

**WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2019**

PRESENT: Councillors: Carl Powling (Mayor)  
John Akker  
Peter Banks  
David Bragg  
Robert Jenkins  
Sylvia Wargent  
Sophie Weaver  
Chris Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor: Patricia Moore

**19/203 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence received from Petra Palfreyman (Town Clerk), Councillor Moore. Borough Councillors Davidson and Jowers.

**19/204 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Akker declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning applications listed in item 19/210 as a member of the Mersea Island Society and Stop350.

West Mersea Town Councillors declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning applications 19 2269 and 19 2243.

**19/205 PUBLIC SESSION**

2 members of the public in attendance.

The following comments were made:

Concern was raised that Willoughby car park should be listed as a public open space not a car park. A verbal request was made to divide the area to protect it.

Comments were made regarding the village green signs and infilling of saltings on Coast Road.

**19/206 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM OUR COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

**Borough Councillor Patricia Moore**

Need to be super vigilant about Coast Road.

Problems in waste collection for Colchester.

Mersea may benefit in having wheelie bins.

Waste operatives are being asked to do 12 hour days.

Problem with foxes i.e., a fox in a Tesco delivery van as reported by Mr Ian Clarke.

WMTC to get onto CBC about the fox problem.

Garden communities to be new towns.

Rapid transport system to be buses.

Lots of objections regarding Brierley Paddocks. It will be called in.

Speed watch – need volunteers to take part. WMTC to get on to Councillor Kevin Bentley regarding this.

Reduce Chapmans Land to 30mph.

WMTC to see if we can get a group of volunteers.

Borough Councillor Moore would support an ANPR. Speak to Councillor Bentley about a blanket 30mph.

19/207 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 18 JULY 2019 – MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Jenkins, SECONDED by Councillor Bragg that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 18 July 2019, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR. Councillor Powling abstained.

Matters arising: No matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

19/208 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 8 AUGUST 2019 – MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Akker, SECONDED by Councillor Wood that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 8 August 2019, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR. Councillor Jenkins abstained.

Matters arising: No matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

19/209 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 5 SEPTEMBER 2019 – MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Wood, SECONDED by Councillor Bragg that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 5 September 2019, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Matters arising:

Councillor Akker reported the issues in finding the West Mersea Town Council response to planning application 19 2136 (Brierley Paddock) on the Colchester Borough Council portal.

Item 19/194: Councillor Jenkins asked how the Public Relations Working Group was progressing, Councillor Wood stated that it was still work in progress.

19/210 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

(a) 19 2277

Conversion of an existing office building to a short-term holiday let and remedial structural works, general refurbishment and the addition of a first floor balcony.  
110 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr J Chatterton

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend consent be granted in respect of this application. Councillors Akker and Banks against. Councillor Powling abstained.

(b) 19 1440

Erection of single two storey dwelling house – revised drawings.  
Land adjacent Bellevue, 11 Kingsland Close, West Mersea – Mr W McRae

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

(c) 19 2254

Proposed porch with WC.  
96 Oakwood Avenue, West Mersea – Mr J Harrison

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

(d) 19 2269 (Advertisement Consent)

Free standing advance sign for the Glebe recreation ground.  
Glebe Recreation Ground, Colchester Road, West Mersea – Mrs P Palfreyman

West Mersea Town Council unable to comment.

(e) 19 2323

Replacement of an existing timber floating pontoon/landing stage with a new modular pontoon.  
Land opposite 100 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr P Plumtree

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal on the following grounds:

- Proposal is within a SSSI, MCZ and conservation area.
- No comment from Natural England or the MMO has currently been received or noted.
- Out of keeping with area and too large.
- No permission was granted for existing pontoon as far as can be found.

(f) 19 2256

Single storey extension.  
Beach End, 85 Oakwood Avenue, West Mersea – Mr S Baines

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

(g) 19 2243

2no. shipping containers for storage of sports equipment for Mersea Island Rugby Football Club and West Mersea Cricket Club.  
Glebe Recreation Ground, Colchester Road, West Mersea – Mrs P Palfreyman

West Mersea Town Council unable to comment.

## 19/211 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

### Applications passed

(a) 19 1598

Demolition of existing property and erection of a replacement dwelling.  
9 Broomhills Road, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Rickman

(b) 19 2017

First floor extension to bedroom 1 at rear of no. 13; rendered panel to front, change tiles to boarding and porch tiles to slates.  
13 Brickhouse Close, West Mersea – Mr S Whiting

(c) 19 1841

Application to vary conditions 2 and 3 of planning permission 17 2044 to allow sales of ice cream, ice lollies, cakes and associated confectionary and to alter opening hours.  
The Dukes, Land adjacent The Oyster Bar, Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr D Whiting

(d) 19 1957 (Advertisement consent)

To retain plastic projecting ice cream cone.  
The Dukes, land adjacent The Oyster Bar, Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr D Whiting  
WMTC Recommendation: Following discussion it was agreed to recommend support be granted in respect of this application if the plastic projecting ice cream cone is removed outside of trading hours.

## Appeal lodged with Colchester Borough Council

### (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, with a condition that the application must follow regulations of highways, the Environment Agency and remain in keeping within the conservation area.

19/212 TO AGREE TO TRANSFER UP TO £4000 FROM THE TRANSPORT COMMITTEE BUDGET TO THE CLERKS BUDGET TO PUT TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF A NEW TRACTOR, RIDE ON MOWER AND STRIMMER VAULT

Following discussion it was proposed to transfer £3500 from the Transport Committee budget to the Clerks budget to put towards the purchase of a new tractor, ride on mower and strimmer vault.

Proposed: Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Akker. ALL IN FAVOUR.

19/213 TO DISCUSS VE DAY CELEBRATIONS FOR MAY 2020 AND CONSIDER IF THE COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO COMMEMORATE THE EVENT

Following discussion it was agreed to set up a working group.

Proposed: Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Wood. ALL IN FAVOUR.

VE Day Celebrations working group members:

Councillors Powling, Wargent, Weaver and Wood.

19/214 TO CONFIRM DEVOLUTION COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Following discussion it was agreed to accept the Devolution Committee Terms of Reference.

Proposed: Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Jenkins. ALL IN FAVOUR.

19/215 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Report from Councillor Banks:

On 13th September we met with Sandra Scott of Colchester Borough Council and Mr Ian Poole of 'Places 4 People', a planning consultancy now specialising in Neighbourhood Plans. I am pleased to report that West Mersea Neighbourhood Plan has now appointed Mr Poole who will edit the work that the Steering Group Policy writers have created ready for the next stage in plan preparation. This work will continue to mid October before all the documents are submitted to Mr Poole.

We will shortly be recommending an application to Locality for some technical support for one of the reports we will require, as recommend by Mr Poole.

I continue to act as Coordinator with Mr Peter Clements as Chairperson.

Councillor Powling thanked Councillor Banks for all his hard work and time.

19/216 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE TO UPDATE THE COUNCILLORS MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Councillor Wood to be removed from Personnel and Transport.

Councillor Akker to be added to Sports & Recreation.

Councillor Wargent to be added to Assets, Facilities and Environment.

It was agreed that all Committees will remain after the above changes.

Proposed: Councillor Wood, Seconded: Councillor Banks. ALL IN FAVOUR.

19/217 MAYOR'S NOTES

Councillor Powling thanked all Councillors and reminded about the Civic Service.

There being no other business, the public meeting closed at 8.39pm.

Minutes prepared by Councillors Powling and Wargent.