

**SLEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Full Council** held on
Wednesday December 11th 2013 at 7:45pm
in The Source, Southgate, Sleaford

PRESENT: Councillor B Watson, (Chairman)

Cllr K Dolby (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr M Allan	Cllr D Birks
Cllr C Darch	Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford	Cllr K Fernandes
Cllr M Graves	Cllr G Jackson	Cllr H Lorimer
Cllr J Mathieson	Cllr T Mayfield	Cllr M Suffield
Cllr D Suiter	Cllr G Titmus	Cllr J Titmus
Cllr D Vere-Critchler		

Also Present: Mrs S McIntyre, (Clerk), Mrs M Waddingham, (Assistant Clerk), Mrs L Savage, (RFO), 2 representatives of the press and 6 members of the public.

Before the meeting a member of the public addressed the Council.

The Chairman welcomed all present and opened the meeting.

FC.1 APOLOGIES. An Apology, with a reason, had been given to the Clerk from Cllr I Dolby. This was accepted.

FC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. To receive any declarations of interests. To agree and resolve recommendation from Personnel Committee that Personal interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests be included in this agenda item for all committees.

The Clerk explained Personal and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. She also explained that the Personnel Committee had agreed for Personal and Disclosable to be included on their Agenda and asked if Full Council wished to do the same.

It was proposed by Cllr M Allan and seconded by Cllr K Fernandes to accept the recommendation from the Personnel Committee that Personal interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests be included as an agenda item for all committees.

Vote – 13 for; 1 against and 3 abstentions. The Resolution was passed.

FC.3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

- Recent Mayoral activities. The Chairman explained his attendance at recent events.
- Letter from Chairman at NKDC – The Chairman asked the Clerk to read out the letter from the Chairman at NKDC, which detailed praise and thanks, for the Mayoral Christmas Lunch and Christmas Market, that he had attended.

FC.4 CLERK's REPORT.

- Marie Curie Cancer Care – Volunteer Committee Members needed.
- Action Log – This was noted.
- Petitions received from Sleaford Recreation Ground Conservation Group and Don't Let Sleaford Die – There was a discussion regarding what petitions have been received. It was proposed by Cllr D Suiter and seconded by Cllr T Mayfield that the WG who studied the findings from the Public Meeting held in St. Deny's Church, look through these petitions. WG:- Councillors D Vere-Critcher, G Titmus and D Suiter. The Petitions were formally noted. Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.
- LCC Transport Strategy – Stakeholder Consultation. After discussion, about the short time scale, Cllr M Allan proposed and Cllr G Titmus seconded, that Mr L Rowley from LCC be invited to a special Council Meeting. Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.

It was proposed by Cllr G Titmus and seconded by Cllr D Birks that the special meeting be called for January 8th 2014, prior to the Applications and Services Committee Meeting. A debrief meeting to be held on January 15th 2014. Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.

FC.5 MINUTES. To look at the Clerk's Notes from the meetings held on October 16th, October 23rd, October 30th and November 6th 2013, and accept them as Minutes of these meetings.

It was proposed by Cllr M Allan and seconded by Cllr D Vere-Critcher that the above notes, be accepted as Minutes of those meetings, en-bloc.

Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.

FC.6 CLERK'S NOTES. For information only, no discussion. The Clerk's Notes from the last round of committees are circulated only so that non-committee councillors have a brief overview of what the committees have been doing. They are notes only and may be subject to change. These notes go to the next Committee meetings for acceptance etc as Minutes. Services, November 6th, 2013, General Purposes, November 13th, 2013, Personnel, October 28th and November 20th 2013 and Finance & Strategy, November 27th, 2013.

Cllr M Allan asked who oversees these draft notes and that they are never seen in their final form.

Cllr M Graves asked where does FC approve the Resolutions. There was further discussions and explanations.

The above notes were noted en-bloc.

FC.7 FINANCE. To receive Financial Report.

- **Budget 2014/15.** To receive and approve the Committee budgets for 2014/15.
- **Precept setting.** To receive any information regarding the Tax base and/or District grant. To agree the recommendation from F&S on November 27th : “To agree in principle that the Council wishes to set a budget resulting in a nil increase per household for 2014/15”.
- From Personnel Committee: To approve the recommendation from November 20th, that budget line 20070, Accountancy Consultancy Fees be changed to Misc Consultancy/Legal Fees.

