

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES AND REPORTS OF A TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 26th SEPTEMBER 2016

Councillors Present:

M. Carter, Mrs J. Curteis, H. Edwards, Mrs. S. Ferguson, Mrs. E. Hannett, R. Isworth, Dr. L. Lovelidge, R. Lusty, M. Hickmott, C Knowles, K. Mulholland, J. Nelson, Mrs. P. Smith (Town Mayor), A. Sugden and T. Thorpe.

Officers Present:

Town Clerk Mr. P. Burgess and Deputy Town Clerk Mr. R. Parham.

Others Present:

The Reverend Canon L. Hammond, Sergeant-at-Mace Mr. M. Winter, Mrs. J. Vos and twenty members of the public.

Rev. L. Hammond said prayers.

2990 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr. Miss N. Gooch and Ashford Borough Councillor P. Clokie.

2991 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.

2992 **MINUTES.** The minutes of the meeting held on 15th August 2016 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2993 **MATTERS ARISING.** None.

2994 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS.**

(a) Public Consultation. Cllr. Mulholland requested that more notice be given by the Lipton Group (which was carrying out a public consultation on behalf of the Town Council) of the dates, times and location of public sessions. The Town Clerk stated that he would ask a representative of the Lipton Group to come and explain the rationale behind their model.

2995 **COMMITTEE REPORTS.** Subject to any specific questions or objections, the Minutes and Reports of the under-mentioned Committees were taken as read and, being duly seconded, were approved and **ADOPTED** as part of the proceedings of the Town Council subject to the following recommendations which were voted upon by a show of hands;

Finance & General Purposes: 5th September 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Carter.

Minute 3553 (d)- Standing Orders, Financial Regulations & Donations. It was **RESOLVED** to amend the complaints procedure to include an addition to paragraph 2d (employee conduct) as follows: "Where the complainant is a Councillor, the complaint must be made in writing on the official pro-forma to

clearly identify it as a formal complaint in order to invoke this procedure”, and to remove the redundant Standing Order 14b (relating to complaints against Councillors).

Minute 3555 - Armed Forces Covenant. It was **RESOLVED** that the Armed Forces Covenant, pledging fair treatment for past and present members of the armed forces and their families, would be signed. The Town Mayor and Lt Coln RN Tracy Peyman duly signed the covenant.

Minute 3557 - Refreshments for Council-Organised Events. It was **RESOLVED** that a budget of £50.00 would be allocated per event for refreshments at events organised by the Town Council. If this amount was insufficient for an event, the issue would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Minute 3558 - Staffing Matters. It was **RESOLVED** that a part-time member of staff would be employed to man the Tourist Information Centre at weekends.

Highways & Amenities: 15th August and 5th September 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Mrs. Hannett.

Minute 3068 - St. Michaels Recreation Ground Access. It was **RESOLVED** that a quote of £24,421.00 from Initial Systems Ltd. Would be accepted for works to create the access to St. Michaels Recreation Ground.

Minute 3069 - Caretaker Scheme. It was **RESOLVED** to enter into a contract to undertake maintenance of greens and verges in the 30mph limit of Tenterden, including the cemetery at Cranbrook Road, in exchange for an annual contribution of £34,854.00. A break clause after three years would be included in the contract. Cllr. Sugden abstained from voting.

Planning: 15th August and 5th September 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Lusty.

Public Buildings: 5th September 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Carter.

Tourism & Business: 4th July 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Carter.

Minute 0195 - The Great British High Street Competition. It was **RESOLVED** to work toward entering Tenterden into the competition in 2017, in order to give the necessary time and funding to the campaign to ensure success.

Minute 0196 - Cycling Provision. It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council would actively seek ways to improve cycling facilities in Tenterden and (without incurring any expense) in the surrounding area.

- 2996 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO STANDING COMMITTEES.** Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson was appointed to the Tourism & Business committee.
- 2997 **COMMUNITY WARDEN.** Mrs. Vos reported that she had continued to be busy since her last presentation; she had been very involved with all of the schools, had continued to work toward her restorative justice qualification, had helped to organise defibrillator training, had given road safety talks, had been involved in the Children's Centre, the Youth Café (noting particularly the engagement of the youth attendees with the Lipton Group consultation), the Day Centre, the memory café at Tenterden Station, and singing for heath classes. Cllr. Edwards asked whether the god weather had caused an increase in anti-social behaviour. Mrs. Vos said that it had not. Cllr. Isworth asked Mrs. Vos' opinion on the scheme for fining people who drop litter in the town. She stated that she welcomed it, as she felt that offenders would take notice if the issue affected them financially.
- 2998 **KENT POLICE.** No report. Cllr. Lusty expressed great disappointment that the PCSO had not attended for a number of meetings, and asked that the Town Clerk write a letter conveying his dissatisfaction.
- 2999 **REPORTS FROM APPOINTED TRUSTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.**
- (a) Chamber of Commerce. Cllr. Thorpe reported that the Chamber's committee had undergone significant changes. It was intended that in future more help would be given to young business people. The Chamber's thanks were offered to Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson for all of her hard work on its website over many years. The Chamber was not involved in organising the Christmas shopping event for 2016, but its best wishes were conveyed to the commercial company which was mounting the event.
 - (b) Citizens Advice Bureau. Cllr. Mulholland had attended the CAB Annual General Meeting, at which the year's accounts had been approved. The CAB was in a secure financial position, and paid staff had been awarded a wage increase of 2.5%. The committee had undergone some structural reorganisation.
 - (c) Dementia Friendly Society. In Cllr. Miss Gooch's absence, Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson reported that the memory café at Tenterden Station had been enormously successful. She drew particular attention to a very effective simulator which replicated the effects of dementia. She encouraged Councillors to visit the café.
 - (d) Dr. Curteis' Charity. Cllr. Mrs. Curteis reported that the trustees had met and considered eleven applications for educational grants. Ten of these were repeat applications, with only one being a new applicant. Ten awards had been made.
 - (e) Folk Festival. Cllr. Mrs. Curteis reported that plans were well underway for the 2016 event, which was due to commence on Thursday 29th September. Invitations had been issued for the VIP event at the Town Hall on the Saturday, and Councillors were urged to respond as soon as possible.

- (f) Tenterden Leisure Centre Trust. Cllr. Nelson reported that the leisure centre's finances were in good shape and that it appeared that it was being run effectively.
- (g) Tenterden & District Twinning Association. Cllr. Mulholland reported that the organisation was in good shape following the reorganisation of the committee [see minute 2988(a)].

3000 **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

- (a) Christmas Lights Switch-On. Planning was underway for the switch-on event on Saturday 26th November.
- (b) Fundraising. A vineyard tour and fashion show had raised over £1,000.00 for the Mayor's charity account.
- (c) Mayoral Visit. The Town Mayor would be attending the Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Civic Service on Friday 30th September.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm and closed at 7.51pm

The foregoing Minutes and Report were confirmed and signed at a meeting of the Town Council held on the 7th day of November 2016.

Chairman _____ (07.11.2016)