

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Full Council** held on
Wednesday July 18th 2012 at 7:30pm
in The Source, Southgate, Sleaford

PRESENT: Councillor B Watson (Vice Chairman & Leader)

Cllr D Andrews	Cllr D Birks	Cllr J Charlesworth
Cllr I Dolby	Cllr K Dolby	Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford
Cllr K Fernades	Cllr M Graves	Cllr G Jackson
Cllr J Mathieson	Cllr D Suiter	Cllr G Titmus
Cllr J Titmus	Cllr D Vere-Critcher	

Also Present: Mrs S McIntyre (Clerk), Mrs M Waddingham (Assistant Clerk), Mrs L Savage (RFO), Mr N Moses (Admin Assistant), C/Cllr Hagues, C/Cllr Haysum, a representative from the press and 7 members of the public.

The Chairman was not present, the Vice Chairman took the Chair.

FC.1 APOLOGIES. Apologies, with reasons, had been given to the Clerk by Councillors M Allan, T Mayfield and D Croker. These were accepted.

FC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. There were none.

FC.3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

- Grass Verges article in the local press – Clerk to write a letter of reply.

FC.4 CLERK'S REPORT.

- To note a letter regarding traffic issues – to be forwarded to LCC – The Clerk was given permission to do so.
- LCC – working towards the 4th Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan – details of how to access the consultation – Clerk to have a look at survey and reply on behalf of the Council.
- Request from 'Alternatives' Pregnancy Advice Centre to provide a letter of support for Big Lottery grant funding. <http://www.alternatives-pregnancy-advice-sleaford.co.uk> – Clerk to write a letter of support.
- Twinning Trip – end of October.
- General Powers of competence – The Clerk is the first in the County to be qualified.
- Past Mayor's Badges – New supply has arrived.

FC.5 FINANCIAL MATTERS.

- **Finance Report** – This report was noted.
- **BACS Payments.** From F and S meeting July 11th: To resolve that payments for wages and other associated costs, eg pensions, may be paid when they are due by way of the BACS payment system.

It was proposed by Cllr D Birks to accept the above. Seconded by Cllr M Graves.

Vote – 14 for and 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

FC.6 MINUTES. To look at the Clerk's Notes from the meetings held on May 23rd and May 30th 2012, and accept them as Minutes of those meetings.

May 23rd 2012

It was proposed by Cllr I Dolby, and seconded by Cllr D Birks, that the Notes from May 23rd 2012, be accepted as Minutes of that meeting.

Vote – 15 for. The Resolution was passed and the chairman signed the Minutes.

May 30th 2012

It was proposed by Cllr D Vere-Critchler, and seconded by Cllr J Mathieson, that the Notes from May 30th 2012, be accepted as Minutes of that meeting.

Vote – 13 for and 2 abstentions. The Resolution was passed and the chairman signed the Minutes.

FC.7 COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES: To take note of the Clerk's notes from the last round of committee meetings which will then go to their next meetings for approval as Minutes. Services, June 6th 2012, General Purposes, June 13th 2012, Personnel, June 20th 2012.

It was proposed by Cllr I Dolby and seconded by Cllr K Dolby that these be noted en bloc.

Vote – 15 for. The Resolution was passed.

FC.8 FROM OTHER COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

- **Web site** – to re-examine the TC web site. After a lengthy discussion, it was proposed by Cllr M Graves that Mr J Williams takes over the web site hosting at the cost of £120 per annum. Seconded by Cllr I Dolby.

Vote – 13 for and 2 abstentions. The Resolution was passed.

There were various questions raised about the LCC web site and the costs involved if the current web site was to stay in house with an upgraded package.

After further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr M Graves and seconded by Cllr D Birks that we continue with our current web site for the time being. Mr N Moses to make more enquiries with LCC regarding to transferring our current web site to them and also research other Parish Councils who use the LCC website asking them for their opinions and report back to the next General Purposes Committee.

Vote – 14for and 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

- **Hearing Difficulties** - It was proposed to look at how the meeting room could be laid out differently and see if the number of members of the public that attend warrants the cost of a sound system.

Cllr G Jackson updated members on possible options and said he had spoken to a sound consultant.

It was proposed by Cllr G Jackson and seconded by Cllr I Dolby to wait for a written report from the sound consultant then to go to the General Purposes Committee – they should look at recommendations and decide in principle what, if any, action to take. Cllr G Jackson to arrange a meeting for a trial run of the sound system.

FC.9 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.

- **Review representation on Sleaford Business Club** – a report had been submitted asking Councillors to consider representation should still be continued as a subscription was now needed. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr B Watson and seconded by Cllr K Fernandes that Cllr D Birks and the Clerk attends the next meeting to ascertain whether TC attendance can be without membership. Report to a meeting after then.

Vote 15 for. The Resolution was passed.

- **Connect 2.** Cllr J Charlesworth gave an update on the Connect2, sustrans cycle link.
- **Neighbourhood Watch.** Cllr J Charlesworth gave an update on Neighbourhood Watch.

FC.10 OTHER AD-HOC COUNCIL REPRESENTATION – Councillors invited to meetings etc on an ad-hoc basis – are asked to report to the Full Council meeting following their meeting. There were no reports.

FC.11 CODE OF CONDUCT. Report and code(s) attached. To decide a Code of Conduct and agree to its adoption. Training sessions to be organised – Councillors asked to say whether July, August or September would be best.

The Clerk explained the situation regarding the Code of Conduct and the various options.

It was proposed by Cllr K Dolby and seconded by Cllr I Dolby that the Council adopts the adapted NKDC Code of Conduct – NKDC to be informed in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Vote 15 for. The Resolution was passed.

The Clerk explained the procedure relating to the Declaration of Interests forms. Councillors were asked to return these to the office before the end of the month.

There is a Training event on Disclosable Pecuniary Interests at NKDC Council chamber on Thursday September 6th at 7pm – Councillors to book their places through the Clerk well in advance.

FC.12 STANDING ORDERS – From Finance and Strategy July 11th – to adopt the revised Standing Orders.

Some concerns were expressed. Cllr M Graves recommended that these be fed back into the Working Group.

He proposed and Cllr D Birks seconded that the Standing Orders be accepted as presented to the meeting tonight – they can be amended by any future Full Council meeting. The Standing Committees to remain as elected in May 2012 for the full one year term.

Vote 12 for; 2 against and 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

- FC.13 RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION.** It was proposed by Cllr D Vere-Critchler and seconded by Cllr M Graves ‘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’.

Vote 15 for. The Resolution was passed.

- FC.14 COUNCILLOR/OFFICER PROTOCOL.** From Personnel Committee – adoption of the Protocol, amended by PC and forwarded to the Full Council for adoption. (Protocol enclosed).

It was resolved that the corrected Protocol be accepted Delegated powers, roles of various Councillors etc, can be defined by the Working group and addressed through the Personnel Committee

- FC.15 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE.** Preliminary meeting held – report attached for information only at this stage.

The report was noted. Mr N Moses was congratulated.

- FC.16 ONGOING PERSONNEL ISSUE.** In light of fresh information received to decide a course of action relating to an on-going staffing issue.

It was resolved that the Council gives the Personnel Committee the authority to decide how this case should proceed on behalf of the Full Council.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.23pm.