It was proposed by Cllr K Dolby and seconded by Cllr B Watson to amend the Personnel Budget Line.

Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.

The Clerk provided useful information regarding the tax base. There was a lengthy discussion.

It was proposed by Cllr G Jackson and seconded by Cllr M Allan to keep the amount of money paid by the Band D properties the same amount as for the last 3 years, (£104.07).

Vote – 16 for and 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

Cllr C Darch left the meeting.

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr M Graves that the Committee Budgets be accepted.

Vote -16 for. The Resolution was passed.

Cllr C Darch returned.

- FC.8 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES.** Any Councillor who has represented the Council on their nominated outside body is asked to report to the Full Council meeting after this representation.

Cllr G Titmus gave a verbal update on a recent meeting of the SMT and provisional plans for next year. Cllr M Allan asked Cllr G Titmus to ensure the Town is involved as much as possible.

- FC.9 OTHER AD-HOC COUNCIL REPRESENTATION –** Councillors invited to meetings etc on an ad-hoc basis.

Cllr G Jackson gave an update on a recent Sleaford Business Breakfast Club Meeting where there was a presentation on Employment Law.

- FC.10 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERIES:**

- October 5th – Cllr M Allan – report attached.
- November 2nd – Cllr G Jackson /Cllr M Allan – Cllr M Allan gave a short verbal report.
- December 7th – Cllr G Jackson gave a short verbal report.

- FC.11 FIELDS IN TRUST –** Opening event.

Cllr K Dolby reported that there is no further update, other than, the Co-op will collect the stone from Goldhome and deliver it to the Recreation Ground and collect the plaque. Cllr K Dolby to contact the Co-op.

FC.12 ATTENDANCE REGISTER – enclosed, to approve and publish on web-site, as agreed FC July 17th. **Note: any amendments needed please contact the office before the meeting.**

It was proposed by Cllr M Allan and seconded by Cllr D Suiter that the Attendance Register be approved and put on the Web Site.

Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.

A lengthy discussion took place about the amount of paper used to print these Registers and the practicality of e-mailing these to all Councillors together with the Committee Notes.

FC.13 CHRISTMAS PUBLIC MEETING – Update – December 18th in The Source.

- Log of people attending. Cllr M Allan asked if County and District Councillors had been invited to this meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr B Watson and seconded by Cllr H Lorimer that a log of people attending, be produced for the Christmas Public Meeting.

Vote – 16 for and 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

- Town Councillors reminded to wear their Town Council badges. The Chairman asked all Councillor who attend the meeting wear their Town Council badges.

FC.14 RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION. To propose that “in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw”. It was proposed by Cllr D Birks and seconded by Cllr H Lorimer.

Vote – 17 for. The Resolution was passed.

FC.15 OFFICE PREMISES - Update, and any Full Council Resolutions needed.

The Clerk explained that there are no further updates and that a report is being worked on.

FC.16 RECREATION GROUND – any updates/information.

Councillors G Jackson and K Dolby left the room at 9:18pm and returned 9:19pm.

It was resolved that the Solicitor writes a reply letter to the District Council to decline meeting at this present stage.

FC.17 PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS. To receive a proposal that each standing committee has a designated officer to progress the resolutions, actions and minutes of that committee. Report attached.

It was resolved that each Committee has an individual officer designated to it, for the remainder of Town Council year. This to be progressed and monitored.

FC.18 COMPLAINT FROM MEMBER OF PUBLIC.

This item was withdrawn.

FC.19 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - to discuss:

- **Aug 14th Chairman's report**– confidential notes enclosed. Cllr K Dolby said there is nothing further to report.

The Clerk left the meeting

- **Disciplinary panel** – to approve recommendation as to panel membership date set.

It was resolved that 23rd December 2013 at 11am be the time and date. Councillors G Jackson and M Suffield to be reserve panel members.

FC.20 MUSEUM TRUST – Update. To look at documents circulated beforehand or on the night and the recommendations enclosed.

Cllr G Titmus explained the circumstances and the background.
At 9:40pm, Cllr J Mathieson left the meeting.

It was resolved that the meeting continues for a further 5 minutes.

It was resolved that the Agreement be signed on Monday 16th December, by the Chairman subject to confirmation that a Trustee will be appointed from the Town Council.