



MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

APPROVED

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Community Room on
Thursday 15th March, 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr. R. Stocks (Chair) Cllr. L. Lay-Flurrie
Cllr. J. Charlesworth Cllr. M. McClarnon
Cllr. M. Taylor Cllr. S. Richardson
In attendance: 2 members of the public Mrs. L. Djuve-Wood (Clerk)

160/17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. H. Jones.

161/17 Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2018, having been circulated previously, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

162/17 Declarations of interest

There were none.

163/17 Public Participation Session

Two members of the public attended the meeting. One member of the public briefed the council on a potential project to purchase a memorial for the women accused of being witches and murdered by the Witchfinder General Matthew Hopkins in the 1600's. She is looking for council support and is hopeful she will have a proposal ready in time for the April full council meeting.

Witchfinder General Matthew Hopkins

The other member of the public asked if the council has anything they can offer in terms of activities for local people with mental health issues. Cllr. Stocks explained that the town council's budget unfortunately is limited but that Tendring District Council may be able to assist. The clerk was asked to do some research and pass any relevant information on to the member of the public. He also raised his concerns about the number of residential developments that have either been given approval or are currently being considered by TDC's planning department. Cllr. Stocks informed him that the council is in the process of writing to TDC's Local Plan Committee querying the status and delay of the Local Plan.

Action: Clerk

164/17 Reports from the District and County Councils

District and County reports are accessible to the public on the town council's website www.manningtreetowncouncil.org.uk.

165/17 Progress Report from the Clerk

155/14 To agree a project, for consideration by the Highways Panel, to condense the town's road signage onto fewer posts The clerk is to e-mail ECC querying if they have a date for when this project will go ahead;

Action: Clerk

140/17 c) To consider floating pontoon proposal It was agreed that this project is not considered to be viable;

140/17 e) To discuss the recent vandalism on Quay Street and Manningtree beach Environmental Design is in the process of repairing the two benches and have also ordered a Norwegian Maple tree to be planted on the green on Quay Street.

RESOLVED that the following items be discharged:

- 124/17 To consider request for street lights to be turned off during night time hours
- 128/17 To consider the removal of the CCTV cameras on the old NatWest building
- 140/17 c) To consider floating pontoon proposal

166/17 Report from the Planning Committee

No planning meeting had been held this month, however Cllr. Stocks reported that the council has received a letter from the TDC Planning Department stating that they have decided to make a Tree

Preservation Order in respect of certain trees at Hill House, 54 South Street, provisionally taking effect for six months as of the 14th March 2018.

167/17 Reports from Representatives on other committees

Cllr. Taylor informed everyone that the WWI commemoration ^{street party} scheduled for November 2018 has been cancelled and it is likely the Royal British Legion will now arrange an event during the summer instead.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended the High Sheriff's Awards in Chelmsford where several charitable organisations were being honoured.

168/17 Highways/Environment

a) To agree on a new date for the Great British Spring Clean (item 155/17)

RESOLVED that the Great British Spring Clean will now take place on Saturday 21st April at 10 a.m. Cllr. McClarnon will update and distribute the poster advertising the event. Cllr. Stocks will contact the Rotary Club and the clerk will advertise the event on the council website and noticeboards and inform the local press.

Action: Cllrs. McClarnon, Stocks and Clerk

b) To discuss quotes for annual tree reports (item 126/17)

The clerk had requested four quotes and received three replies, two of whom had offered an actual quote. Both quotes received were at £200 excluding VAT. **RESOLVED** that the clerk is to inform the successful candidate, JF Tree Specialist Ltd, of their successful bid.

Action: Clerk

c) To discuss the possibility of requesting the removal of the disabled car parking space on Brook Street

RESOLVED that the council would like to request to have this space removed. The clerk is to put in a request to the relevant authority.

Action: Clerk

d) To discuss the possibility of requesting to add a disabled car parking space on the High Street

RESOLVED that the council would not like to put in such a request.

e) To discuss options for a THLP scheme addressing signage and road marking issues on South Street (High Street to Brook Street stretch)

RESOLVED that Cllr. Charlesworth will draft a proposal for the council's consideration.

Action: Cllr. Charlesworth

f) To consider buying another 20 tonnes of sand for Manningtree Beach (item 53/17 f)

RESOLVED that the clerk is to instruct TDC to provide another 20 tonnes of sand.

Action: Clerk

g) To discuss various road closure applications received by Tendring District Council

RESOLVED that the council has no objections to any of the applications. No action needed.

169/17 To consider writing a letter to TDC Planning Department and English Heritage regarding the current status of the White Hart pub in Manningtree

RESOLVED that the clerk is to write to the TDC Planning Department asking for an update on the White Hart's current status. Cllrs. Charlesworth and McClarnon are to find out the names of other organisations that it may be worth writing to.

Action: Clerk, Cllrs. Charlesworth & McClarnon

170/17 To discuss renewal of the council's insurance policy for 2018/2019

The council's current three-year contract is coming to an end in June. **RESOLVED** that the clerk is to request three quotes for the 2018/2019 policy.

Action: Clerk

171/17 To consider arranging a P.O. postal address for council correspondence and introducing a council dedicated telephone line

RESOLVED that the clerk is to arrange for a P.O. postal address and a council dedicated mobile phone line.

Action: Clerk

172/17 To consider taking part in the Essex Village of the Year competition 2018

RESOLVED that the council will not take part.

173/17 Finance

a) To approve monthly bank reconciliation figures for end of February

RESOLVED that the monthly bank reconciliation figures be approved.

b) To consider the annual incremental increase in clerk's salary in line with her contract

Item to be deferred as NALC recommended pay scales for 2018/19 have not yet been released.

- c) To approve payments/cheques for signature in accordance with the 2017/18 budget:

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

Item	Amount
Monthly salary Clerk (including expenses)	£622.55
Environmental Design (monthly maintenance)	£62.40
Colne Housing Society (Room Hire)	£11.00
Glasdon UK Ltd (2 x new benches)	£1,800.64
Plus standing order payment to Webfactory	£17.99
Plus payment to Cllr. Stocks for expenses	£32.85

174/17 Consultations

- a) To consider responding to Essex Highways Service Delivery Survey

RESOLVED that the council is to respond to the survey.

Action: Clerk

175/17 Items from councillors to be added to the next agenda

- a) To re-evaluate the clerk's annual allowance for the use of her home as storage space / office and telephone line

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....19.4.18