



# MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

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## **Minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held virtually via Zoom on Thursday 18th February, 2021 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr. R. Stocks (Chair) Cllr. M. Taylor (Deputy Chair)  
Cllr. S. Tattam Cllr. Sharon Barker  
Cllr. B. Brown Cllr. L. Dunnett

**In attendance:** County Cllr. C. Guglielmi District Cllr. A. Coley  
L. Djuve-Wood (Clerk)

### **136/20 To receive and approve Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie and accepted by the Council.

### **137/20 Declarations of interest**

There were none.

### **138/20 Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to be approved and signed**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **139/20 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and matters of mutual interest**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

### **140/20 Reports from the District and County Councils**

The Council had received the monthly district report which had been circulated to all councillors. It was noted that the COVID infection rate in Tendring is rapidly dropping, although at the time Tendring still had the highest infection rate in the Eastern region.

Full District and County reports are accessible to the public on the town council's website [www.manningtreetowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.manningtreetowncouncil.org.uk).

### **141/20 Report from Essex Police**

The monthly police report for Manningtree, Mistley, Lawford, Little Bentley and Tendring had not been received in time for the meeting. The clerk will circulate to councillors upon receipt.

### **142/20 Progress Report from the Clerk**

The clerk noted the following updates since circulation of the Clerk's Report:

- **27/17, Manningtree feasibility study, signage:** Highways had confirmed that this scheme had completed.
- **27/20 a), LHP scheme request to change the road markings at the Brook Street / Mill Lane junction:** Highways had advised the scheme is currently going through the validation process and is with an engineering team for review. It has been allocated scheme reference number LTEN202015.

- **116/20 b) Dying tree on Quay Street:** Cllr. Brown advised that upon further inspection he could confirm that there is concrete beneath the Quay Street Green. It was suggested the dying tree be replaced with a shrub instead. To be discussed at the March full council meeting.

#### **143/20 Report from other committees and representatives**

##### **a) To receive an update on the Dementia Action Alliance project and to consider how to promote their befriending service within Manningtree**

Cllr. Taylor informed the Council that there had been no further progress with this project.

##### **b) To receive an update on the Swift project**

Cllr. Barker noted that she had received a lot of interest in the Swift project, with many residents wanting boxes for their houses. Save Our Suffolk Swifts had been extremely helpful providing advice and offering to supply Swift boxes. Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB had offered six Swift boxes but would like them installed on prominent public buildings within Manningtree. At Cllr. Barker's request County Cllr. Guglielmi agreed to ask the county council whether they would be willing to install a box on the Manningtree Library building. He requested that Cllr. Barker send him an e-mail with all the details. Cllr. Barker noted that she would also contact local pubs and Ragmarsh Farm Shop.

##### **c) Other committees:**

Cllr. Stocks noted that she had had a discussion with Mistley Parish Cllr. Nutter regarding the cemetery and the now disbanded Mistley and Manningtree cemetery committee. It had been suggested they meet for further discussions. It was agreed Cllr. Dunnett would attend alongside Cllr. Stocks.

#### **144/20 To consider the following planning applications**

##### **a) 21/00117/TCA, 1 No. Lilac – Fell due to trees poor form and proximity to outbuilding, Group of Conifers – Reduce in height and by one metre, 2A Oxford Road, Manningtree**

**RESOLVED** that the Council has no comment to make on this planning application.

##### **b) 21/00120/TCA, 3 No. Unknown species – remove, 2 Hilton Close, Manningtree**

Whereas it was **RESOLVED** that the Council has no comment to make on this planning application, it was noted that the trees seemed to be in good health. It was agreed that Cllr. Stocks would consult with TDC Tree and Landscape Officer, Mr Dawson.

#### **145/20 Highways/Environment**

##### **a) To discuss and agree the Council's climate emergency declaration**

Cllr. Barker had attended the EALC Climate Crisis Conference and had issued a summary of the conference to all councillors ahead of the council meeting. Issues discussed included:

- Ways of taking personal responsibility for cutting carbon emission, including information on a GIKI (Get Informed Know Your Impact) Social Enterprise app, which is free to download. Cllr. Barker requested that information about the app be shared on the Council's Facebook page;
- The need to manage land for nature, including the necessity to reduce/eliminate pesticide use and make mowing regimes more sympathetic to the needs of wildlife;
- Ways for parish and town councils to engage and pass on information to the local community;
- The Essex is Green Changemaker programme;

