

HADLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
held on the 19th October 2017

Present: Councillors: Angland, Byrne, Cook, Fraser, Free, Haylock, Monks, Shearly-Sanders, Sheldrick, Whiting, Wiltshire and Young

In attendance: Babergh District Councillors Campbell and Grandon and 20 members of the public.

91. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Haines due to personal reasons; Matthews due to illness and Wilson who is on holiday. These apologies were accepted.

92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Sheldrick and Young declared non-pecuniary interests in Minute No: 100 – Finance & Personnel Committee – as they are both members of the Hadleigh Town Forum which was receiving a grant.

93. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 21st September 2017, a copy of which is included in the Minute Book were taken as read, were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute No: 85 – Accounts for Payment

Councillor Shearly-Sanders advised that Hadleigh Town Council were appointed as Feoffee's of the Charity and on investigation he could find no record of a lease in place. Councillor Byrne advised that all the historical documentation shows that Hadleigh Town Council have paid for the use of the part of the building they use irrespective of what it is called.

At this point the meeting was adjourned for members of the public to speak on the tenancy between Hadleigh Town Council and the Hadleigh Market Feoffment Charity and the press release on the proposed merger between Babergh District Council and Mid-Suffolk District Council.

94. POLICE

The Clerk advised that no information had been received from the Police.

Councillor Cook reported that it had been reported on the news that Norfolk County Council is going to sack all their PCSO's and requested that a letter be sent to Mr. Passmore asking for clarification that this will not be happening in Suffolk.

95. REPORTS OF THE COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Written reports had been received from Suffolk County Councillor Fraser, Babergh District Councillors Campbell and Grandon.

Councillor Grandon answered questions on the boundary review. It was felt that the recommendation that Hadleigh was one ward with three District Councillors was not feasible. Councillor Sheldrick advised that Hadleigh Town Council had submitted their recommendation that Hadleigh become three wards with one District Councillor per ward. She was congratulated on the discussions taking place with Beestons and was asked why the consultation period on East House extended and then concluded – she didn't know the answer to this but advised she would investigate and report back.

Councillor Campbell answered questions raised on the proposed merger between the two District Councils. She was questioned on the financial situation and advised that Mid-Suffolk charge for parking but this remains free in Hadleigh and that situation could not remain but was not on the agenda for discussion at the moment. She was asked if this change was proposed how she would vote. She advised that she would vote for the introduction of parking charges in Hadleigh. She advised that a public consultation on the proposed merger would commence on the 23rd October where 4,000 residents – 2,000 in Mid-Suffolk and 2,000 in Babergh – would be telephoned and asked to take part in a survey. It was felt that this was very unsatisfactory as it would only involve a small part of the population.

It was reported that the officers of both Councils have been working together for a long time and it was felt that this had not led to any improvement but there were now no longer enough officers to do the work and both Councils were no longer efficient.

Councillor Fraser answered questions on Suffolk County Council's financial reserves and highway proposals for Benton Street.

96. **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor thanked all those who supported her at the Civic Service.

The Clerk advised that the consultation on the Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Babergh: Draft Recommendations closes on the 11th December 2017. All information is available on line.

The Clerk provided Councillors with the information received from the Royal British Legion for this year's Remembrance Day Service.

Councillor Monks was asked to provide information on the Photographic Exhibition taking place in the Guildhall on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd October on Hadleigh in the 50s and 60s.

97. **STANDING ORDER NO. 40**

Councillor Young asked why the August Town Council Minutes that appeared in the Hadleigh Community News had not been corrected as was agreed at the September Meeting?

She was advised that it is a report of the meeting that is printed in the Community News as they have to be submitted for printing before the 19th of the month so have not been approved by Council. Any changes made to the minutes will be seen in the following edition. A request was made that additional information advising members of the public that this report is not the approved Minutes be added to the Community News Report. The Clerk confirmed that approved changes are made in the Minute Book.

98. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was **RESOLVED** that accounts amounting to £15,992.01 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.

99. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 12th October 2017, a copy of which is included in the Minute Book, were noted.

100. **FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Report of the Extra Meeting of the Committee held on the 19th October 2017, a copy of which is included in the Minute Book, was received and accepted including the recommendations to approve grants of:

- i) £600 to Hadleigh Town Forum with the proviso the Town Council should see receipts for the money spent and then discuss what should happen to any surplus monies if this is the case
- ii) £300 to Hadleigh Elderly Peoples Welfare Committee
- iii) £480 to Suffolk Rockets Netball Club with this being specifically a Start-up grant for the Club
- iv) £200 to The Christmas Present Trust
- v) £250 to Sudbury & District Citizens Advice Bureau
- vi) £500 to Hadleigh Skatepark Fundraising Trust and for the group to be informed that should they still require funding to apply again just prior to the end of the financial year in March 2018
- vii) £140 to Long Bessels Light Display

To accept the Internal & External Auditors Report and accept the quotation of £1,080 for the erection of a 25 foot Norman Fir Tree in the Market Place, fitting of Christmas lights and removal afterwards.

101. **HADLEIGH ENTERTAINMENTS FORUM**

Councillor Young reported that everything was on track. Unfortunately the event has had to be scaled down due to the quotation received from Suffolk County Council to implement the proposed road closure. There is a lot of entertainment being put on by the community for the community.

102. **BUDGET 2018/2019**

The Clerk had provided Councillors with the budget meeting timetables.

103. VISIT HADLEIGH DOMAIN NAME OWNERSHIP

The Clerk advised that VisitHadleigh.co.uk is owned by Freereign and used by the Hadleigh Chamber of Commerce. VisitHadleighSuffolk.co.uk is owned by Mr. Service. It was felt that as ownership of the two domain names had been ascertained the motion proposed by Councillor Wilson that Hadleigh Town Council contact the Steering Group to purchase the VisitHadleighSuffolk domain name fails as they do not own either domain name the motion cannot be discussed as it is incorrect. Councillor Cook requested that the motion fails. Councillor Byrne seconded the request. Voting was 10 for and 2 abstentions. The motion fails.

104. REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Haylock reported that the Wool Town Association was successfully launched at Kentwell Hall with nearly 100 people attending.

Councillor Young reported that she had emailed Councillors about the Steering Group having received a Community Award.

Councillor Free provided information on the events and the Annual Meeting of the Hadleigh Elderly People's Welfare Committee. She advised that £10 vouchers were available for Hadleigh residents aged 70 and over.

105. TOWN MATTERS

There were no Town Matters.

106. CIRCULARS AND REPORTS

The following were received:

- a) Hadleigh Community News – October 2017
- b) The Clerk Magazine – September 2017
- c) In Touch – September 2017
- d) Local Councils Update – September 2017
- e) Suffolk Wildlife Trust - A Celebration of the Year
- f) LCR – Autumn 2017
- g) Suffolk Association of Local Councils Annual Report – 2016-2017
- h) Lighthouse – Annual Report – 2016-2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

CONFIRMED

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TOWN MAYOR