

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 2 APRIL 2015

PRESENT: Councillors: Peter Clements (Mayor)
Wendy Bixby
Belinda Cross
John May
Alan Mogridge
Eric Straughan
Noelle Urquhart
Sylvia Wargent

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: David Tucker

Borough Councillors: John Jowers

Report from Borough Councillor

Borough Councillor John Jowers reported that Borough Councillor Sheane could not attend the meeting due to work commitments, and Councillor Kimberley was standing down from office.

Borough Councillors would be reduced from 60 to 51 next year with the ward restructuring that was taking place.

Borough Councillor Jowers advised that he was keeping a close eye on West Mersea Town Council's submission re the Colchester Borough Council Local Development Plan, and intended to ensure the coastal protection rules would be strictly adhered to.

6090 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Perkins.

6091 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Bixby declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 15 0276 and in item 6110 (i).

6092 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF 17 FEBRUARY 2015 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mogridge, SECONDED by Councillor Straughan that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 17 February 2015, be CONFIRMED.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

6093 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 19 FEBRUARY 2015 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor May, SECONDED by Councillor Straughan that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 19 February 2015, be CONFIRMED.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Action

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

6094 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF 12 MARCH 2015 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Urquhart, SECONDED by Councillor Cross that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 12 March 2015, be CONFIRMED.
ALL IN FAVOUR

Matters arising:

The Clerk advised that the Heads of Agreement for the transfer of the freeholds of each toilet were currently being reviewed by our Solicitor and a response was expected shortly.

6095 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- (a) **15 0476**
Installation of CCTV equipment on floating pontoon and toilet block.
Coast Road, West Mersea - Colchester Borough Council

West Mersea Town Council unable to comment.

- (b) **15 0474**
Proposed cart lodge, garage and storage.
Quiet Moorings, 72 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr John Bolingbroke

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application, on the condition that the proposal remains ancillary to the main building.

- (c) **15 0511**
Proposed public toilet
School Gardens, Barfield Road, West Mersea - Mr David Tucker

West Mersea Town Council unable to comment.

- (d) **15 0565**
Proposed reconstruction of roof to form first floor room, single storey extensions to form en-suite and porch.
The Old Orchard, Bower Hall Lane, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Ismail

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

- (e) **15 0509**
New boat house, access road, slipway to beach, sheet piling to maintain existing beach frontage. Land to remain as amenity land and landscaping.
Land south of Fairseat, 19 Beach Road, West Mersea - Mr Malcolm Struth

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

6096 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**Applications Passed**

- (a) **15 0082**
Variation of condition 19 hours of operation attached to planning permission F/COL/05/1811
Tesco Express, 1 Barfield Road, West Mersea - Tesco Stores Ltd

- (b) **15 0099**
Outline application for proposed new detached dwelling on land adjacent to existing bungalow.
98 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Andrew Stebbing
- (c) **15 0178**
Removal of conditions 3 & 4 Code for Sustainable Homes following grant of planning permission
14 0343
Treetops, 82 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr Robin Gozett
- (d) **15 0222**
Proposed conservatory and first floor extension and balustrading over flat roof at front.
77 Empress Avenue, West Mersea - Mr D Atkins

6097 TO CONSIDER STAFF SALARY INCREASE

Following discussion staff increases of 1.5% were approved for all staff with effect from 1st April 2015.
Proposed Councillor Straughan, Seconded Councillor May.

6098 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

Bradwell Monitoring Committee – Councillor Wargent presented her report (attached).

Crime & Safety Committee – Councillor Mogridge reported that the NAP committee was to be merged with the new Local Community meetings. It was guaranteed that a Police Sergeant would be attending. Councillor Mogridge advised that there had been complaints regarding inconsiderate parking in the town.

Environment Committee - There was nothing to report, but the Clerk advised that repairs to the Skatepark should be started on 20th April 2015.

Footpaths, Footways & Cycle Paths Committee – Councillor Bixby advised that the Mersea to Colchester Cycle Path had been included in the Colchester Borough Council's Strategy document as a desired route.

Health Liaison Committee – Nothing to report.

Traffic and Transport Committee – Nothing to report.

Waterside Committee – Nothing to report but the Clerk advised that nothing had been heard from Colchester Borough Council's Planning Department re the new houseboats in Coast Road.

Website - Nothing to report.

Youth Interest Group – Councillor Bixby presented her report (attached).

Potential New Surgery - Councillor Clements reported that negotiations to convert the old police station to a surgery were continuing between Octopus Healthcare and the NHS, adding that if successful, it would have to be built within the next financial year. The Police had agreed to defer any sale pending the outcome.

6099 TO NOTE THE CHILDREN'S BOXING CLUB ACTIVITY IN THE TENNIS PAVILION

The Clerk advised that he had asked the Tennis Club committee to stop the children's activities (boxing and table tennis) in the new tennis pavilion pending evidence of satisfactory CRB (DBS) checks on the adults working with the children.

6100 LETTERS RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION

- (i) Redwood Stone Baked re pitch application, Victoria Esplanade Car Park - Noted. To be referred to the Car Parking Strategy Meeting.
- (ii) D.Cooper re response to Local Plan consultation - Noted.
- (iii) CBC Planning re West Mersea Police Station - Noted.
- (iv) I.Clarke re Bradwell LCLC Meeting - Noted.
- (v) Essex Police re Local Community Meetings - Noted.

6101 MAYOR'S NOTES

Councillor Clements paid tribute to the work of the Council during his 2 years as Mayor.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.