

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 17th OCTOBER 2017**

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

Councillors: E. Ballard JP, J. Garrett (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), D. Turner (DT), D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: Mrs. J. Speed (JS), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), Mrs. E. Ballard (EB), J. Garret (JG) and D. Turner (DT)

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley, her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, the Mayor's Chaplin, Rev. N. Brown, the Mayor's Serjeant, Mr. G. Darnell, County Councillor Mr. T. Bridges and ten members of the public were also present.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting proper, the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. N. Brown said prayers.

Individuals spoke in the public forum, as follows:

- A gentleman informed the Council of anti-social behavior that is taking place on a daily basis at Kiln Lane car park and requested the support of the Town Council in tackling this as, he opined, the local residents lives were unbearable as the situation stands.
- A gentleman reminded that he had questioned the Council on 22nd August as to why some antique furniture of the Council had been sent out of town to be sold rather than using a local auctioneers. He enquired as to whether the Council had a policy for selling items. The Town Clerk informed him that the Council did not have a policy and decisions regarding sales were taken on a case by case basis and that it was a mixed lot. The Mayor directed the gentleman to the Council's formal complaint procedure, if he wished to take the matter further.

306. Apologies for Absence

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

307. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor informed those present that Councillor Treanor was to have an operation that day. However, no news had yet been received regarding the outcome. She wished him well and confirmed that the Council's best wishes had been sent and updates would be circulated as soon as they were available. The Mayor then went on to list the engagements that she had attended since the last Robed Town Council meeting on 11th July 2017 which included but was not limited to the Hull Degree Ceremony, the Louth Men's Shed Opening, St. James' Patronal Festival Evensong, the Lincolnshire Wolds Railway Presentation and several Civic Services. She enthused that she had thoroughly enjoyed everything and hoped that she had been a good ambassador for the Council.

308. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Town Council had been gifted three books from Grantham Civic Trust who had visited The Sessions House in the summer to receive hospitality, receive a talk on and view the Panorama and receive a guided tour of Louth. The books were entitled Heritage of Flight – in South Lincolnshire, Arthur Storer's World – Family, Medicine and Astronomy in Seventeenth Century Lincolnshire and Maryland by Ruth Cook and The Grantham Book of Recipes by Mary Pointer. She thanked Grantham Civic Trust. Finally, she announced that she had been asked to write a short article about herself, Louth and her role as Mayor for Lincolnshire Pride Magazine. This had been printed and she was in receipt of the published article which she showed to the Council before kindly gifting a copy to them for posterity.

309. Declarations of Interest

- a. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 9b, 11 and 15 – as a member of ELDC.
- b. Cllr. RJ – agenda items 9b, 11 and 15 – as a member of ELDC.
- c. Cllr. CG – agenda items 9b, 12a and 15 – as a member of ELDC.
- d. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from or relating to ELDC – as a member of ELDC and 12a – as a director of Magna Vitae.

310. County and District Councillors Report

County Councillor, Tony Bridges wished to dispel the myth that at the Annual Town Meeting he had promised to attend every meeting of LTC. He confirmed that he had in fact said he would attend as many as possible. Cllr. Bridges explained that he is the Chairman of the Environmental Economic Scrutiny Committee which would shortly be having its first outside visit since the new administration in May 2017. He believed this was important to obtain tangible evidence of what is going on in the County. The visit would be to the Aventus premises in Market Deeping and there were 8 items on the agenda, some of which were: Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan with Site Locations, Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership - Accountable Body Progress Report, Heritage and Environment based Tourist Opportunities and their Web Programme. Cllr. Bridges opined that the Heritage and Environment based Tourist Opportunities needs serious consideration and to this end he had invited the Tourism Manager of LCC to address and update their meeting because with the World Travel Market coming up next month and the Mayflower Celebrations in 2020 he believed that advantage should be taken and they ought to know what their responsibilities were and how the celebrations in 2020 will be approached. Cllr. Bridges then took questions from members on street lighting and unlit roadworks in the town. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a. Cllr. Bridges should report the fears of the Council regarding these items back to LCC and bring back their response.
- b. Cllr. Richard David, the relevant portfolio holder, should be invited to a future meeting to discuss the Council's fears.

