

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 25 AUGUST 2020

PRESENT:	Councillors:	Robert Jenkins (Deputy Mayor) John Akker Julie Baker Peter Banks David Bragg Sylvia Wargent Chris Wood
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IN ATTENDANCE:	Town Clerk:	Petra Palfreyman
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THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL (CORONAVIRUS ACT Part 2020 1 Section 78 Regulations 2 – 17)

20/193 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillors Powling and Weaver.

20/194 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Akker declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 20/196 as a member of Mersea Island Society and STOP 350.

Councillors Baker and Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 20/196 as a member of STOP 350.

20/195 PUBLIC SESSION

4 members of the public in attendance.

A member of the public advised his objections against the planning application 19 2244.

A member of the public complained about personal criticism made on 3 August and has requested a copy of the recording.

20/196 PLANNING APPLICATION RECEIVED

(a) 19 2244

Revised drawings. Demolition of existing residential dwelling and erection of new residential dwelling.
The Cottage, 12 Beach Road, West Mersea – Mr D West

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

- Out of keeping with the street scene
- Denies neighbours privacy

20/197 TO DISCUSS PROJECT IDEAS TO SUBMIT TO COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF THE S106 MONIES DERIVED FROM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Following discussion it was agreed that the drawing up of a general S106 list will be deferred until the next meeting, by which time the Councillors will have sought further information about amalgamating S106 funds for larger projects. It was further agreed that the Council would request that the current sum available of £6560.79 for the St Peters Road development is used for either boardwalk repairs or improvements to the toilets.

20/198 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

20/199 TO DISCUSS AND CONFIRM THE CONTRACTOR WHO WILL BE APPOINTED FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE COAST ROAD TOILETS

The Council has been through the tender process using Contracts Finder and 11 businesses submitted quotes of varying costs and specifications for the refurbishment of Coast Road toilets.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Council would award Thornwood contractors the project at a cost of £68884 on the basis of price and higher specification.

It was also agreed that Focus contractors would be highly considered for the next refurbishment project on Fairhaven toilets.

20/200 TO DISCUSS AND CONFIRM THE CONTRACTOR WHO WILL BE APPOINTED FOR THE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL TOILETS

The Council has been through the tender process using Contracts Finder and 8 businesses submitted quotes of varying costs for the cleaning and maintenance of all 4 toilet blocks.

Following discussion it was agreed that Danfo (the existing contractors) would be awarded the contract at a cost of £30000. This includes extra mid-day cleans in busy periods and regular deep cleans and is approximately £5000 cheaper than the current contract.

Special thanks were given to Councillor Jenkins and the Clerk for their input with both tender processes.

There being no other business, the public meeting closed at 8.20pm.