

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in The Coach House, Crown Yard
on Thursday 25th January 2018 at 7pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr J Devlin
Vice-Chairman: Absent

Councillors: A Adshead, R Chapman, R Clark, M Dear, C Dyer, D Hayden,
L Mitchelmore, M Moore, M Roessler, D Spencer, A Talboys,
M Thomas, J Tutton

Also in attendance: Borough and County Cllrs Dr R Moore and A Headley, 3
members of the public and the Town Clerk

Prior to the start of the meeting members received a presentation from County Cllr
Dr R Moore about Billericay High Street which had previously been given to the
Cabinet Member at Essex County Council and highlighted outstanding repair issues.

95. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Clark

96. Declaration of interest with regard to item(s) on the Agenda

None.

97. Co-Option

Cllr Talboys proposed that the selection of candidates was by signed ballot.
Seconded by Cllr Moore.

Resolved; that in accordance with Standing Order 3(r) voting will take place
by signed ballot and the result of such ballot to be recorded and so as to show
whether each councillor present and voting gave his vote for or against.

Votes were cast as follows:

Graham Moat - FOR 4 votes (Cllrs Chapman, Roessler, Tutton and
Thomas); **AGAINST 7 votes** (Cllrs Adshead, Clark, Devlin, Hayden,
Mitchelmore, Moore, Talboys); **ABSTENTIONS 3** (Cllrs Dear, Dyer, Spencer)

Gareth Talbot - FOR 13 votes (Cllrs Adshead, Chapman, Clark, Dear, Dyer,
Devlin, Mitchelmore, Moore, Roessler, Spencer, Talboys, Thomas, Tutton);
AGAINST 1 vote (Cllr Hayden)

Francis Tomlin - FOR 13 votes (Cllrs Adshead, Chapman, Clark, Dear,
Dyer, Devlin, Hayden, Moore, Roessler, Spencer, Talboys, Thomas, Tutton);
AGAINST 1 vote (Cllr Mitchelmore)

Resolved: that Francis Tomlin be elected to West Ward and Gareth Talbot to South West Ward

The new members signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took their seats.

98. Public participation session with respect to items on the Agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest

None.

99. Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 14th December 2017

Members received the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 14th December 2017.

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting be approved and adopted.

100. Chairman's Report

Members received a written report from Cllr Devlin detailing events he had attended since the last meeting.

Resolved: Information noted.

101. Committee Meetings

(a) Planning Committee 2nd and 16th January 2018

Cllr Mitchelmore, Chairman of the Committee presented the minutes of the meetings and advised members that 25 applications had been looked at and that consideration had also been given to replenishing the Council's salt bins. It had been decided that ECC's policy of only replenishing once a year will be followed until the Town Council has formulated its own policy. Basildon Council's draft street trading policy has been responded to with the comment that shop premises should also be subject to the controls if they display goods on the pavement outside their premises.

(b) Environment Committee 9th January 2018

The Committee Chairman, Cllr Moore presented the minutes of the meeting and informed members that the High Street litter pick is taking place at 9.30am on Saturday 3rd March and she encouraged members to attend and show their support. Also the tree stump at the War Memorial will be ground out.

(c) Finance & General Purposes Committee 18th November 2018

Cllr Adshead, Chairman of the Committee presented the minutes of the meeting and informed members that regarding Christmas lights, a letter has been sent to ECC Highways asking about why the power was out for so long to so many columns. The contractor has been chased to remove the lights as soon as possible but this has been delayed due to a gas leak in central London so they are now saying removal will take place on Sunday 28th January. The Chantry Centre tenders have been evaluated and three companies have been asked to come and present their proposals in further detail. One will then be selected and recommended to Council to progress the second stage of the project. The DCLG has been written to regarding the proposed withdrawal of the LCTS grant by Basildon Council. Cllr Adshead said that the meeting at Basildon which is recommending the withdrawal is being held tonight and it is widely assumed that the grant will not be passed to the parishes.

Resolved: that the minutes of all the above meetings be approved and adopted.

102. Training Courses

(a) Members considered the list of training courses from the EALC for 2018, and (b) were advised that following Cllr Dansey's resignation there is now a place available on the Cllr Training Days 1 & 2 in March. Cllr Devlin suggested that one of the new councillors might like to attend these courses and if so would they please advise the Town Clerk.

Resolved: (a) and (b) Information noted

103. Schedule of Meetings for Municipal Year 2018-19

Members received and considered the proposed dates for Council and Committee meetings from May 2018 to May 2019.

Resolved: that the meeting schedule is approved and adopted.

104. Annual Town Meeting 26th April 2018

Members discussed an alternative venue as the Chantry Centre is unavailable on 26th April.

Resolved: (a) that if possible the meeting is held at Mary Magdalen on 26th April otherwise the default venue is to be the Coach House, and; (b) that Les Hawkins from Essex Police is invited as the guest speaker to talk about Community Special Constables.

105. Town Council Vacancy in West Ward

Members were advised that there is still a vacancy in East Ward due to no co-option taking place at this meeting and that also due to the resignation of Cllr Dansey there is now a vacant seat in the West Ward. If a poll for West Ward is not claimed by 2nd February it was:

Resolved: To co-opt for both West Ward and East Ward at the March 8th full Council meeting.

106. Consideration of Items for Social Media/Press Release

Two new councillors
Public notification of High Street issues
Grant withdrawal by Basildon Borough Council

107. Questions from the Press and Public

Cllr Devlin closed the meeting at 8.10pm

Cllr Devlin.....Date.....
Chairman