

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE  
CANVEY ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**HELD AT THE PADDOCKS COMMUNITY CENTRE, LONG ROAD, CANVEY ISLAND**

**ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2008 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors:** D. Blackwell (Chairman)  
D. Anderson J. Anderson C. Andrews R. Bishop R. Howard  
P. Greig (from 7.37pm) P. Davis N. Harvey (Vice-Chairman)  
J. Liddiard B. Dixie

Also present: Five members of the public, Mrs J. Abel – Town Clerk

The Chairman of the Council welcomed Councillors and the public to the first meeting of 2008. He went on to welcome the recently appointed Town Clerk, Mrs Julie Abel, to her position with the Council.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. P. Greig.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on items relating to Canvey Island. A member of the public raised concerns about unsightly graffiti around the seafront area. Photographs were passed to Councillors demonstrating the problem. The resident suggested that CCTV cameras should be installed near the paddling pool and overlooking the sea wall. The Clerk was asked to ensure this item was added to the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Cllr. P. Greig joined the meeting at 7.37pm.

**4. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the addendum to the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2007 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

**5. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman with the following amendment:

**6.2 Essex County Council** – Cllr. Howard reported on the following issues:  
Delete 'Tenants', insert 'Thames' Gateway Forum in London.

**6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

None.

## **7. TEWKES CREEK TREE PLANTING SCHEME**

### **i) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – TREE PLANTING GRANT SCHEME**

The Clerk reported the successful outcome of the Council's application to Essex County Council for a £5,000 contribution towards the planting scheme.

### **ii) LANDOWNERS AGREEMENT**

Members were advised that an interim agreement had been reached with Castle Point Borough Council, the landowners, to proceed with the planting scheme pending completion of the final agreement which would transfer responsibility for the land, planting and subsequent maintenance to the Town Council.

### **iii) FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP**

Members considered forming a working group to progress issues relating to the planting scheme.

**RESOLVED** to appoint the following members to a working group to progress issues relating to the planting scheme:

Cllrs. D. Anderson, J. Anderson, C. Andrews, R. Bishop, D. Blackwell, J. Liddiard

The Working Group to be responsible for promoting the tree planting event and involving community groups in the planting.

## **8. COUNCIL PREMISES**

### **i) PLANNING CONSENT – CHANGE OF USE**

The Clerk reported that planning consent had been granted for the Council's change of use application from Class A1 to B1 relating to 11 High Street, Canvey.

### **ii) DRAFT LEASE**

Members were advised that a draft lease had been received relating to 11 High Street, Canvey.

**RESOLVED** to:

- enter into the lease subject to the advice of the Council's solicitor's, Hook and Partners;
- delegate authority to the Chairman of the Council, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk to continue negotiations with the landlord through Hook and Partners and to sign the lease on the Council's behalf when appropriate.

### **iii) FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP**

Members considered forming a working group to progress issues relating to setting up the Council's office premises.

**RESOLVED** to:

- appoint the following members to a working group to progress issues relating to the setting up of the Council's office premises. A minimum of three members of the working group to be present to represent a quorum:

Cllrs. J. Anderson, D. Blackwell, B. Dixie, P. Greig, N. Harvey and J. Liddiard;

- delegate authority to the working group to negotiate over and appoint contractors to carry out necessary internal and external works at 11 High Street, Canvey to a maximum cost of £20,000 plus VAT;
- delegate authority to the working group and the Clerk to consider the appointment of an administrative assistant;
- authorize the Clerk to purchase office equipment at a cost not exceeding £5,000 plus VAT.

## 9. CANVEY LAKE

Members were advised that several meetings had been held in recent months with interested parties to discuss the current condition of the Lake and possible future works. It was reported that Groundworks South East had proposed that a survey was carried out at a cost of £10,000. GSE had advised that it would meet half of the cost and discussions took place as to how the remaining £5,000 required would be funded. The Council was supportive of the principle of the survey. However, it was felt that more information was required about the nature of the study before the Council could consider committing funds to it.

