

# WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT: Councillors: Peter Clements (Mayor)  
Wendy Bixby  
Belinda Cross  
John May  
Alan Mogridge  
Beverley Perkins  
Noelle Urquhart  
Sylvia Wargent

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: David Tucker

Borough Councillors: John Jowers

### Reports from Borough Councillors

Borough Councillor John Jowers reported that he had asked that all white lines, including the pedestrian crossing be repainted.

Various options to install high tide warning systems had been considered by Essex County Council at a meeting that day, with costs ranging from £58-62k.

£150k was available from the E.U. for the four partners (U.K., Holland, Belgium and France) (flood defence) and Essex County Council will need to be a 'lead' partner.

Cudmore Grove defences have already been repaired, but the Essex Outdoors sea wall will not be repaired or improved.

It was noted that the benefits of flood defences had to be seen to be an 8:1 ratio for every £1 spent in order for the expenditure to be viable.

The sewage works had capital funding in place but the work is yet to be carried out.

### **6008 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Straughan, Borough Councillors Kimberley and Sheane.

### **6009 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors May and Mogridge declared a non pecuniary interest in item 6017 (ii).

Councillors Bixby and Cross declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 14 5852.

### **6010 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM MISA RE A REQUEST FOR A MULTI-USE GAMES AREA**

A proposal to install a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on the Glebe was considered but further details as to the cost, size etc., together with the level of support from other Glebe users were requested.

### **6011 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 21 AUGUST 2014 - MATTERS ARISING**

It was PROPOSED by Councillor May, SECONDED by Councillor Perkins that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 21 August 2014, be CONFIRMED.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Action

**Matters arising:**

The Clerk advised that although a planning application for flood lighting on the Glebe tennis courts had been submitted by the Tennis Club, no permission from West Mersea Town Council had been sought, and he was awaiting a response to a letter sent to the Tennis Club asking for details of any consultation etc. carried out by the Club.

**6012 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND PLANNING MEETING OF 11 SEPTEMBER 2014 - MATTERS ARISING**

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mogridge, SECONDED by Councillor Perkins that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 11 September 2014, be CONFIRMED.  
ALL IN FAVOUR

**Matters arising:**

Commercial Letting of Beach Huts - The Clerk was asked to write and draw attention to our request that consideration be given to the potential number of commercial companies that could be involved.

**6013 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

- (a) **14 5827**  
Proposed new Orangery rear extension.  
**9 Kingsmere Close, West Mersea - Ms Tracey Smedley**

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

- (b) **14 5852**  
Variation of condition 2 (approved drawings) of planning approval 11 1174 to change the elevational views.  
**6a Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea - Mr M Guest**

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

- (c) **14 5380**  
Replacement of rotten wooden single glazed window and a single glazed steel window at the front of the property with double glazed UPVC units in the same design.  
**122c Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr Chris Childs**

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

- (d) **14 5812**  
Proposed first floor rear extension and internal alterations.  
**93 Oakwood Avenue, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Eric Lewis**

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

- (e) **14 5701**  
Demolish 1 building, build 3 new dwellings.  
**21 Prince Albert Road, West Mersea - Mr S Downes**

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

- Overdevelopment of the site.
- Potential vehicular access problems.

- (f) **14 5924**  
Vary condition 1 (temporary consent) and condition 3 (maximum of 4 adults in any one session and 3 extra sessions per week on three days) attached to permission 13 1404 - to allow permanent use of pool for non-domestic purposes/swimming lessons.  
**35 Victory Road, West Mersea - Mrs Gloria Blanc**

Following discussion it was agreed to allow permanent use of the pool for non domestic/swimming lessons, but provided that Condition 3 - maximum of 4 adults in any one session and 3 extra sessions per week on three days be retained.