District Councillor, RJ reported that: 1) ELDC had voted to support the LCC Fairer Funding for Lincolnshire Campaign. 2) ELDC might be a pilot area testing 100% business rates retention. 3) The market on a Saturday is much quieter than it used to be. She had been raising with the residents and stall holders the possibility of holding a Wellbeing fair. Everyone seemed quite enthusiastic.

Cllr. Mrs. PFW opined that the problem with the market might lay with the stall holders who pack up and leave in the early afternoon. She was of the opinion that members of the public, who have been at work all week, like to have a lay in on a Saturday morning and don't come into town until later on, missing the traders. She also was eager to stress that ELDC would have to ensure, somehow, that any funding received through the Fairer Funding Campaign did not all go to the south of the county.

Cllr. Mrs. MO suggested that the Markets Manager be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss.

Cllr. GEH declared an interest in any markets discussion – as a member of the Market Traders Federation.

Cllr. DT arrived at 7.33pm.

Cllr. Mrs. JMS reported that: 1) she had raised the market issue with the Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Grist who had assured her that he would look into this once the situation with the Cattle Market had been resolved. She believed that Cllr. Grist was the correct person to invite. 2) Cllr. Leyland was talking about the transfer of services to Parish Councils. She believed he was really keen to push this and wanted to work up a template. To achieve this ELDC would be starting to work with Alford and Horncastle soon. Therefore, she suggested that LTC might like to think about any services that they want to take over. 3) Cllr. Davie had said that there had just been a scrutiny into the future of local government and there was due to be an announcement from the Government this week on devolution. 4) Cllr. Marsh had reported that the new digital CCTV now installed in Skegness was very good. 5) The Fairer Funding money could be devolved to Town and Parishes too. 6) There is a scrutiny going on into engagement. 7) There is a scrutiny going on into commercial waste.

Cllr. Mrs. PFW reported that ELDC had bought the Navigation Warehouse as a Community Asset and Louth Hospital was to be taken as an example for Urgent Care Centres hopefully this will help us to maintain it.

Cllr. Mrs. MO thought that the hospital were having great difficulty recruiting staff at the minute due to the negative publicity.

Cllr. GEH reported that ELDC had unanimously voted for Option 3, to save the Cattle Market.

311. 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 meeting held on 3rd October 2017.

312. Committee Minutes

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

- a. Planning Committee – 11th July 2017 Approved by Committee 01/08/17 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. RJ
- b. Planning Committee – 1st August 2017 Approved by Committee 22/08/17 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. RJ
- c. Planning Committee – 22nd August 2017 Approved by Committee 12/09/17 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. RJ
- d. Planning Committee – 12th September 2017 Approved by Committee 03/10/17 – proposed by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. RJ
- e. Governance and Finance Committee – 27th June 2017 Approved by Committee 12/09/17 – proposed by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. DEW
- f. Community Resources – 11th July 2017 Approved by Committee 01/08/2017 – proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL
- g. Community Resources – 1st August 2017 Approved by Committee 22/08/17 – proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL
- h. Community Resources – 22nd August 2017 Approved by Committee 12/09/17 – proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL
- i. Community Resources – 12th September 2017 Approved by Committee 03/10/17 – proposed by Cllr. DT, seconded by Cllr. AL
- j. Personnel Committee – 23rd May 2017 Approved by Committee 12/09/17 – proposed by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. DEW

Cllr. JG arrived at 7.46pm.

313. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Town Clerk had no outstanding matters to report on.

314. Correspondence

The Council considered the correspondence received, listed below and resolved as follows:

- a. From: Local resident Re: Concerns over condition of river and maintenance (circulated electronically). Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should write to the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and the Drainage Board.

Cllr. Mrs. EB arrived at 7.50pm.

- b. From: Local residents regarding escalation of Anti-Social behaviour in / around ELDC owned Kiln Lane Car Park (LTC have been copied in to original letter to ELDC) Copy in office. The Mayor informed the Council that she had contacted ELDC and had received a response which she read out. She confirmed that ELDC would be sending a formal response to the residents of Kiln Lane and she urged them to wait until they had received it and if they were not happy with it then they should speak to their District Councillors who would take the matter forward. Following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** that Standing Orders should be suspended in order to allow a member of the public to speak. One of the residents replied to ELDC's response and reiterated that ELDC should have a life plan for this car park. The gentleman was again advised to contact the relevant District Councillors. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to resume Standing Orders.
- c. From: Lincolnshire Co-op Re: Confirmation of LTC commitment to creating a modern slavery free business. Following a discussion regarding creating a policy, a proposal by Cllr. AL,

seconded by Cllr. Mrs. EB it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should not action this as it was already enshrined in law.

