

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE
CANVEY ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE PADDOCKS, LONG ROAD, CANVEY ISLAND ON
MONDAY 27th JULY 2009 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT:

Councillors: J. Liddiard (Chairman)
D. Anderson J. Anderson R. Bishop B. Dixie
P. Greig R. Howard N. Pontius

Also present: 9 members of the public, one member of the press

Mrs L. Lodge – Acting Town Clerk

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Liddiard took the chair.

195. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Harvey – work commitment, Cllr D Blackwell – attending Castle Point meeting and Cllr P Davies – unwell.

196. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

197. PUBLIC FORUM

It was requested that councillor name plates are turned so that the public can see them. Requested that agendas for meetings are available before the meeting and agreed that they can be collected from the Town Council office or sent out on request.

A concern was raised that the Borough Council doesn't want the current War Memorial and would like it replaced with an obelisk and possibly on an alternative site. Cllr Howard advised that there is no plan to move the war memorial, either from the Borough or the Town Council. He also noted that if planning permission is required for works, this will need to be discussed with the planning department at Castle Point.

A concern was raised about the level of dog fouling on the sea front and that it constitutes a health risk and a question asked whether Castle Point has undertaken a risk assessment. A request was also made that the Town council consider erecting dog signs. Noted that this will be discussed later in the meeting.

198. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

i) 9th March 2009

Item 140 was amended; remove 'after the working group' and following the wording after until replace with 'the Committees'.

RESOLVED the amended minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th March 2009 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

ii) 18th May 2009

Item 186 was amended; remove the last sentence, which started 'A criminal investigation...' and replace with 'The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) stated that their report should be out by 20th July 2009 when it would be known if a criminal investigation would take place.'

RESOLVED the amended minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th May 2009 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

iii) 29th June 2009

RESOLVED the minutes of the Council meeting held on 29th June 2009 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

199. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS LISTED IN ITEM 4 AND NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Item 186 (18th May 2009). Cllr Howard advised that since his report of 18th May, the HSE have advised that their investigations are taking a lot longer than anticipated and therefore, it could be the autumn before the report is published.

200. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

i) Personnel Committee held on 1st June 2009 (Appendix A)

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st June 2009 were presented by Cllr. John Anderson.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting attached as appendix A are adopted by the Council and all recommendations made were agreed.

ii) Environment and Open Spaces Committee held on 15th June 2009 (Appendix B)

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2009 were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. John Anderson.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee meeting attached as appendix B are adopted by the Council and all recommendations made were agreed.

iii) Community Relations held on 29th June 2009 (Appendix C)

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2009 were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Joan Liddiard.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Relations Committee meeting attached as appendix C are adopted by the Council and all recommendations made were agreed.

iv) Personnel Committee held on 6th July 2009 (Appendix D)

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2009 were presented by Cllr. John Anderson.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting attached as appendix D are adopted by the Council and all recommendations made were agreed.

v) Planning Committee held on 13th July 2009 (Appendix E)

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2009 were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Barry Dixie.

Councillor Ray Howard declared a personal interest in item 4.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting attached as appendix E are adopted by the Council.

vi) Policy and Finance Committee held on 13th July 2009 (Appendix F)

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2009 were presented by Cllr. Joan Liddiard.

Apologies were amended to record Cllr Howard as having a Borough Council commitment.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting attached as appendix A are adopted by the Council and all recommendations made were agreed.

201. TACKLING DOG FOULING – TO CONSIDER ALLOCATING A BUDGET TO ENABLE THE ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE TO DRAW UP AN APPROPRIATE PLAN OF ACTION

It was noted that Castle Point BC have a machine for clearing up dog waste and it is hoped that this can be used on the sea front. It was noted that dog fouling and litter both create a mess and this is something that the Town Council want to improve. Noted that Cllr Harvey is undertaking some research on this project and that a report will be considered at a future meeting of the Environment and Open Spaces committee. Noted that this type of project will often benefit from partnership working and this should be considered in relation to Castle Point BC and the Neighbourhood Forums.

RESOLVED that an initial budget of £5000 be allocated to the Environment and Open Spaces Committee for tackling dog fouling and litter/

202. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO REPAIR/REFURBISH THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE TO FLOOD VICTIMS OUTSIDE CANVEY LIBRARY (APPENDIX G)

It was requested that the Town Council consider support, repairs and ongoing maintenance of the memorial plaque and it was felt that advice should be sought on good repair.

RESOLVED that the Clerk investigate suitable repairs/refurbishment for the Memorial Plaque to Flood Victims, located outside Canvey Library.

203. TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF A THIRD PARISH REPRESENTATIVE ON THE LOCAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE (APPENDIX H)

RESOLVED that Cllr Nicola Pontius be appointed as a third parish representative on the Local Standards Committee.

204. TO CONSIDER ONGOING SUPPORT/MAINTENANCE OF THE OFFICE COMPUTERS

The Clerk circulated a report on the current system, together with a recommendation received on improvements/upgrades that could be made. It was noted that the current support appeared to be unsatisfactory, whereby a fault was unable to be looked at for more than three working days.

RESOLVED that the Clerk request a minimum of three quotations for future computer support and necessary upgrades and authority for action be delegated to the Finance and Policy Committee.

205. FINANCE

i) To confirm accounts for payment previously agreed

RESOLVED that the Council confirm accounts for payment previously agreed; Account no. 1 - cheque nos. 200345 – 200364, and Account no.2 cheque nos. 200042 – 200046.

ii) To receive and note a report of the Council's finances at 30th June 2009

The Clerk apologised that the report was not available at the meeting due to a problem, now resolved, with the finance package and subsequent shortage of time. This would be circulated as soon as available.

206. REPORTS FROM CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCILLORS ON MATTERS RELATING TO CANVEY ISLAND

None.

207. REPORT FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR ON MATTERS RELATING TO CANVEY ISLAND

Cllr Ray Howard that the Cabinet is currently considering the Water Bill, which is a complex matter and particularly relevant to Canvey Island, also noting that Essex has 350 miles of coastline. Future water shortages were being considered, together with aim of 100% water metering by 2016 and the removal of automatic rights to connection to surface water drainage.

Further noted that the next round of the Community Initiative Fund is open and that groups/organisations should apply if they have a good project. He referred to the Island Yacht Club which had benefitted from a previous round. Noted that the fund is for capital projects only. A poster will be put on the Town Council window, together with copies of the application form available in the office.

With regard to the Waterside Farm roundabout improvements, he noted that the lines were initially disliked, however people have now got used to them and although there are some concerns about particular locations, movement appears to have been improved.

The meeting closed at 8.47pm.

CHAIRMAN

DATE