

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 18TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Councillors Present: M. Carter, Mrs J. Curteis, H. Edwards, Mrs. S. Ferguson, R. Isworth, R. Knight, C. Knowles, Dr. L. Lovelidge, R. Lusty, K. Mulholland, J. Nelson (Town Mayor), Mrs. P. Smith and A. Sugden

Officers Present: Deputy Town Clerk Mrs. C. Gilbert, Accounts Clerk Mrs. J. McCollum and Administrative Assistant Ms. S. Ratcliffe.

Others Present: Reverend Canon L. Hammond, Cllr. Mr. P. Clokie (ABC) and four members of the public.

Reverend Hammond said prayers.

3099 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllrs. Miss N. Gooch, M. Hickmott, and T. Thorpe.

3100 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** Cllrs. J Nelson, Mrs. S. Ferguson, Dr. L. Lovelidge and C Knowles declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 - Tenterden Leisure Centre.

3101 **MINUTES.** The minutes of the meetings held on 7th August 2017 and 29th August 2017 were confirmed and signed as correct records.

3102 **MATTERS ARISING.** Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge congratulated the producers of the Council's Autumn Newsletter. She requested that the production of the newsletter be discussed by the Internal Committee and that she would produce a background paper. Future newsletters should be reviewed by Councillors and proof read by a few Councillors prior to publication.

3103 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS.**

(a) Artificial Turf Pitch at Homewood School. Cllr. P Clokie asked whether it was right to give a further donation to Homewood School now that there was some doubt about the provision of the football pitches.

(b) Registering Ownership of High Street Freehold/Leasehold. Cllr. K. Mulholland was concerned that High Street rents were too high. He requested that the Council create a register of who owns the freehold/leasehold of the commercial properties in order to monitor ownership. Cllr. Nelson responded explaining that the Tourism and Business Sub-Committee were already looking in to this.

3104 **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

Internal Committee; 7th August 2017 and 29th August 2017. Presented by Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge.

External Committee; 29th August 2017. Presented by Cllr. Mulholland.

Committee recommendations:

Minute 0046 (b) - Donations (i) Tenterden Leisure Centre. Councillors requested that this was **REFERRED** back to the External Committee for a background paper to be produced providing more details followed about the loan.

Minute 0046 (b) - Donations (iii) Mascot Dog. It was agreed that this item would be **REFERRED** back to the External Committee to provide further information:

- (i) to investigate whether an assessment would need to be made of the dog owner in line with animal adoptions;
- (ii) a report to be produced on the envisaged usage and testimonials;
- (iii) further details should be provided of any 'Match Funding' that might be available.

Minute 0048 (b) - Artificial Turf Pitch at Homewood School. It was agreed to **DEFER** payment of the £2,000 consultancy fees. It was agreed that any decision on this matter should be delayed until after the Sports Review Committee Meeting, due to take place on 25th October 2017. Nine Councillors voted in favour of this decision, Cllrs. Nelson, Carter and Knight voted against and Cllr. Lusty abstained.

Minute 0050 – War Memorial. It was **RESOLVED** that a Sub-Committee would be formed. Cllr. Nelson explained that this was not a Council sub-committee but one run by volunteers and chaired, occasionally, by the Mayor. Any issues regarding the cleaning and maintenance would be dealt with by this sub-committee.

Planning Committee; 7th August 2017, 14th August and 29th August 2017. Presented by Cllr. Lusty.

3105 **APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO ST. MICHAELS VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE.** It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. K. Mulholland would be the Council representative.

3106 **COMMUNITY WARDEN.** Ms. J. Vos reported that she had had a busy couple of months. She continues to work with the Youth Café and was involved in a trip to Bewl Water. She had been making welfare visits to the elderly and vulnerable and a Dementia Friendly event on musical memories would be taking place on 3rd October. She had been providing support, in schools, over issues with break-ins and vandalism. She is due to give an internet safety talk at St. Michael's School on 19th September. Support is being provided to vulnerable young people by a multi-agency group Ms. Vos is working with. Other issues she had been dealing with included: fly tipping, pot holes and anti-social behaviour issues. Cllr. Carter asked whether anything could be done when the identity of vandals was known. Ms. Vos responded that she was happy to liaise with the police but that evidence would be required before anything could be done. Cllr. Ferguson asked about the recent anti-social behaviour involving children on bicycles. Cllrs. Dr. Lovelidge and Mulholland reported that they had both witnessed these incidents. Ms. Vos has already spoken to some of the children involved and about this and

twelve names had been mentioned to her.

3107 **KENT POLICE.** No representative from Kent Police was present. It was asked whether a letter could be sent to the police regarding non-attendance. Also, what could be done to make it easier for them to attend in the future. It was suggested that a police report could be made directly to the Town Clerk at a time more convenient to them.

3108 **REPORTS FROM APPOINTED TRUSTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.**

(a) Twining Association. Cllr. Mulholland reported the first half of the year had been financially successful for the Association. Money raised from entertaining the visitors from France, the May Fayre and the hard work of the Committee mean the organisation had over £1,500. This, together with the usual grant, would cover insurance and other costs.

(b) Tenterden Leisure Centre Trust. Cllr. Ferguson reported on the success of two recipients of a bursary from the Trust: Ailene Williams, for football, who had been selected to play for Gillingham Ladies Football Club; and Scott Wilkinson, a young sailor who is now Gold fleet and came first in the 2017 Rooster Topper World Championships in France.

Cllr. Ferguson reported that although casual swimming numbers were down compared to last year the figures for July and August were extremely positive.

(c) St Michael's Village Community Group. Cllr. Mrs. Curteis reported on their very successful event 'Tributes in the Park' and thanked Tenterden Town Council, Ashford Borough Council and the Ward members for their support and sponsorship. Funds were raised for the Mayor's Charities as well as Macmillan. The group were busy preparing for their Christmas event.

(d) The Tenterden Charities. Cllr. Mrs. Curteis reported that there had been eleven grant applications from university students this year. Next year the grants would be better advertised to encourage more students to apply. Cllr. Nelson suggested including this information in the Council's Newsletter.

(e) Tentertainment. Cllr. Mrs. Smith reported that a meeting was being held between the Tentertainment organisers and representatives of the Council on 10th November 2017.

(f) Christmas Market. Cllr. Mrs. Smith reported that the arrangements for the Christmas Market were going well thanks to Ms. T. Mahoney.

(g) Tenterden Dementia Friendly Community AGM. Cllr. Nelson reported that the Memory Café was doing well and a virtual dementia tour would be taking place in October. Cllr. Nelson encouraged all Councillors to attend the event. Cllr. Nelson also reported that they were considering holding a reception at the Town Hall to thank all of the volunteers.

3109 **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.** None.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm and closed at 7.55pm

The foregoing Minutes and Report were confirmed and signed at a meeting of the Town Council held on the 30th day of October 2017.

Chairman _____ (30.10.2017)