- d. Noted - From: Fields in Trust Re: Final year of funding to protect green spaces with tangible link to The Great War.

315. Temporary Road Closures

The Council noted the following temporary road closures (NB a & b will not overlap):

- a. Westgate (B1200 and Wheatsheaf Public House) 23/10/17 – 05/11/17 as and when required for Anglian Water / Clancy Docwra.
- b. Edward Street (Gospelgate to Horncastle Road) 23/10/2017 – 27/10/2017 for 2 days for essential maintenance works.
- c. Town Centre Roads – Sunday 03/12/17 for Christmas Market Event.

316. Councillors Feedback

Council to receive reports from Councillors attending events as nominated representatives and resolve as necessary:

- a. In the absence of Cllr. Mrs. SC, Cllr. DHEH gave a short report from the Area Forum 25th September 2017.

317. Councillors Proposals

The Council considered proposals from Councillors and resolve as follows::

- a. Cllr. Mrs Blakey – SO Festival Programme 2018. Cllr. Mrs. PFW declared an interest in this item as a director of Magna Vitae. Cllr. Mrs. LHW explained in Cllr. Mrs. DB's absence that she had been approached by a number of members of the public who had asked why Louth had not been included in the SO Festival in 2017. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. LHW, seconded by Cllr. DT it was **RESOLVED** that Mr. J. Brindle be invited to speak to the Council on this issue at a future meeting.
- b. Cllr. Mrs. JMS proposed that Councillors review their wards for locations in which dropped kerbs might be needed to assist wheelchair / pushchair users in the town. Cllr. Bridges agreed to find out if LCC are still doing dropped kerbs. It was agreed that Cllrs. would submit their requests for dropped kerbs to the Town Clerk for collation.

318. Grants

The Council receive a recommendation from the Finance Overview Group (FOG) that the grants procedure should be launched with the following timescale:

- a. 19th October 2017 Publicity Launch (Media Release, Louth Town Council Website and Notice Boards)
- b. 16th November 2017 Closing Date for applications
- c. 20th November 2017 FOG meets to validate applications and make recommendations
- d. 28th November 2017 Town Council meets to consider and award grants
- e. 29th November applicants informed of outcome
- f. Cheques to be issued to recipients with an invitation to attend the Annual Louth Town meeting 8th May 2018 to showcase their project / organisation.

Following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. RJ it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the above and stipulate that cheques should be banked within 28 days. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** that grants should be discussed again at budget setting time to ascertain whether the Council wished to precept money for them for 2018/19.

319. Highways Parish Cluster Group Meeting

The Council noted that local parish cluster meetings had been arranged by LCC Highways to take place during November 2017 throughout East Lindsey and the Town Clerk had put forward The Sessions House on the 16th November 2017 in order to ensure a local venue for the North of the district (other meetings are at Skegness, Alford and Horncastle. It was further noted that the meeting would take place at 5pm and would last for 1 1/2hrs and agenda items included Asset Management, Network Management, Highways Portal Demonstration and Communication and future liaison. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. GEH it was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor, Cllr. Mrs. PFW should attend and following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. CG it was further **RESOLVED** that the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. GEH should also attend.

320. Livestock Market

The Council noted that there was no new information from the Town Clerk and Councillor Leonard and that ELDC had voted unanimously for option 3 to save the Cattle Market. However, the situation was not yet safe as a section 25 notice to quit by 31st December 2017 had been served on the Louth Auctioneers and until this had been resolved the process would not be closed and the Cattle Market would not be saved. Cllr. GEH reported that he had been informed that a new lease could be signed on 1st January 2018. Cllr. Mrs. EB thanked everyone who had worked so hard to get us to this point. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should collate their ideas for the future of the Cattle Market to be discussed at a future meeting.

321. Next Meeting

The Council noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was Tuesday 28th November 2017 (Budget Consideration (TC Only))

The Meeting Closed at 8.56pm

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____

For Approval 28th November 2017