

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2017**

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

Councillors: E. Ballard JP, Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), 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), L.S. Stephenson (LMS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT) and D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: Mrs. J. Speed (JS), J. Garret (JG) and D. Turner (DT)

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley and her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, were also present. There were no members of the press or public present.

Councillors spoke in the public forum, as follows:

- Cllr. FWPT thanked everyone for their thoughts and cards and best wishes during his recent time of illness.
- Cllr. CG brought attention to a leaflet which he had tabled for everyone.
- Cllr. Mrs. MO reported that a water main had ruptured in Little Eastgate, it was lucky that no-one had been injured.
- Cllr. Mrs. EB informed the Council that a meeting of the original CCTV 7 Towns group was being called and she would report back following this.
- Cllr. AL reported that there were rumours of damage to services being caused by the work taking place in town for Virgin. It was agreed that this should be a future agenda item.

346. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. JS, JG and DT.

347. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman had no remarks to make.

348. Declarations of Interest

- a. Cllr. GEH – agenda item 10 – as a business owner on the site.
- b. Cllrs. Mrs. JMS, RJ, Mrs. PFW, CG and FWPT – agenda item 5 – as members of ELDC.

349. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Town Clerk reported that Mr. S. Williams had been in contact and had asked if he could come to speak to the Council. Following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that a date for Mr. Williams to attend should be arranged.

350. Livestock Market

The Town Clerk explained that she had hoped to have an update but this had not been forthcoming. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. EB, seconded by Cllr. RJ it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should send a letter to both ELDC and the Louth Market Auctioneers enquiring as to the position so far, as the deadline for resolution is fast approaching and we have heard nothing.

Cllr. Mrs. JMS abstained from voting.

351. Remembrance Parade Grant

The Council noted that a grant of £250 had already been agreed to cover road closures and traffic management for the parade from St. James' Church to the British Legion and official guidance prepared by LCC and approved by Lincolnshire Police had been received. However, following confirmation that the Police were not able to be in attendance to facilitate the safe passage of the parade from Northgate Car Park to the War Memorial and from the War Memorial to St. James' Church, but would attend for community engagement purposes, subject to operational restrictions, it had become necessary to take action. With just three weeks to go before the parade, one week of which was school holiday (rendering contact between

local parading groups and their cadets/members impossible) the Town Clerk, under emergency powers, had committed the remaining £350 for use to fund additional road closures and stewards to ensure the safety of members of the public and participants and to ensure/enable the parade to take place from the British Legion to the War Memorial and from the War Memorial to St. James' Church.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. MO, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Town Clerk's actions above and approve the spending of the entire £600 budgeted for these purposes and further, following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. GEH it was **RESOLVED** that arrangements for Remembrance Sunday 2018 should be on an agenda for discussion early in the New Year.

352. Exclusion of Public and Press

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

353. Town Clerk

The Mayor formally announced that the Town Clerk had tendered her resignation with a final contracted working day of Friday 22nd December 2017.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk's Secretary, Mrs. L. Phillips be immediately promoted to Assistant Town Clerk and be authorised to execute the role of Acting Proper Officer, in the absence of a Town Clerk in post.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. SC it was **RESOLVED** that the Personnel Committee be authorised to analyse the current office structure and undertake all aspects of the recruitment and appointment of a new Town Clerk bringing back a plan to full council.

354. Next Meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting is 28th November 2017.

The Meeting Closed at 8.12pm

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____