### **RESOLVED** that:

- the Clerk advises Groundworks that the Council supports the principle of a study of the Lake but requires further information about the nature of the proposals;
- the Clerk writes to the Oysterfleet to establish whether the proprietor may be in a position to contribute to the cost of works.

## 10. GREENGRID TASK FORCE IN CANVEY

The Clerk reported that contact had been made with the Taskforce Officer from Groundwork South Essex Trust. A meeting had been arranged to discuss projects which could benefit Canvey Island using locally recruited volunteers.

## 11. COUNCIL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

**RESOLVED** that members of the Council meet on the evening of January 24<sup>th</sup> 2008 to give consideration to the Council's future aims and objectives. The Clerk to establish a venue for the meeting.

## 12. PRECEPT 2008/09

Members considered the draft budget presented to the meeting for 2008/09.

**RESOLVED** to accept the proposed budget for 2008/08 and set the precept for 2008/09 at £267,300.

## 13. FINANCE

### i) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

**RESOLVED** to settle the following accounts due:

Cheque Number	Payee	Service	Amount £
200018	Mrs J. Abel	Reimbursement for stamps & PO Box application	173.10
200019	CPBC	Hall Hire	94.80
200020	Mrs J. Abel	Reimbursement for stationery purchase	293.49
200021	EALC	Training Course fees	446.27
200022	CPBC	Christmas Tree Installation and Lighting Kit	1279.18
200023	Royal British Legion	Purchase of Remembrance Wreath	16.50
200024	Mr R. Andrews	Sign for Christmas Tree	25.00

### ii) PETTY CASH ACCOUNT

Members considered setting up a petty cash account.

**RESOLVED** that a petty cash account be set up which contains a maximum sum of £200.

**14) TRAINING**

The Clerk advised members of three future training courses to be run by the EALC.

**RESOLVED** that Councillors are authorised to attend training courses in January/February 2008 at a maximum cost of £400.

**15) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND**

Members were advised that applications were being invited to ECC Community Initiative Fund for community projects and initiatives to 'promote the social, economic or environmental well-being of the locality and result in the creation of a physical asset'. The application deadline was 28 May 2008 and funds granted had to be spent by 31 March 2010. Members considered projects which could meet the criteria for funding. Canvey Lake and the erection of Town Council noticeboards were suggestions discussed.

**16) MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

Councillors noted amendments to the routes and timetables of the fortnightly service.

**17) LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT WORKSHOP**

The Clerk reported a workshop event to be held on 16 January 2008 from 6.30 – 8.30pm at the Essex Records Office, Chelmsford. The Clerk advised that she intended to attend on the Council's behalf.

**18) PARISH PROOFING THE ESSEX STRATEGY**

Members noted an invitation to an event organized to test whether issues of importance to our community is reflected in the Essex Strategy. The event was to take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Danbury Parish meeting room from 6.30pm – 8pm. The Clerk advised that she intended to attend on the Council's behalf.

**19) REPORTS FROM CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCILLORS ON MATTERS RELATING TO CANVEY ISLAND**

None were received.

**20) REPORTS FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON MATTERS RELATING TO CANVEY ISLAND**

County Cllr. Ray Howard reported on the following items:

- South Essex Area Forum meeting 30<sup>th</sup> January 2008 – the meeting would consider adult social care, the local development framework, police and highway matters
- The Regional Flood Defence Committee's conclusions in respect of the surge tide on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2007. The highest surge tide since 1953 had caused significant damage in Great Yarmouth - Canvey Island's sea defences had proved more than adequate to withstand the effects of the surge.

Cllr. Harvey raised concerns in respect of the speed indicator devices in Thorney Bay Road which appeared to be recording vehicle speeds inaccurately. Cllr. Howard reported difficulties with the contractors responsible for the installation of the devices.

**21) CANVEY ISLAND COMMUNITY FORUM**

Cllr. J. Liddiard advised that the Forum had not met since the last Council meeting. It was felt that an informal meeting might be useful to progress the issue of a Canvey Island Summer Festival.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

CHAIRMAN

