

MANNINGTREE TOWN ASSEMBLY

Unapproved

**Minutes of the Town Assembly held in the Community Room, Colchester Road
on Thursday 16th April, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie (Mayor) Cllr. M. Morsley (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr. M. Dew Cllr. A. Hoskyns
Cllr. K. King

In attendance: District Cllr. A. Coley Mr. C. Nugent (Harwich & Manningtree Standard)
Mrs. W. Saint-James – Clerk

1). Introduction and Welcome

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2). Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Hughes-Stanton and Guglielmi.

3). Minutes of the Town Assembly held on 17th April, 2014 to be approved and signed

The minutes of last year's Town Assembly, having been circulated previously, were approved, proposed Cllr. Morsley, seconded Cllr. Hoskyns and signed by the Mayor.

4). Report from the County Council

Cllr. Guglielmi's report from the County Council did not arrive in time for the meeting, however it has been summarised as follows:-

The council delivered a balanced budget for 2015/16. The council is working on a new waste and recycling plan and the new Mechanical Biological Treatment Plant in Basildon will open in the autumn. There have been by-elections which were won by Cllr. Alan Goggin and Cllr. Stephen Canning. The council will continue with its Highways Winter Programme. Essex Trading Standards have been busy protecting Essex residents. The council and Essex Police launched a joint campaign, 'standing together' against domestic abuse. Speed cameras have been installed on the A120 to reduce accidents. There is a new public speaking scheme for Council meetings to allow public questions. Part night street lighting continues and installation of pilot LED streetlights commenced in January. The council enjoyed a good year with exam results at all school levels.

5). Report from the District Council

Cllr. Guglielmi's report from the District Council will be circulated when it becomes available.

6). Report from the Police

There was no annual report from the police.

7). Report from the Mayor

The Mayor thanked the clerk for all her work and Cllrs. Hughes-Stanton and Hoskyns for their work on the Emergency Plan. She then listed more projects carried out by the council this year including the new website, which received many visits from a wide area as well as visits from local people; the time-restricted parking bays in Quay Street and the new Victorian style lamp which was installed in Brook Street. She thanked Cllr. Dew for managing the Community Room over the years and reported that the administration had now been devolved to the clerk. She thanked the Royal British Legion for taking over the upkeep of the War Memorial. The Mayor went on to report that she had attended the Older Peoples forum with Cllr. Hughes-Stanton and recommended attendance at that meeting. Manningtree Town Council continues to support Mistley Parish Council regarding public access to Mistley Quay and the ongoing problems with Trent Wharfage.

Stour Choral Society was awarded the Community Engagement Award for 2014/15.

The Mayor thanked Cllr. Morsley who has worked closely with Tendring District Council's Tree Officer to keep an eye on the condition of trees in our town.

The poor condition of footpaths in the town is a big problem which the council is continuing to pursue.

Problems are still being experienced with Tesco delivery vehicles causing damage to properties in the area of their High Street store.

The council has financially supported various organisations during the past year such as Rotary Young Musicians, East Anglia Childrens Hospice, Stour Sailing Club, Residents' Christmas Party at Foundry Court, Welcome Home Memorial Fund, Three Parishes Trust, Manningtree First Responders, Biennial Furze Hill's Fun Day, Dedham Vale Hopper Bus, Manningtree Light up for Christmas to mention but a few.

The Mayor stated that it had been her duty, privilege and pleasure to attend a number of events: Civic Services at Great Bentley and Brightlingsea; Remembrance Services in June, September and November on the 9th and 11th; presentation of the Foundry Court Defibrillator; judging hats at Acorn Village Ladies Day; Coffee Morning at Foundry Court; Harwich Port Cruise Reception with Cllr. Hughes-Stanton; Opening Ceremony of the Craft Centre at Acorn Village; representing the town at the Christian Churches Together Ecumenical Service held at Foundry Court; judging the best dressed window at the Light up for Christmas event.

She went on to report that the council's finances are in excellent shape thanks to the clerk and she ended by thanking everyone for their help and support.

8). Questions from the public

a). District Cllr. Coley questioned the previous week's article in the local press regarding the number of homes for sale in Manningtree. It was concluded that the article was referring to the Manningtree district rather than just the town of Manningtree.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....