane.
- Finally, Cllr. Mrs. JMS read out a letter from South Elkington WI complaining about the state of 19 and 21 Upgate and the detrimental impact they have on the image of the Town.

**273. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. DB, Mrs. SC, JG, FWPT (who would be late), DT and DEW.

**274. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman reminded Councillors to check their pigeon holes as there were documents from Citizens Advice (CA) relating to Universal Tax Credit. She explained that a presentation on this issue would take place but it had been deemed best to wait until the CA knew more. Finally, she asked that anyone videoing the meeting please make the Council aware of this, out of courtesy.

**275. Declarations of Interest**

- a. Cllr. GEH – agenda item 7 – as the owner of a business operating on the site and as a member of ELDC.
- b. Cllrs. Mrs. JMS, CG, RJ and Mrs. PFW – agenda item 7 – as members of ELDC.

**276. County and District Councillors Report**

Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that it had been agreed at the ELDC Executive Board on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September that ELDC would start to charge 20p for the use of public lavatories. However, she was disappointed with this decision as the Town Council had not been consulted. Cllr. Mrs. PFW commented that she believed that this decision might still be open for some discussion.

Cllr. Mrs. JMS informed the Council that she had received complaints about the lack of parking enforcement in the Schoolhouse Lane area. Double yellow lines were being covered by wet fallen leaves or erased by time and cars were consequently parking illegally making accessing and exiting in both directions and traversing the carriageway very dangerous. Cllr. Mrs. JMS requested that this be a future agenda item. Cllr. AL suggested that Cllr. Mrs. JMS report the issue to the local County Councillor and LCC herself first and if there was no positive outcome then the Town Council should become involved. A discussion ensued regarding the nonattendance of County Councillors following which Cllr. Mrs. LHW left the meeting at 7.21pm, in protest at some Councillors behaviour.

**277. Council Minutes**

Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

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

The Town Clerk reported that she had received notification that the current Keddington Road road-closure had officially been extended to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Cllr. Mrs. JS complained that she wished to raise a point of order regarding the detail of the presentation recorded in the minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> September. The Town Clerk confirmed that the minutes had already been voted upon. Cllr. Mrs. JS objected saying that she had had her hand up to speak but had not been asked. The Chairman apologised, she had not seen it. Cllr. Mrs. JS left the meeting at 7.26pm.

**279. Livestock Market**

The Council noted that the ELDC Executive Board had met on 27th September 2017 and were recommending to Full Council on 11<sup>th</sup> October that Option 3 is supported. The Town Clerk and Cllr. AL informed the Council that they had supplied the relevant information to the Barrister, at his request, and they now awaited the result.

**a. Exclusion of Public and Press**

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. PFW, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting should move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 so that a question about the resolution made on the above (in closed session) at the last meeting, could be asked. A discussion ensued. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to move back into open session.

Cllr. FWPT arrived at 7.38pm and declared an interest in agenda item 8 as a bus driver for North East Lincolnshire.

**280. Local Bus Services**

The Council discussed a communication from Tetford and Salmonby Parish Council and a Tetford resident and following a proposal by Cllr. LMS, seconded by Cllr. RJ it was **RESOLVED** that

- a.** a letter of support should be sent to ELDC, local County Councillors, LCC and the MP. The letter should also ask the County Councillors what information they know on this, ask LCC what their potential plans are and ask the MP for any help she can offer.
- b.** a letter should be sent to Tetford and Salmonby Parish Council to inform them of our course of action, support and wish to receive the results of their survey upon completion.

**281. Fairer Funding For Lincolnshire**

The Council discussed the LCC Fairer Funding For Lincolnshire Campaign and letter received from Skegness Town Council (via LALC). Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SEL it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a.** a letter of support should be sent to ELDC, LCC and the MP and that rural bus services should be added as one of the services that would benefit.
- b.** a letter be sent to Cllr. Hills acknowledging his letter and informing him of the Council's course of action.

**282. Annual Return**

The Council noted that:

- a. the Annual Return had been signed and returned by the External Auditor as an unqualified audit with a note regarding transposition of figures for 16/17 Loans (previously notified to Council).
- b. The mandatory Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been posted on the Town Council Website.

Councillors thanked the Town Clerk for her hard work in this area.

**283. Remembrance Day Parade**

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. DJEH it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should approve a maximum of £250 grant to the British Legion to enable them to engage a contractor to undertake road closures to provide for the return parade to the British Legion Hall from St. James' Church on 12th November 2017 (via Upgate / Mercer Row/ Market Place / Eastgate / Northgate). The Council noted that this item was subject to approval from LCC Highways.

**284. Next Meeting**

The Council noted that the date of the next scheduled Robed Town Council meeting was 17th October 2017.

The Meeting Closed at 8.05pm

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

Dated \_\_\_\_\_