

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2019

PRESENT: Councillors: Carl Powling (Mayor)
Peter Banks
David Bragg
Peter Clements
Bernard Hart
Robert Jenkins
Paula Moore

IN ATTENDANCE: RFO: Valerie Henry

19/058 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Sylvia Wargent and Councillor Sophie Weaver.

19/059 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There are no declarations of interest received.

19/060 PUBLIC SESSION

3 members of the public were in attendance.

The following comments were made:

One member of the public spoke about frustrations of the ongoing issue of the Dabchicks bin remaining on the village green. Another member of the public raised concerns at the County's lack of an accurate map defining the village green.

19/063 TO NOTE THE CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

The Responsible Financial Officer confirmed the current account balance as of 14 March is £66900, with a balance of just over £5000 in the Barclays Premium account and just over £70,000 in the NS&I account. Payment sheets for February 2019 were presented and no queries raised.

A grant of £515 was received from Colchester Borough Council for the information board on Victoria Esplanade. £15,000 was also received from Colchester Borough Council towards the refurbishment of Willoughby toilets. The NEPP 3rd quarter parking payment of £7018 was received.

19/061 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

a) 19 0443

Removal of existing conservatory. Extend living room and bedroom on ground floor to rear of dwelling. Form porch to front of dwelling. Remove dormers and reform with Suffolk type dormers to give additional floor space first floor. Internal remodelling.
13a Kingsland Road, West Mersea – Mr Coxah

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

b) 19 0570

First floor front extension.
35 Woodfield Drive, West Mersea – Mr K Brown

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

- c) 19 0532
Proposed first storey rear extension.
154 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Westgate

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

- d) 19 0538
Construction of 3 no detached single storey dwellings with new access road, fencing, landscaping etc;
re-submission of planning approval of 16 0666, approved 25.05.16
Land adjacent to 8 Upland Road, West Mersea – Mr G & Mr M Lowe

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

- e) 19 0107
Erection of a new shed. Revised description.
56 Kingsland Road, West Mersea – Mr P Smith

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

- f) 19 0574
Notification for prior approval for a proposed single storey rear extension extending 8 metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling, with a maximum height of 3 metres, and eaves height of 3 metres.
12 Kingsland Beach, West Mersea – Mr D King

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal and request that Colchester Borough Council look closely at the proximity to the neighbouring fence and connections to sewerage.

- g) 19 0575
Notification for prior approval for a proposed single storey rear extension extending 8 metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling, with a maximum height of 3 metres, and eaves height of 3 metres with raised driveway.
12 Kingsland Beach, West Mersea – Mr D King

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal and request that Colchester Borough Council look closely at the proximity to the neighbouring fence and connections to sewerage.

19/062 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications passed

- a) 18 3112
Construction of two semi-detached two bedroom bungalows with associated facilities – amended plans received.
Police Station, East Road, West Mersea – Mr B Lord
- b) 18 2544
New first floor bedroom over existing kitchen/utility and workroom. External wall materials to be brick slips to match the existing dwelling as close as possible.
11 Churchfields, West Mersea – Miss S Prop

Application refused

a) 18 1928

Proposed annexe building to Rose Cottage for the sale of fresh fish on the ground floor and artist studios at first floor level accessed by external stairs including enhanced access gateways, renovated boundary treatment and new hedge planting.

Rose Cottage, 126 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr R Open

WMTC Recommendation:

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

19/064 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE QUOTE RECEIVED FOR REPLACING THE BATHING RAFTS CHAIN, COSTING £484.42 including VAT + CARRIAGE

Following discussion it was agreed to pay for the replacement chains, subject to investigation of Colchester Borough Council paying half.

Proposed: Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Hart. Abstain Councillor Bragg.

19/065 TO DISCUSS AND RECONSIDER DEVOLUTION DECISION FOLLOWING FURTHER INFORMATION

Councillor Powling assured the Council that the devolution paperwork had not been signed yet and he was still seeking a meeting with Essex Highways for clarification on outstanding questions.

Councillor Banks provided a report (attached) stating his concerns at the decision to join the devolution pilot.

19/066 MAYOR'S COMMENTS

No comments received.

19/067 CHAIRMAN TO MOVE THAT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED DURING THE TRANSACTION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BECAUSE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

19/068 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE QUOTES TO REPLACE THE FENCE IN FIRS ROAD CEMETERY

Following discussion it was agreed to replace the fence in Firs Road Cemetery.

Proposed: Councillor Bragg, Seconded: Councillor Clements.

19/069 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE QUOTES FOR FIRS ROAD CEMETERY DRIVEWAY RESURFACING

Following discussion it was agreed to resurface the driveway, approaching one of the contractors that had also quoted for work in West Mersea Park and negotiate a lower price for doing both jobs.

Proposed: Councillor Clements, Seconded: Councillor Banks.

19/070 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE 2019/20 PAY INCREASES FOR WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL STAFF

The pay rates for the financial year 2019/20 were agreed and the Council was also notified of the upcoming increase in cost of the Pension Fund.

There being no other business, the public meeting closed at 8:30pm.