- Sustainability and resilience; and
- Examples of actions other parish and town councils have taken in light of the climate crisis, including litter picking, protection and conservation of green spaces, promoting walking, promoting paper rather than plastic bags in shops, council use of recycled paper, avoiding use of herbicides and insecticides, focus on 'low hanging fruit' in terms of targets, electric car (EV) charging points, bike parking, community gardens, swap box schemes, encourage schools to do waste bin audits, 20mph speed limits, inviting people to share energy saving ideas, switching to LED lights, Trees for Life policy (every new baby's family is given an apple tree to plant) and adopting the Friends of the Earth's 20 Actions Parish & Town Councils can take on, link here: <https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/reports/20-actions-parish-and-town-councils-can-take-climate-and-nature-emergency>

District Cllr. Coley recommended the three parishes of Manningtree, Lawford and Mistley working together and possibly also involving local schools. It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk would contact Mistley and Lawford parish councils to gauge interest in setting up a joint working party and that Cllrs. Barker and Brown would represent Manningtree Town Council.

It was also noted that the Council had received a letter from Tendring District Council urging all parish / town councils to consider climate change and suggesting adding at the end of every main agenda a formal question asking themselves whether anything on that agenda has any effect on carbon footprint and climate change in general. District Cllr. Coley added that every decision the Council makes should have a caveat that considers climate change.

**b) To consider applying for ECC funding for Coastal Interpretation Signboards**

The clerk advised that Essex County Council had decided to use a part of their grant from the Government's Coastal Communities Fund 2019 to fund locally nominated coastal interpretation boards, to be designed and installed along Essex' coastal region. The deadline for applications was the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would like to take part and the Clerk was asked to put in a request for a board to replace the old one at Riverside and possibly a second board by The Walls.

**c) To consider Manningtree Green Spaces project: Frankenberg proposal**

Cllr. Brown had been in touch with Mr Baldry, President of the Manningtree District Frankenberg Partnership Association and had suggested as part of marking the association's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a collaborative flowerbed project, whereby Manningtree curates a green space in its town, pairing it with one in the town of Frankenberg. It was suggested using parts of the Quay Street Green for this project. Cllr. Brown also stated that a next step could be to offer something similar to Manningtree High School in order to educate and engage. Cllr. Stocks noted that the high school used to have a good link with the high school in Frankenberg and so would be worth exploring. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would like to proceed with the project should Frankenberg be interested.

**d) To discuss posting advertisement in Harwich and Manningtree Standard for Quay Street buoy proposal planning application and agree any costs thereof**

The clerk explained that as it is not clear who owns the Quay Street Green, TDC's planning department requires the Council to post an advertisement in the local paper informing and providing any potential owners of the Green 21 days to come forward. The planning department had also requested further details of size and number of buoys to be used. Cllr. Brown stated that he was not certain of size and how many

buoys the Stour Sailing Club may be able to donate and as such the Council may need to purchase some themselves. It was **RESOLVED** to discuss this further at the March meeting and withdraw the planning application until such time the Council has further details.

**146/20 Finance**

**a) To receive the monthly finance report and approve monthly bank reconciliation figures**

The clerk noted that as at the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 the current account held £1,012.88 and the savings account £20,847.59. The bank reconciliation was approved.

**b) To consider an S137 grant request from Ormiston Families**

**RESOLVED** that the Council will not grant an S137 payment to Ormiston Families as there would be no direct benefit to Manningtree residents. The clerk will respond accordingly.

**c) To approve new payments in accordance with the 2020/21 budget**

**RESOLVED** that the following payments be approved:

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Net £</b>	<b>VAT £</b>	<b>Gross £</b>
Environmental Design (monthly maintenance)	52.00	10.40	62.40
ALCC (annual subscription)	40.00	0.00	40.00
EON (street lights)	401.69	20.08	421.77
L Djuve-Wood (repayment new Dell laptop)	730.00	146.00	876.00
L Djuve-Wood (repayment Turners shield engraving)	10.00	0.00	10.00
Tendring District Council (planning app fee benches)	117.00	0.00	117.00
L Djuve-Wood (monthly salary)	711.92	0.00	711.92
Webfactory (website host fee)	14.99	3.00	17.99
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,077.60</b>	<b>179.48</b>	<b>2,257.08</b>

**147/20 Items from councillors to be added to the next agenda**

There were none.

**148/20 To note date and time of the next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 18th March 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.17 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....