

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2017

PRESENT: Councillors: Carl Powling (Mayor)
 Peter Banks
 David Bragg
 Peter Clements
 Robert Jenkins
 Paula Moore
 Sylvia Wargent
 Sophie Weaver

Borough Councillors: Cllr Patricia Moore, Cllr. Robert Davidson

Public session

Upon request of a member of the public, Cllr. Paula Moore was appointed to take minutes and therefore not be involved in any Councillor decisions.

4 members of the public in attendance.

A member of the public questioned why the cutting down of trees on the Glebe was back on the agenda and objected to the hedge being cut down at Firs Road Cemetery. It was explained that the Colchester Borough Council tree officer had made recommendations over removal of certain trees at the Glebe. Cllr. Moore reminded the member of the public of the request after the meeting on 16th February to email in concerns over the hedge and these would be fully considered before any action is taken, but stated that no emails had yet been received.

A member of the public raised concerns over planning application 170362 and its effect on neighbouring properties.

Reports from Borough Councillors

Borough Councillor Robert Davidson reported that the Colchester Borough Council budget had been approved, and there was a 3% extra to be spent on adult social care, but it will be mainly consumed by inflation and rising costs. The waste service changes will take place in June, everyone will be eligible for a 2nd free green box and will still get clear recycling bags but black bags will need to be purchased and the amount you can put out will be limited to 3 x 60l max bags per fortnight. There are no details yet on how the scheme will work. Cllr. Clements explained the current issue with Eurobins at Coast Road and the concern over related increase in fly-tipping, especially once the new waste rules are implemented.

Borough Councillor Patricia Moore advised that there was a planning application in for the internals of the White Hart. After discussions with Simon Cairns (strategic major developments) about the local listing scheme not applying to Mersea, a request was made that West Mersea Town Council make a list of buildings that have an importance to the community both visually and historically to put forward. Cllr. Wargent agreed to lead this. Borough Councillor Patricia Moore noted that the Cooks planning application had been withdrawn and advised that the leader of Colchester Borough Council did not believe that the Away Resorts application does not fit in with the current Local Plan. Borough Councillor Patricia Moore advised that Stephen Collis was considering swapping the euro bins at Coast Road for 2 x High Street style bins.

Borough Councillors Robert Davidson and Patricia Moore have agreed to jointly put their locality budget towards:

Abberton & Langenhoe Parish Council – extra notice board	£800
Mersea Lions – renewal of community bus	£1000
Refresh Mersea – materials for enhanced flower & shrub displays	£500
Mersea Island Festival Trust – extra facilities for increased numbers	£500
Winstred Parish Council – equipment for new hall	£900

Stroodcam was funded £300 towards additional equipment solely by Cllr. Robert Davidson as Cllr. Patricia Moore has family connections and felt it inappropriate to contribute.

6430 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Petra Palfreyman, Town Clerk.

6431 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations received.

6432 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

(a) 17 0362

Alterations and front and side two storey extensions.
39 Victoria Esplanade, West Mersea – Ms H Peacock

West Mersea Town Council objects to this application on the following grounds:

The NPPF in paragraph 56 covers the importance of good design. These plans display an interruption of the roof-line where the extension joins the existing property. This means the extension will always show as an afterthought rather than as a cohesive, holistic design. Furthermore the encroachment of the extension onto the eastern boundary substantially exceeds the adjacent properties in Alexandra Avenue and will therefore both be an anomaly in the street-scene and restrict daylight to the neighbours to the East

(b) 17 0168

Construction of a new 1.5 storey, 4 bedroom residential dwelling (class C3) within a curtilage of a grade II* listed building, with car port and associated external works.
Yew Tree House, 16 Coast Road, West Mersea – Dr B Fox

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(c) 17 0277

Proposed alterations and extension to front elevation.
17a Reynead Close, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Clarke

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(d) 17 0378

First floor extension over existing garage with single storey extension to rear.
94 East Road, West Mersea – Mr Spiller

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (e) 17 0442
Demolition of existing porch and construction of new larger porch.
2 Blossom Mews, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs S Ainslie

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (f) 17 0436
Design adapted to remove rear stair window element and replace with high level roof windows.
Further amendments to maintain existing openings where applicable. Resubmission of consent 16 2889.
2 Meadow Lane, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Green

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (g) 17 0551
Loft extension.
77 St Peters Road, West Mersea – Mr A Owen

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

6433 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications Passed

- (a) 17 0080
Small porch construction to the front elevation.
29 Strood Close, West Mersea – Mr J Simmons
- (b) 16 3095
Single storey rear extension, first floor side extension, brick plinth and cladding to external walls.
23 Shears Crescent, West Mersea – Mr M Anstey
- (c) 17 0056
Erection of a detached chalet style dwelling on the site of a previously demolished dwelling.
57 Churchfields, West Mersea – Mr P Smith
- (d) 17 0172
Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and front porch.
9 Brambledown, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Bielecki

6434 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE CUTTING DOWN THE ASH TREES, THE SMALL OAK TREE, AND THE FIELD MAPLE IN THE CAR PARK AT THE GLEBE

Following discussion, it was agreed to remove the tree next to the Millenium Oak and the twisted tree and review the others in the future.

Proposed: Cllr. Wargent, Seconded: Cllr. Bragg; Cllr. Banks abstained.

It was stated by Cllr. Banks that no tree with a TPO had been touched without seeking the advice of the TPO officer, and that all work is undertaken after seeking advice.

Cllr. Jenkins stated that a full survey of the trees could be sought from the TPO officer for £500.

6435 TO AGREE THE COST OF HIRING A DIGGER AND SKIP TO REMOVE CEMETERY WASTE, CUTTINGS, AND SOIL. MAXIMUM COST £700

Following discussion, it was agreed that £1,000 was agreed for works to tidy up the cemetery and that the Cemetery working group would look at the most cost effective method of doing this.

Proposed: Cllr. Clements, Seconded: Cllr. Banks.

6436 TO CONSIDER AND AGREE FLYING THE LIONS CLUB CENTENARY FLAG FROM THE WMTC FLAG POLE BETWEEN FRIDAY 2ND JUNE AND WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE 2017, TO COMMEMORATE 100 YEARS OF LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Following discussion, it was agreed to allow this as the Lions hold their meetings at the WMTC chambers.
Proposed: Cllr. Clements, Seconded: Cllr. Weaver.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:20pm.