



MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Djuve-Wood

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Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held in the Methodist Church Hall on Thursday 16th January, 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:	Cllr. R. Stocks (Chair)	Cllr. M. Taylor
	Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie	Cllr. S. Tattam
In attendance:	District Cllr. A. Coley	
	Sergeant A. Heard	PC R. Kent
	1 member of the public	Mrs. L. Djuve-Wood (Clerk)

125/19 To receive and approve Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Blacker and approved by the council.

126/19 Declarations of interest

There were none.

127/19 Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 12th December 2019 to be approved and signed
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 12th December 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

128/19 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and matters of mutual interest

There was one member of the public present requesting further details on the plans for the upcoming VE 75th celebrations on the 8th May 2020.

129/19 Reports from the District and County Councils

A monthly update was provided by District Cllr. A. Coley. He asked for the Council's views on rejected planning application 19/00336/OUT to build a new GP super surgery at Mistley, as an appeal application has already been lodged. Although the council supports the need for a larger surgery it was noted that Tendring Farms Ltd's proposed location is not suitable and that such a surgery should be within or nearer to Manningtree town centre. Amongst other concerns, one of the main worries is that by removing the surgery from the town centre, Manningtree will see a drastic decline in footfall, which in turn would have a detrimental effect on the town's High Street.

Full District and County reports are accessible to the public on the town council's website www.manningtreetowncouncil.org.uk.

130/19 Report from Essex Police

Sergeant A. Heard and PC R. Kent provided the Council with an update on the number of reported crimes in Manningtree and the surrounding area over the last month. Sergeant Heard noted that there had been a disproportionate number of motor vehicle thefts recently with a total of 9 such incidents reported since 29th December 2019.

Cllr. Tattam asked what their views on the use of CCTV cameras were in town centres and whether they thought installing them may result in crime being shifted to other areas. They replied that whereas CCTV cameras are a deterrent there is certainly a risk the offenders will just be moving their criminal activity elsewhere. It was noted that it would be beneficial to have more police officers out on patrol.

131/19 Progress Report from the Clerk

- **134/18 To consider introducing council surgeries** To be reviewed in September
- **97/19 f) To discuss on-going issues with TDC recycling** Cllr. Lay-Flurrie noted that residents at College Court are yet to receive waste out early letters from TDC. The clerk is to chase.

Action: Clerk

- **79/19e) To consider replacing the wildlife sign by the Coop / Riverside steps** The clerk was asked to contact RSPB following Cllr. McClarnon's resignation. **Action: Clerk**
- **100/19 To consider applying for the library building to be listed as an asset of community value** Cllr. Taylor had been in touch with TDC who had explained that whereas it is possible to apply for the building itself to be listed as an asset of community value it is not possible for the library service itself to be listed as such. It was agreed to not take this item any further.
- **121/19b) To agree the final budget and precept request for 2020/21** The clerk noted that the precept request had been issued to TDC.

RESOLVED that the following items be discharged:

- 168/17c) To discuss the possibility of requesting the removal of the disabled car parking space on Brook Street
- 179/18 To discuss request from member of the public to start producing Easy Read documents for people with disabilities
- 62/19 To consider nominations for the 2019/20 Community Engagement Award
- 100/19 To consider applying for the library building to be listed as an asset of community value
- 121/19b) To agree the final budget and precept request for 2020/21

132/19 Report from other committees and representatives

Cllr. Stocks noted that she had been informed that Mistley Parish Council is considering disbanding the Manningtree and Mistley Cemetery committee with a view to Mistley Parish Council dealing with all cemetery related matters going forward. Cllr. Stocks has questioned the decision.

Cllr. Taylor provided an update from the VE 75th Anniversary working group. The event will run from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. culminating with a toast and very short service at the Manningtree War Memorial. The parade has been moved to Sunday 9th May. There will be various competitions throughout the day, shop window displays, 1940s dancing, entertainment, catering, stalls and a display of military vehicles. A memorial ribbon will be provided to all children in the local primary schools with parish councils being asked to provide a financial contribution for the cost of these. The clerk was asked to send formal invitations to various local dignitaries. She was also asked to order 10 high vis vests for the event.

