



# MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Unapproved

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting  
held in the Community Room on  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 at 7:10 p.m.**

**175/14 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)

**176/14 Apologies for absence** Cllrs. Hughes-Stanton and Guglielmi

## **177/14 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March, having been circulated previously, were approved. Proposed by Cllr. King, seconded by Cllr. Morsley and signed by the Mayor.

**178/14 Declarations of interest** There were no declarations of interest.

## **179/14 Open Session**

a). District Cllr. Coley reported from the District Council as follows:-

- i). There is little coming out of District Council committees at the moment due to the forthcoming election.
- ii). He is still working with ECC Highways on additional advance signage to stop lorry movements through the town.
- iii). Discussions are still being held regarding the old Tesco site. No decisions have been made but the site is up for sale.
- iv). Housing developments in Lawford and the surrounding area are cause for concern. This is an attractive area to build houses but the impact on Lawford's infrastructure has to be monitored.

## **180/14 Reports from the District and County Councils**

Cllr. Guglielmi's reports from the District and County Councils were not available in time for the meeting but would be circulated with the draft minutes.

## **181/14 Matters arising from the minutes**

**29/14 (a) Draft Emergency Plan** It was decided that the Emergency Plan would be ratified and circulated after the May meeting, once an up to date list of councillors for the 3 parishes was available.

**69/14 The Council's website** The clerk summarised the latest statistics which showed that visitor numbers are increasing and Manningtree Town Council continues to occupy first listing on page one of the 3 top search engines.

**112/14 Project at Mill Lane/Brook Street to utilise S106 funds** The Mayor is meeting with TDC representatives next week and will report back to the next meeting.

**128/14 To discuss and consider solutions to the problem of deteriorating footpaths in Manningtree** Cllr. Dew commented that the deteriorating footpaths are a major problem that needs to be pushed with the County Council. This was agreed unanimously and action would be taken as soon as Cllr. Guglielmi reported back to the council.

**156/14 To consider supplying a second Town Sign for the Manningtree/Lawford boundary** Cllr. King suggested that the second sign be located on the land on the corner of Riverside Avenue East and Station Road, adjacent to the boat. She had contacted the owners of the land and they had agreed to the siting of the sign with the proviso that, should they need the land for an alternative purpose or sell the land, it would be removed. Cllr. King circulated costings for the project which included manufacture of the new sign, planning costs and a wooden post. The total cost took the project £60.20 over budget and it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Cllr. Morsley and agreed unanimously that the project should proceed on that basis. The clerk was asked to apply for planning permission. **Action: Clerk**

**157/14 To consider re-siting the bench that used to be situated at York Street** The Mayor reported that she will be meeting with Mr. Rose next week and will report back to the council.

**174/14 (a)(i) Remembrance Sunday Wreaths**

**Item Discharged**

**174/14 (a)(ii) Parking at the Market Place**

**Item Discharged**

**182/14 Report from the Planning Committee**

Cllr. Morsley reported that one planning application, **ref. 15/00315/LBC** to re-introduce 2 small roof windows (Velux type) to allow regular maintenance access to external box gutter at 49 High Street, had been considered at the meeting. It was agreed unanimously to support the application as the proposed windows were the approved type and, although they would be on the front of the building, they cannot be seen from the street.

#### **183/14 Reports from Representatives on other committees**

- a). Cllr. Hoskyns reported that the Cemetery Committee still has not met but she had been in contact with Andrew Lee and they are awaiting reports on the closure of the burial ground.
- b). Cllr. Dew had attended the Foundry Court Liaison Group meeting whose purpose is to develop the use of the Wellbeing Centre. The day centre is not really being used and there is still a need to find a large organisation to use it.

#### **184/14 Community Room Report**

Cllr. Dew reported that, over the last 7 years, the council had accumulated a surplus of over £8,000 so the management of the room had been successful in providing a meeting place for local organisations and groups and it had helped keep the precept down. In recent years 50% of the surplus has been ring-fenced for capital expenditure on the room and he said it was up to the council to decide what to do in the future. He also reported that Colne Housing had agreed that, should the lease be withdrawn, the council would be able to use the room free of charge for their meetings.

#### **185/14 To consider an S137 payment for the Dedham Vale Community Bus in the sum of £100 in accordance with the budget**

This was agreed unanimously in the sum of £100, proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded by Cllr. King and payable at this meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **186/14 To consider an S137 grant in the sum of £50 to Stour Sailing Club, towards their annual fireworks display, in accordance with the budget**

This was agreed unanimously in the sum of £50, proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns, seconded by Cllr. Morsley and payable at this meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **187/14 Finance**

To approve the following for payment:

E.on (Street Lighting) : £163.81

Plus standing order payment to Colne Housing for £200 for Community Room and late payments as follows:-

£100 to Dedham Vale Community Bus (see item 185/14)

£50 to Stour Sailing Club (see item 186/14)

£10 to Friends of Historic Essex for annual membership

£25 to CVS Tendring for affiliation for 2015/16

Proposed by Cllr. Hoskyns and seconded by the Mayor.

#### **188/14 Correspondence**

a). The following matters were brought to the Councillors' attention:-

i). A letter had been received from E.on informing the council of an increase of 35% from 1<sup>st</sup> May. The clerk had contacted E.on and been told that this was the first increase in 9 years and that the only alternative was to switch from the unmetered supply plan but that a standing charge would then be made which would probably increase the cost further. District Cllr. Coley commented that Lawford Parish Council received a similar letter and that they had written to the M.P. to complain about the large increase. It was suggested and agreed that Manningtree should write a similar letter.

**Action: Clerk**

ii). The council had received a letter from TDC regarding the insufficient nominations for the parish council elections. It was agreed unanimously that the co-option of 2 members should go on the next agenda.

**Action: Clerk**

b). Some mail had been received post-agenda and included in the correspondence wallet:-

CVST news; thank you letter to Mr. Drake; EALC Update; Website report.

c). Cllr. Morsley offered thanks, on behalf of the Town Council and town people, to Cllrs. Dew, Hoskyns and King who had not stood for re-election. He particularly thanked Cllrs. Dew and King for all their help as Mayors when he joined the council 4 years ago.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....