- (g) **14 5886**  
Single storey rear extension (including replacement of existing extension).  
**52 Queen Anne Road, West Mersea**

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

## **6014 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

### **Applications Passed**

- (a) **14 5325**  
New shop front  
**Essex Air Ambulance Charity Shop, 36b Barfield Road, West Mersea - Mr S Laver**
- (b) **14 4997**  
Construction of deck to extend seating area at beach side cafe.  
**Two Sugars Cafe, 30 Victoria Esplanade, West Mersea - Ms Lindsey Schultes**
- (c) **14 5453**  
Proposed extension and alterations.  
**66 Empress Avenue, West Mersea - Mrs Anne Hillary**
- (d) **14 3258**  
Retrospective application to continue with the use of the premises as a gym in the loft which has been so used for 4 years.  
**110 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr T Bonds**
- (e) **14 5303**  
Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of single storey construction of single storey extension to rear of dwelling.  
**8 Windsor Road, West Mersea - Mr David Mole**

WMTC Recommendation: Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Consent be granted on the condition that the extension remains ancillary to the main property, there is no sub letting and proper attention is given to parking facilities.

- (f) **14 5540** (Resubmission of 14 4586)  
Demolition of existing house and erection of new dwelling.  
**24b Firs Chase, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Payne**
- (g) **14 5447**  
Proposed extensions to form new bedrooms, enlarge existing living room, new dining room, new porch and enlarge existing garage.  
**31 Melrose Road, West Mersea - Mr C A Songer**
- (h) **14 5457** (Resubmission 14 4597)  
Proposed conversion of bungalow into 1 half storey dwelling.  
**58 St Peter Road, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Jarvis**

- (i) **14 5662** \*  
Application to remove condition 3 attached to application 09 1167 (the building shall be used solely for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling at Redwing Cottage).  
**Redwing Cottage, 6 Colchester Road, West Mersea** - Mr Michael Archer

WMTC Recommendation: Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Refusal as we believe this will allow the property to become two dwellings on an inadequate sized plot but have no objection to it becoming a holiday let.

#### **Application Refused**

- (a) **14 5424** \*  
Proposed front single storey extension and alterations.  
**96 Oakwood Avenue, West Mersea** - Mr & Mrs B Cooke

WMTC Recommendation: Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Consent be granted in respect of this application, but we suggest the addition of side baffles to protect the amenity of neighbouring properties.

\* **WMTC recommended opposite**

#### **6015 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS**

**Bradwell Monitoring Committee** – Councillor Wargent presented her report (attached).

**Crime & Safety Committee** – Councillor Mogridge advised that a NAP meeting was held on 1st October 2014, at which neither the Police nor representatives from Colchester Borough Council were present. Councillor Mogridge explained that in future the Police would not attend NAP meetings but would instead hold their own liaison meetings. NAP members did not consider this to be satisfactory and were seeking further discussion regarding the issue.

**Environment Committee** - Councillor Clements reported on the meeting held on 8th September 2014 (minutes attached). It was noted that the 'planters' were to be installed during the coming weekend, and work on the park infrastructure was continuing. A meeting with Colchester Borough Council to discuss the toilet situation was to be held on 6th October 2014.

**Footpaths, Footways & Cycle Paths Committee** – Councillor Urquhart reported that the 'old' footpath plans/proposal were to be revisited and resubmitted via Colchester Borough Council.

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

**Traffic and Transport Committee** – The Clerk advised that applications for improvements to five key areas in the town had again been submitted to the Local Highways Panel, as no response to the application submitted in June had been received.

**Waterside Committee** – Nothing to report.

**Website** - Councillor Perkins confirmed that the newly revised website should be in place and active by 16th October 2014.

**Youth Interest Group** – Following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Bixby and the Clerk would work together to facilitate the operation of the new bike scheme.

#### **6016 TO CONSIDER SIGNAGE FOR WEST MERSEA PARK/ESPLANADE**

This item was deferred to the next Council meeting.

**6017 LETTERS RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION**

- (i) S.Vince re Oak Tree, Glebe car park - Noted.
- (ii) MICA re grant application - The request for a donation was considered and it was agreed (Proposed Councillor Bixby, Seconded Councillor Wargent) to donate £100 (in accordance with its powers under S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972).

**6018 MAYOR'S NOTES**

Civic Service/Reception - Councillor Clements asked that Councillors line the entrance to the Church, to welcome guests, at 10.30am.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm.