

HADLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
held on the 20th July 2017

Present: Councillors: Angland, Cook, Haines, Haylock, Matthews, Monks, Shearly-Sanders, Sheldrick, Whiting, Wilson, and Young

In attendance: Babergh District Councillors Campbell and Dawson

In the absence of the Mayor, Councillor Wilson, Deputy Town Mayor, took the Chair.

39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Free who is on Mayoral duties, Byrne and Fraser on Representative duties and Wiltshire who is on holiday. These apologies were accepted.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Cook declared a pecuniary interest in minute no: 46 – Accounts for Payment as she is a Governor of Beaumont Primary School.

41. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 15th June 2017, a copy of which is included in the Minute Book, subject to changing minute no. 21 – Declarations of Interest – Councillors Byrne and Cook declared a pecuniary interest and not a non-pecuniary interest, were taken as read and confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute no: 22 Matters Arising – Election 2017

The Clerk reported an email received from Babergh District Council advising that there would be a review of polling stations in 2018 and Hadleigh Town Council's comments would be taken into consideration.

Minute no: 24 – Reports of the County & District Councillors

The Clerk reported that Highways England had advised that they have not been given a directive to install charging points on the A12 or A14 so the cost would not fall on them. They could not indicate who would pay as any new points are dealt with on a case to case basis.

42. **POLICE**

The Clerk provided up to date information from the Community Speedwatch figure for Hadleigh during the period May to July 2017:

14 vehicles caught speeding
10 letters sent
2 incidents of Police Discretion
2 no trace of registration numbers provided

Councillor Sheldrick advised that there was a problem with the new speed gun and it may need to be returned to the manufacturer.

43. **REPORTS OF THE COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Written reports had been received from Babergh District Councillors Campbell and Dawson.

The Clerk advised Councillor Campbell that the seat outside Partridges belonged to the Town Council who have received no complaints of young people skate boarding on it. She was requested to advise Babergh District Council not to change the bench in any way as it had been in place for a number of years and should remain as it is. She was asked why it was taking so long to replace the seat in the Market Place and she advised that planning permission would be submitted in September.

Councillor Dr. Dawson requested Hadleigh Town Council write to the appointed architects requesting that the Council Chamber of Babergh District Council's offices is left for use by the town as an entertainment venue. She advised that the large carpark was due to be retained by Babergh District Council therefore adequate parking would be available for the venue.

Councillor Angland reported that she had attended a meeting where the boundary committee review was discussed and it was emphasised how important it would be to hear from the parishes.

Councillor Dawson had received complaints about the state of the road at the end of Church Street and Queen Street and could Hadleigh Town Council push to have the areas repaired correctly. Councillor Cook advised that through the Town Council office a great deal of correspondence and photographs have been sent to Suffolk County Council on a regular basis.

44. **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Clerk reported:

- i) Road closure on George Street outside nos: 20,24, 20A and 22 from the 31st July to the 4th August for a new gas connection
- ii) Road closure on Angel Street outside 12A from the 24th July to the 27th July for a new gas connection
- iii) Road closure at Hadleigh Iron Bridge for three days commencing on the 29th August to carry out maintenance works.
- iv) The Grounds Maintenance Contract is up for renewal this year. Tenders have been invited in the East Anglian Daily Times with the final date of acceptance given as Thursday 3rd August 2017. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chair of the Sports & Open Spaces Committee will open the tenders at 1pm on that date.
- v) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Following the resignation of three Councillors from this Working Group as Proper Officer of Hadleigh Town Council I am suspending the work of the group with immediate effect. Following advice sought it is apparent that the Working Group needs to consist of an equal number of Councillors and outside representatives i.e. residents, business owners, charitable organisations etc in order for it to be transparent. At the Town Council meeting in August the Council will be supplied with a new Constitution and Terms of Reference for the group. It will then be necessary for any Councillor wishing to serve on the Group to be proposed and seconded accordingly in writing to me by Friday 8th September. At the Town Council Meeting in September the nominations will be put to Council and voted on. Following this the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will be re-constituted.

45. **STANDING ORDER NO. 40**

Councillor Cook asked the Clerk to investigate the new membership scheme put forward by the Association of Town and City Management to support market and small towns. Further that Sean Garnham of the Chamber of Commerce be informed of the scheme and our intents with a view to joining.

Councillor Cook left the room for the following item.

46. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was **RESOLVED** that accounts amounting to £31,984.16 including HMRC, Utilities, SCC Pension Fund and staff salaries, details of which are listed in the Schedule contained in the Minute Book, be approved for payment.

47. **THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND – ELECTORAL REVIEW OF BABERGH: WARDING ARRANGEMENTS**

It was agreed that a small working group consisting of Councillors: Free, Angland, Sheldrick and Whiting would meet to discuss the town boundary and put together a response to the consultation by the closing date of the 14th August 2017.

48. **REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor Shearly-Sanders updated members on the Babergh Association of Parish and Town Councils and had provided copies to Councillors of the proposed constitution. It was agreed that this would be an item on the next Town Council agenda in order that a vote can be made.

Councillor Angland reported on her attendance at a recent Parish Liaison Meeting where Tom Barker, Assistant Director of Planning, gave a presentation. Babergh District Council does not have a five year bank of building land but this was nothing to worry about. It was reported that although there was a national shortage of Planning Officers Babergh had 10 fully qualified officers with only one vacancy. There is evident need for three bedroom houses throughout the district and this should be considered under the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Haylock advised that the Wool Town Association would be launched at Kentwell Hall in September and the business plan is now complete and would be circulated shortly.

49. **TOWN MATTERS**

There were no town matters.

50. **CIRCULARS AND REPORTS**

The following were received:-

- a) Hadleigh Community News – July 2017
- b) LCR – Magazine of the National Association of Local Councils
- c) Open Space – Summer 2017

51. Confidential Item – In pursuance of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Press and the Public shall be excluded for the next item of business on the grounds that it is likely to be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings.

52. **FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Report of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 20th June 2017, a copy of which is included in the Minute Book, with the addition of the following amendment:

Approval to be held in abeyance until a final decision on the cemetery is taken at the August meeting was received and accepted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

CONFIRMED

TOWN MAYOR