

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMON LIASION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICE,  
13 HIGH STREET, CANVEY ISLAND  
ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015 AT 3.00PM**

PRESENT:

Committee: Cllr R. Howard, Cllr J. Anderson, Cllr D. Blackwell and Cllr Skipp

Also present: Mrs E. De Can – Town Clerk  
Mrs E. Hunt – Deputy Clerk  
Mrs K. Smith – Community Warden

Cllr Howard proposed that Cllr Blackwell chair the meeting in the absence of the chairman. The committee agreed and that D. Hedges be informed of decisions taken.

**CL/001/15 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

D. Hedges provided apologies due to another commitment.

**CL/002/15 - TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

No declarations of interest were received.

**CL/003/15 - PUBLIC FORUM - TO RECEIVE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY OF CANVEY ISLAND ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING TEN MINUTES.**

No members of public were present.

**CL/004/15 - TO CONFIRM AND SIGN AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2015.**

The minutes of the committee meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were **CONFIRMED** and signed as a true record.

**CL/005/15 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ONGOING PROJECTS AND NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

Cllr Anderson asked for an update on the Lake Watch meetings. The Community Warden advised that there were now only 7 members of the group, however, the first newsletter had been produced and another meeting will be scheduled for July.

Cllr Anderson asked whether a response had been received from Steve Prewer in relation to fishing. The Clerk advised that he had not yet been contacted.

**CL/006/15 – TO CONSIDER AND AGREE THE TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR 2015/16**

Members considered the draft timetable of meetings for 2015/16 and **RESOLVED** to approve the dates.

Cllr Howard asked whether a walk around the lake could be arranged and the Deputy Clerk advised that a photo opportunity was to be arranged for the new interpretation boards so if members could provide their availability the walk could be conducted at the same time.

**CL/007/15 - TO NOTE THE UPDATE ON THE PROGRESSION OF THE BYELAW**

Members noted that the position before Parliament dissolved was to seek the Government's position on byelaws to regulate night time fishing. Byelaws made and confirmed by the Department reflect government policy, namely that by regulating the activity through byelaws the Government considers that activity merits criminal sanctions. Byelaws that are novel or contentious need to be cleared as part of the confirmation process of bringing a byelaw into force.

The role of the byelaws team is not just to ensure the robustness of proposals through ensuring these are reasonable and proportionate to minimise the risk of Council's byelaws been challenged in the courts but also to ensure that any byelaws made is consistent with Government policy.

The Clerk advised that she has been informed that this was not able to be determine before purdah and unable to be moved forward with a decision on the Council's application until after the Election. The Clerk was advised on the 4<sup>th</sup> June that now new Ministers are in place, arrangements are being made to clear this with senior officials.

Members were disappointed that this was taking so long and **RECOMMENDED** that Rebecca Harris MP be contacted to assist with further delays.

Members discussed the issues that were occurring with fishing on the south bank and affecting the residents and **RECOMMENDED** that costs be obtained for the committee to consider to install posts within the lake between Lede Road and the Oysterfleet pub as per the north bank which has been successful in preventing fishing in these areas.

#### **CL/008/15 - TO CONSIDER AND AGREE THE COST FOR THE ANNUAL TREE AUDIT**

Members noted that the Council have used Trojan Tree Care for the last couple of years to conduct its annual tree audit with a provision of costs for any works required following the assessment. The audit was part of the service and conducted free of charge, however, Trojan Tree Care now charge for this service.

Members were asked to consider the quotes obtained and **RESOLVED** to appoint Trojan Tree Care at a cost of £199.00 per annum to conduct the annual tree audit.

#### **CL/009/15 – TO REVIEW AND AGREE THE DRAFT TREE POLICY**

Following various requests and complaints from residents in relation to issues with trees at Canvey Lake it was agreed that a tree policy is required covering all trees on council land.

Although the council have an adequate management system to ensure health and safety in the form of an annual tree audit which is carried out by an approved specialist and also employs a grounds maintenance contractor to maintain all trees and hedges on its land it is evident that there needs to be a consistent approach to complaints or requests received which a policy will provide.

Members approved the draft Tree Policy and **RESOLVED** that it be submitted to the Policy & Finance committee for approval of the Council for all trees on Council land.

#### **CL/010/15 - TO NOTE THE HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT DETAILING INCIDENTS AND ACTIONS COMPLETED**

Members noted the health and safety report detailing incidents and actions.

Meeting closed at 3.45 pm

Chairman

16<sup>th</sup> September 2015