

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER 2022

PRESENT: Councillors: Carl Powling (Mayor)
John Akker
Julie Baker
Dave Bragg
Robert Jenkins
Sylvia Wargent
Sophie Weaver
Chris Wood

County & Borough Councillor: John Jowers

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk
5 members of the public

22/150 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Jarvis who is working abroad. Borough Councillor Patricia Moore sent her apologies.

22/151 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. To receive declarations of interest from members.

Clr Wood declared an interest in Agenda item 22/157 as a member of Stop 350.

22/152 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. A period of up to 15 minutes (maximum of 3 minutes per person) for members of the public to ask questions or submit comments

Members of the public spoke about the containers on Glebe 2, bathing rafts, motor home parking and Village Green 241 with one member of the public requesting a meeting with the Council on Village Green 241.

22/153 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS. To receive reports from our County and Borough Councillors

Councillor John Jowers advised of Borough Councillor Robert Davidson's apologies as he is harvesting. Councillor Jowers reported that Councillor Kevin Bentley is considering CCTV on the Strood and that the County have advised they will take on maintenance of the road. Councillor John Simmons, Local Highways Panel is looking at the feasibility of a roundabout on east/west turnings on the Strood.

The Local Highways Panel is under review with proposals to send larger schemes straight to Highways. 30 potholes on Mersea will be repaired.

Changes to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill will bring major changes to the political structure of County. More than likely that we will be put into a group of unitary Councils; Tendring, Colchester, Maldon and Braintree being amalgamated. This will affect Planning and local input will be lost, as will a lot of Councillors.

Councillor Jowers advised that he has given £1500 to the Museum for toilet doors as they open inwards.

22/154 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES. To confirm minutes of the Council Meeting of 1st September 2022

The Council RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Council meeting of 1st September 2022.

Councillor Bragg commented on item 22/132 that there are 20mph signs on road in all areas of London.
Councillor Akker commented on item 22/133 that proposed car parking fees had incorrectly been published in the Courier.

Councillor Akker commented on item 22/134 that the Town Clerk has responded to NEPP to advise that the Council is not willing to fund the Traffic Regulation Order and that he intends to be present at the meeting when the item is discussed.

22/155 **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS.** To approve payments made and to be made

The Council RESOLVED to approve payments.

22/156 **POLICY REVIEWS.** Code of Conduct

The Council RESOLVED to agree the Code of Conduct Policy.

22/157 **BRIERLEY PADDOCKS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.** To receive a report from a meeting with City & Country Ltd representatives on 30th September and consider action

Councillors Akker and Baker attended a meeting with City and Country. There were two aspects raised with City and Country that they are considering;

1. Longevity of the management company for maintenance of common areas as the parks and roads are not being adopted. Question of where the burden will fall in the company goes out if business.
2. Anticipated that the Doctors surgery and commercial units are likely to be extra houses.

It was made clear to City and Country that West Mersea Town Council is opposed to any extension to the number of units.

22/158 **MAYORS NOTES**

Councillor Powling thanked all those involved with the arrangements following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

22/159 **NEXT AGENDA.** Items to be added to the next Agenda

Broomhills – planting
Councillor Allowances

22/160 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.** To RESOLVE that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be excluded pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

The public left the meeting.

22/161 **GLEBE BRIDGE.** To consider and agree quotation for replacement of footbridge between Glebe 1 and 2

The Council RESOLVED to accept Decksafe Solutions quotation.

22/162 **ELECTRICAL WORKS TO 10 MELROSE ROAD**

- I. To consider quotation for works following electrical safety test
- II. To consider quotation and options for security lights to rear of Willoughby toilets
- III. To consider quotation and options for security lights for Council office front door and car park
- IV. To consider quotation for wired smoke detectors

The Council requested the Town Clerk contact the contractor and ask for movement on the price for items I, II and III.

A wholesaler will be contacted for a design specification for item IV.

22/163 **ALLOTMENT WORKS.** To consider quotation for regrading works

The Council RESOLVED to accept D&R Landscapes quotation.

22/164 **PHONE CONTRACT**

- I. To agree to give notice on current phone contract
- II. To consider quotations for office phones, lines and broadband
- III. To consider purchase of mobile phones and SIM cards

The Council resolved to give notice to cancel the current phone contract.

Decision on items II and III deferred.

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

DRAFT