Action: Clerk

133/19 Highways/Environment

a) To consider a request to create a skatepark in the Manningtree area

Cllr. Stocks noted that as there is no space for a skatepark within Manningtree itself she had asked the resident to contact Mistley and Lawford Parish Councils.

b) To consider the findings of the recent tree survey carried out

The clerk noted that the recommendations for the larger tree on Quay Street to have its crown reduced by up to 30% was not considered urgent. However, there was an urgent recommendation of re-staking the newly planted tree on Quay Street. **RESOLVED** that the council wait with the pruning of the larger tree but that the clerk requests that the newly planted tree be re-staked.

Action: Clerk

c) To consider ways in which Manningtree Town Council can assist in reducing carbon emissions in the local community

Tendring District Council is urging all parish councils to consider planting more trees to aid in carbon offsetting. It was noted that Manningtree does not have any space for further tree planting. Cllr. Taylor asked District Cllr. Coley if TDC have any incentives in place to encourage residents to plant trees in their gardens. Cllr. Coley agreed to investigate. It was also agreed that the clerk is to publish information on the Council's website with tips for residents on how to become more carbon friendly.

Action: Clerk

134/19 To consider initiating the co-option process for one vacant councillor seat

It was noted that following Cllr. Richardson's resignation the Council now has two vacant seats.

RESOLVED that the council is to initiate the co-option process for both seats as soon as the TDC notification period is over.

Action: Clerk

135/19 To consider appointing the following representatives:

a) One administrator for the town council's Facebook page

RESOLVED that Cllr. Tattam become an additional Facebook page administrator

b) One representative for the Swift and wildflower verges cross parish working group

- RESOLVED** that this item be deferred until after the VE 75th Celebrations have taken place
- c) **A second representative on the Mistley and Manningtree Cemetery Committee**
RESOLVED that this item be deferred until co-option has taken place

136/19 To consider responding to a letter regarding a photographic project of houses and buildings in Manningtree

RESOLVED that the clerk inform the resident that the council is fully supportive of the project as long as permission is sought from inhabitants prior to taking their photos. **Action: Clerk**

137/19 Finance

- a) **To approve monthly bank reconciliation figures**
RESOLVED that the monthly bank reconciliations be approved.
- b) **To replace Cllr. McClarnon as signatory for the town council's bank account following his resignation**
RESOLVED that Cllrs. Taylor and Tattam be added as signatories.
- c) **To consider a grant donation to the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Stour Valley Project**
RESOLVED that an S137 donation be given to the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Stour Valley Project in the sum of £100 payable at this meeting.
- d) **To consider setting up online dual authorisation with Barclays Bank for council payments**
RESOLVED that the Council would like to move to online dual authorisation. The clerk was tasked with contacting Barclays Bank. **Action: Clerk**
- e) **To approve payments/cheques for signature in accordance with the 2019/20 budget (to be circulated at the meeting)**
RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

Item	Amount
Staff Monthly Salary & Expenses	£772.12
Expenses Community Engagement Award	45.90
J.F. Tree Specialists Tree Survey	180.00
Environmental Design Maintenance Litter / Weeding	£62.40
SLCC Annual Membership	£126.00
ALCC Annual Membership	40.00
Webfactory monthly fee (By Standing Order)	£17.99
Dedham Vale AONB S137 Payment	£100.00

138/19 Consultations

- a) **To consider commenting on Tendring District Council's Draft Housing Strategy**
RESOLVED that the clerk inform TDC that the Council has no comment as there is no provision for further housing in Manningtree. **Action: Clerk**
- b) **To consider responding to NALC's survey to aid them with their response to the Home Office's consultation on Strengthening Police Powers to Tackle Unauthorised Encampments**
RESOLVED that the clerk respond to NALC on behalf of the council choosing the strongly agree option for all questions. **Action: Clerk**

139/19 Items from councillors to be added to the next agenda

- a) To receive an update from the VE 75th Celebrations Working Group.

140/19 To note date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 20th February 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the Manningtree Methodist Church Hall.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....