

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 31ST JANUARY 2017**

Present Councillor Mrs. E. Ballard JP (in the chair)

Councillors: Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), C. Green (CG), J. Garrett (JG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), M. Locking (ML), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. J. Speed (JS), Mrs. M. Ottaway MBE (MO), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW), D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: D. Turner (DT), L.M. Stephenson (LMS)

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley and her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips were also present.

Members of the public spoke in the Public Forum, as follows:

- District Councillor, R. Jackson spoke giving an update on the ELDC budget. Saying ELDC had accepted a four year settlement, each yearly payment from the Government reducing incrementally, year on year. ELDC would need to make £6 million in savings. Therefore, there would be big cuts. ELDC had been told to emphasise its commercial activities.
- District Councillor, Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders reported that there was a problem with waste bags and bins being left on the island at the junction of Aswell Street and Kidgate. She confirmed that she had tried to sort the problem out with ELDC but had so far not managed it. She wondered if the Council might write to ELDC and ask for the problem to be resolved. It was agreed that this should be a future agenda item.
- Councillor G.E. Horton asked that a regular spot be provided on agenda's for District/County Councillors to report back. The Town Clerk confirmed that this would need to be an agenda item and standing orders would need to be amended. It was agreed that this should happen.
- Councillor Mrs. S. Crew wondered if the Council thought that a corporate response to the CPRE consultation, recently circulated on email, was appropriate. It was agreed that this should be on the next Planning Agenda.

426. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors DT and LMS.

427. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman remarked that former Mayoress, Mrs. G. Robertson had returned home from hospital and was recovering well. She also reported that Princess Anne would visit LRAC on Friday 3rd February.

428. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received as follows:

- a. Cllr. Mrs. PFW – any item from or relating to ELDC
- b. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda item 7b – as a member of ELDC who have a committee on STP.
- c. Cllr. CG – agenda items 7a and 7b – as a member of ELDC.

429. Council Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. PFW it was **RESOLVED** that to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th January 2017.

430. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding

The Town Clerk reported that she had completed the local plan response from LTC.

Cllr. J. Garrett had kindly brought the town sign located at Cordeaux Corner into the office following a road traffic accident which had dislodged it. Police and insurers aware.

Finally, she reported that she had received complaints relating to parking on and the state of the little road leading up to Northgate from the exit of the big Co-op. She confirmed that she had contacted the manager of the Co-op and informed him as the Co-op are the owners of that land. He was to look into the situation.

431. Correspondence Received

The noted that the following correspondence had been received:

- a. From: Resident Re: consideration of Town Council support to arrange installation of conservation style lamp columns on Eastgate outside of former Post Office dwellings. Resident has offered to campaign for funds. (circulated to Ward councillors for recommendations). Following a proposal by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should confirm that the Town Council are happy to endorse any resident who wishes to enhance the neighbourhood in such a way as this but at their expense in terms of negotiating with LCC and fund raising.

432. Items deferred from 17/01/2017

The Council considered the following items deferred from the meeting held on 17th January 2017:

- a. 13/12/2016 - Cllr. GEH raised parking issues on the corner of Mayfield Crescent and asked for a letter to be sent listing their issues and asking for clarification of the measures put in place to mitigate these problems when the planning application was passed for the shop extension and the flats above the shop. *Extract from planning decision 2013 - The parking spaces and access onto Mayfield Crescent shown on approved drawing number 4679:01 Rev B received by the Local Planning Authority on the 29th August 2013 must be completed in full before the enlarged shop is brought into use and must be made available for use by customers of the shop or delivery vehicles, at all times when the business is in operation, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: To ensure that adequate parking provision is available at all times for people using the site* (LTC originally objected to this planning application and supported it following amendments). Following a proposal by Cllr. GEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. JMS it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should write to LCC Highways and ask them to investigate the problems and suggest possible options/solutions.
- b. 17/01/2017 Lincolnshire Healthcare STP – Councillors to put items forward to be put to Mr Gary James (Awaiting confirmation of date of attendance). Cllr. Mrs. PFW declared an interest in this item as a representative for ELDC on the Health Scrutiny Panel. Items raised for discussion were:
 - i. Care in the Community
 - ii. Cap of 1% on staff pay rises
 - iii. Transferring community facilities from Louth Hospital to a single site. Doesn't specify what the facilities are, clarification needed.
 - iv. How much consultation has taken place with NEL as they also have an STP going on and we don't know what they propose to take away from Grimsby Hospital and move to Scunthorpe? We need to know which services are going to be kept where and that they are talking to each other before they make these decisions.
 - v. Elucidation on statement 'might be money for a new hospital in the area'.
 - vi. GP's in Louth. We have a huge problem in attracting GP's here and we don't have enough GP's to cover what we've got now and the town is set to expand significantly.
 - vii. Concerns that a lot of services have already been lost, will Louth Hospital be left just as a place for recuperation to free beds in other hospitals.

433. Temporary Road Closures

The Council noted the following temporary road closures:

- a. Eastfield Road – East of Park Row – 06/02/17 – 26/02/17 essential maintenance work by Anglian Water and Danher and Walsh.
- b. Kidgate – 12/02/17 – 18/02/17 – essential maintenance works by TRIIO

434. Events Update

The Council received recommendations from the Events Working Group as follow:

- a. Tour of the Wolds 8th and 9th April 2017 – decoration of the town centre by:
 - i. Purchasing and erecting Lincolnshire bunting / flags using catenary wire fittings (Readymade value bunting / flags are readily available online)
 - ii. Decorating lamp columns and town centre planters with appropriately themed items subject to LCC permissions being received. (as in planter baskets using existing brackets / fittings).
 - iii. Costs to be contained within floral / office / street furniture existing 2016/17 budgets
 - iv. Relevant opportunities to be used to promote Louth (Town Council)

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. SEL, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that the above should be approved and permission should be given to the Town Clerk to progress matters in conjunction with the Events Working Group.

- b. WW1 Beacons of Light / Lincolnshire Voices
 - i. Permission required to release information to the media as necessary to raise awareness of the event and to contact schools / organisations to gauge interest to shape access requirements.

Following a proposal by Cllr. CG, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to grant permission for bi) above.

435. Amenity Grass Cutting Update

The Chairman ran through some specific points that she would be raising at the LCC meeting on 24/02/2017 and it was agreed that the detrimental impact this action might have on tourism should be made the front and centre of any argument. Amenity value to residents and the fact that having an attractive town attracts skilled people to come and work there should also be mentioned. As should the fact that nicely kept grass discourages littering. Other points suggested were double taxation, and public liability and also that this action has been coming for a long time and is the result of LCC being disorganised with their contracts.

436. Next Meeting

The Council noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was 21st February 2017 when Councillor Grist would be attending to update Councillors on work being carried out / planned which might benefit Louth and the Wolds such as the Lincolnshire Wolds Destination Management Plan.

The Meeting Closed at 8.38pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Dated _____