

# WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2015

PRESENT: Councillors: Peter Clements (Mayor)  
Belinda Cross  
John May  
Alan Mogridge  
Beverley Perkins  
Eric Straughan  
Sylvia Wargent

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: David Tucker

Borough Councillors:

### Reports from Borough Councillors

Borough Councillor Sheane reported that at a 'Drop In' meeting re Planning on 11th February there was considerable heated debate with many concerns and contentious comments expressed by residents on 'Facebook'. The main concerns expressed were 'Off loading of London Borough residents', (regarded generally as scare mongering), with many concerns regarding the infrastructure issues surrounding the 16 potential development sites identified in the consultation document.

Borough Councillor Sheane also commented that the deal struck with Colchester Borough Council over the running of the toilets will bring the toilets under local control and the Council should be congratulated on taking them over.

Borough Councillor Jowers advised that Colchester Borough Council Portfolio holder has been told to cut their budgeted expenditure.

The plans for housing in Colchester Borough Council include 10,000 additional homes over 15 years, and 1,000 per year are being built currently and have been for the last 30 years.

It was noted that there was a mismatch between affordable homes being built in Colchester Borough Council (560 planned with none planned for the outlying village).

### **6072 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence received from Councillors Bixby, Straughan and Urquhart.

### **6073 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors Perkins and Mogridge declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 14 6378, and Councillor Perkins declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 15 0082.

### **6074 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 8 JANUARY 2015 - MATTERS ARISING**

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mogridge, SECONDED by Councillor Perkins that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 8 January 2015, be CONFIRMED.  
ALL IN FAVOUR

Action

**Matters arising:**

Item 6061: The Clerk reported that he had not received any further advice from Colchester Borough Council Planning (Andy Knowles).

**6075 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF 22 JANUARY 2015 - MATTERS ARISING**

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Perkins, SECONDED by Councillor May that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 22 January 2015, be CONFIRMED, after a minor amendment.  
ALL IN FAVOUR

**Matters arising:**

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

**6076 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

**(a) 15 0099**

Outline application for proposed new detached dwelling on land adjacent to existing bungalow.  
**98 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Andrew Stebbing**

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

**(b) 14 6378**

Retrospective application for Portacabin on site.  
**The Company Shed, 129 Coast Road, West Mersea - Miss Caroline Haward**

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

**(c) 15 0146**

Proposed erection of detached garage/guest suite. Modification to design approved under 14 2126.  
**70 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Buick**

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application, but we recommend that the building remains ancillary to the main property.

**(d) 15 0178**

Removal of conditions 3 & 4 Code for Sustainable Homes following granted planning permission 14 0343.  
**Treetops, 82 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr Robin Gozett**

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

**(e) 15 0082**

Variation of condition 19 hours of operation attached to planning permission F/COL/05/1811.  
**Tesco Express, Barfield Road, West Mersea - Tesco Stores Ltd**

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

**(f) 15 0150**

Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development - proposed building.  
**Bower Hall Farm, Bower Hall Lane, West Mersea - Mr Paul Jowers.**

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

**(g) 15 0222**

Proposed conservatory and first floor extension.  
**77 Empress Avenue, West Mersea - Mr D Atkins**

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

**Action**

**6077 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS****Applications Passed**

- (a) **14 6410**  
Replacement front porch, first floor extension to the rear and associated alterations.  
**13 New Captains Road, West Mersea - Mr Darren Taylor**
- (b) **14 6291**  
Variation condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 14 0572 to allow one monopitch chimney.  
**Stonehill Cottage, 134 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mrs Amanda Woodcraft**
- (c) **14 6349**  
Use of existing winter boat park for public car parking during summer months (renewal of permission 10 2390).  
**Maritime & Leisure, Victory Dock, Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr Rob Moffatt**
- (d) **14 6580**  
Removal of single storey conservatory to rear of dwelling, construction of single storey extension to kitchen and family room to rear of dwelling, removal of glazed roof to utility room at side and construction of bedroom over the utility room to side of existing dwelling.  
**10 Richmond Road, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Blackmore**
- (e) **14 6529**  
First floor side and rear single storey extension.  
**17 St Peters Road, West Mersea - Mr Jordan Day**
- (f) **14 6556** (Resubmission of 14 5290)  
Proposed extensions and alterations.  
**51 Seaview Avenue, West Mersea - Mr D Philpott**
- (g) **14 6541**  
Loft Conversion, demolition of conservatory and internal, remodelling works.  
**The Vikings, 38 Mersea Avenue, West Mersea - Mr Graeme Neville**

**Applications Withdrawn**

- (a) **14 6501**  
Two storey side extension and alterations to external finishes and fenestration. Removal of rear facing outbuilding and conservatory.  
**100 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr Graham Rampling**
- (b) **15 0002**  
The proposal is for the demolition of the existing 1 bed property, to be replaced with a good quality 2 bed family home.  
**Galilee, 76 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea - Mr Carl Bentley**

**6078 TO NOTE WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE SITES CONSULTATION (CBC)**

Councillor Clements presented a report suggesting West Mersea Town Council's response to the Local Development Plan consultation document. Following discussion it was agreed a report should be prepared for presentation to the Mersea Life magazine, but without any reference to specific named sites. Accordingly therefore Councillor Perkins agreed to add further comments to Councillor Clements report, and a draft would be circulated to all Councillors for comment on Monday 23rd February.  
Councillor May thanked Councillor Clements for all the work and effort put into this draft.

**6079 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS**

**Bradwell Monitoring Committee** – Councillor Wargent presented her report of the Bradwell Monitoring meeting held on 27th January 2015 (attached).

**Crime & Safety Committee** – Councillor Mogridge reported that he had attended a Local Community Meeting the previous day, and it was noted that future meetings were to be held every eight weeks and called "Local Community Action Panels".

**Environment Committee** - The Clerk advised that the planning application for the proposed toilet in School Gardens had now been submitted.

**Footpaths, Footways & Cycle Paths Committee** – Nothing to report.

**Health Liaison Committee** – Nothing to report.

**Traffic and Transport Committee** – Nothing to report.

**Waterside Committee** – Councillor Perkins reported that the planning application for the waterfront CCTV cameras had now been submitted.

Maintenance on the pontoon (worm damage) was to be carried out during next winter and the signage for the Esplanade etc., would be considered at a meeting with Councillor Perkins, Councillor Wargent and the Clerk on 26th February.

A draft water safety notice was also being prepared for circulation and consideration by the Committee.

**Website** - Councillor Perkins advised that she had encountered technical difficulties due to 'Malware' but it would hopefully be ready for review shortly.

**Youth Interest Group** – The Clerk read out Councillor Bixby's report (attached).

**6080 TO CONSIDER THE RESURFACING OF THE WEST MERSEA TENNIS COURTS**

Following discussion, and on the recommendation of Councillor May, Mogridge and Wargent, the tender for resurfacing from Tennis Court Solutions, at a cost of £32,000 was approved. It was noted that S.106 monies totally £25,000 had been obtained in respect of the work.

**6081 LETTERS RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION**

- (i) ECC re Superfast Essex - Noted.
- (ii) S.Vince re Glebe - Noted.
- (iii) SIA re Fish & Chip Supper (fund raising) - Noted.

**6082 MAYOR'S NOTES**

Councillor Clements read out the letter from Octopus Healthcare to the Head of Property at Kent Police Headquarters, indicating that it was hoped to exchange contracts on the former police station by 31 March.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.