

**SLEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the **General Purposes Committee** held on
Wednesday February 29th 2012 at 7:30pm
at The Source, Southgate, Sleaford

PRESENT: Councillor T Mayfield (Chairman)

Cllr D Suiter (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr D Croker	Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford
Cllr B Watson (Leader)	Cllr K Fernandes	Cllr D Andrews

Also Present: Councillors D Birks, J Charlesworth, K Dolby, M Graves, G Jackson, J Titmus, D Vere-Critchler, Mrs S McIntyre (Clerk), Mrs M Waddingham (PA to the Clerk) and C/Cllr Hagues.

The Chairman welcomed all present.

GP.1 APOLOGIES. Apologies, with reasons, had been given to the Clerk from Cllr J Mathieson. This was accepted.

GP.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. There were no declarations of interest.

GP.3 MINUTES. The Clerk's Notes from the meeting held on January 11th 2012, had been circulated. It was proposed by Cllr D Suiter and seconded by K Fernandes, that these be accepted as Minutes of the meeting.

Vote – 5 for and 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed, the Chairman signed the Minutes.

GP.4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. There was nothing to report.

GP.5 CLERK'S REPORT.

- Amendment on the Report update on the Sleaford Awards – 'Charity for Helping the Elderly' should be 'Charity of the year Helping Adults.'

GP.6 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT.

It was proposed by Cllr D Suiter to accept this report. Seconded by Cllr D Croker.

Vote – 6 for. The Resolution was passed.

GP.7 UPDATES/PROGRESS REPORTS

- **Sleaford Awards, March 8th** – A meeting has taken place and the winners have been chosen – Expenditure has been well contained this year. Thanks to Cllr K Dolby for donating the awards.
- **Town Guide** - The Clerk explained there will be one more issue.
- **C.A.B** – No Councillors attended the Open Day.
- **St. George's Day** – Cllr D Suiter explained the details of the report and thanked the Town Council Officers.

At 7:25pm, Cllr J Titmus left the meeting.

GP.8 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – The Clerk said permission from Highways to use lampposts is needed.

GP.9 SLEAFORD TOWN FUND.

It was proposed by Cllr D Suiter and seconded by Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford that the General Purposes Committee agrees that the remainder of the current term of office, until May 2015, any unspent Councillor's expenses should go into the Town Fund. This to go to Finance & Strategy for all Councillors to discuss.

Vote – 6 for. The Resolution was passed.

GP.10 LEASE RENEWALS:

- EASTGATE CAR PARKING – MILL HOUSE SPACES – Lease is due for renewal.

Cllr D Suiter questioned the 6 year period.

It was proposed by Cllr K Fernandes that the price remains the same but on a 12 month Lease. Seconded by Cllr D Suiter.

GP.11 CHRISTMAS TOWN MEETING.

- Request for improved market conditions/free pitches/former stallholders contacted.

The Chairman said the market is very important to Sleaford but is very difficult to regain in these times.

There were discussions about efforts which could be made to encourage stall holders to come and trade at Sleaford.

A Working Party to be formed to discuss ideas. Working Party: Councillors B Watson, K Dolby, D Andrews, D Croker and K Fernandes.

- Concern that still cannot hear TC meetings – some sort of PA system needed.

At 8:47pm, the meeting closed to speak to the member of the public. 8:50pm, the meeting reopened.

Councillors discussed options of a sound systems and different venues.

GP.12 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – Projects etc for 2013/14 to be started in this Year's Annual Town Meeting on March 28th 2012.

Councillor M Graves suggested any other toilet provisions for the Town.

At 8:02pm, there being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.