

MANNINGTREE TOWN ASSEMBLY

UNAPPROVED

Minutes of the Town Assembly held in the Community Room, Colchester Road on Thursday 14th March, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. R. Stocks (Mayor) Cllr. M. Taylor (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie Cllr. S. Richardson
In attendance: Mrs L. Djuve-Wood (Clerk)

1). Introduction and Welcome

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2). Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. M. McClarnon and J. Charlesworth.

3). Minutes of the Town Assembly held on 19th April, 2018 to be approved and signed
RESOLVED that the minutes of last year's Town Assembly, having been circulated previously, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4). Minutes of the Public Police Meeting held on 16th January, 2019 to be approved and signed

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Public Police Meeting, having been circulated previously, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5). Minutes of the Joint Public Library Meeting held on 18th January, 2019 to be approved and signed

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Joint Public Library Meeting, having been circulated previously, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6). Report from the County Council

County Cllr. Guglielmi sent his apologies. The County Council report was summarised by the Mayor. The full report is available to the public on Manningtree Town Council's website (www.manningtreetowncouncil.org.uk)

7). Report from the District Council

District Cllr. Coley sent his apologies. District Council reports are available to the public on Manningtree Town Council's website (www.manningtreetowncouncil.org.uk)

8). Report from the Mayor

The Mayor welcomed everyone. Her speech is summarised as follows:

- She has thoroughly enjoyed her second year as Mayor, and stated that she has been ably supported by her fellow Councillors who have pulled out all the stops to make this a successful year as well as the Clerk who has gone above and beyond the call of duty.
- During the year the council lost Cllr. Jones and the Mayor thanked her for her contributions to the council over the last few years.
- The flower tubs in the town have been looking superb during the year. Craft Nurseries have taken over the refilling of the tubs both in the Spring and Autumn and the council's contractors, Environmental Design, have done a good job of looking after them.
- The road surface in South Street has been re-laid and the yellow lines have been painted along with the white lines and signage to ensure the correct flow of traffic. The council is in discussions with Highways regarding the state of the pavements in the High street and the parking bays outside Lucca's.

- There have been ongoing discussions regarding the excess speeds in the town and speed strips were used in Brook Street and the High Street to monitor this. The results came back showing that the speed limit of 30 mph is not exceeded in many cases. It was felt that perhaps 30 mph is too fast and therefore the council is now attempting to get the limit lowered to 20 mph.
- It has been agreed that a further 20 tonnes of sand be ordered for the beach this year, as it is such a popular area of the town and draws lots of visitors over the summer months.
- The council has had well supported litter collecting sessions during the year.
- Two of the trees on The Green on South Street have been replaced due to disease and the largest tree pruned. The council is still waiting for the vandalised tree on Quay Street to be replaced for the second time. The town has been given a sapling from the Queens estate thanks to the efforts of District Councillor Alan Coley and the council is looking forward to receiving this.
- The council had a visit from Les Hawkins, Specials Supported Policing Co-ordinator, to discuss the feasibility of the use of Special Constables in the town and these discussions are ongoing.
- A new Town Council Facebook page has been established and the number of followers is slowly increasing.
- An open meeting was held with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex along with representatives of the Police and Fire Services to allow members of the community to put forward questions to them regarding concerns that they wished to discuss.
- Various meetings have been held regarding the potential restructuring of the Library Service and in particular the possibility of raising the status of Manningtree Library from tier three to tier two. This is ongoing.
- The Vintage Markets are set to resume in May. The Community Engagement Shield was awarded to Mel Winning this year for her untiring efforts in support of the Vintage Markets.
- A scaled down Christmas Market was held on the market place in December. This proved to be very popular and will be repeated this year on a larger scale.
- Discussions are still ongoing regarding the proposed witches' memorial, but nothing has been finalised as of yet.
- The Council has made S137 donations to various organisations this year, to a total of £800. Recipients this year are The Manningtree First Responders, EACH, Stour Sailing Club, Welcome Home Field, Essex and Herts Air Ambulance, The Poppy Appeal, Autumn Days and Futures in Mind.
- All in all it has been a busy but successful year.

9). Questions from the public

There were no members of the public present.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 7.15 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....