

**SLEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the **Services Committee** held on
Wednesday April 18th 2012 at 7:30pm
at The Source, Southgate, Sleaford

PRESENT: Councillor D Vere-Critchler (Chairman)

Cllr G Titmus (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr B Watson (Leader)

Cllr D Birks Cllr J Charlesworth
Cllr T Mayfield Cllr D Suiter

Also Present: Cllr M Allan, Cllr D Andrews, Cllr I Dolby, Cllr K Dolby, Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford, Cllr K Fernandes, Cllr M Graves, Cllr G Jackson, Cllr J Mathieson, Mrs S McIntyre (Clerk), Mrs M Waddingham (PA to the Clerk), and D Howorth (Acting Services Supervisor),

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

SER.1 APOLOGIES. Apologies, with a reason, had been given to the Clerk from Councillor D Croker. This was accepted.

SER.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Item 16 (Cemetery-recent tree planting) – Cllr D Vere-Critchler – personal – knows complainant.

Item 16 (Cemetery-recent tree planting) – Cllr B Watson – personal – knows complainant.

Item 16 (Cemetery-recent tree planting) – Cllr D Suiter – personal – knows complainant.

Item 8 (Monument Toilets-Sleaford In Bloom) – Cllr T Mayfield – personal - wife SIB member.

SER.3 MINUTES. Notes of the meeting held on February 22nd 2012, had been circulated.

It was proposed by Cllr B Watson and seconded by Cllr T Mayfield that the Notes from February 22nd 2012, be accepted as Minutes of that Meeting.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed, the Chairman signed the Minutes.

SER.4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. There was no report.

SER.5 CLERK'S REPORT/UPDATES.

- **Grit Bins.** An e-mail from Mr Brickles was read out about a grit bin in Linwood Close. Cllr D Andrews agreed to arrange a site meeting.

- **Community Pay Back.** Mr D Howorth explained 2 possible projects – a deep clean of the Boston Road Recreation Ground and cleaning the long dykes at the Drove Lane allotments.
- **Pot Holes.** The Clerk read an e-mail from a family about the pot holes at the Eastgate Car Park entrance. There was a discussion about the quote, the contractor and whether temporary repairs should be undertaken. Mr D Howorth confirmed a temporary repair was carried out this afternoon. The question of signage or fencing off was discussed. It was agreed to seek advice from the Town Council's insurance company. The Eastgate Car Park is to remain an Agenda item on future Services Committee meetings.

SER.6 FINANCIAL REPORT. Report not available until end of year completed and closed.

SER.7 WAR MEMORIAL.

The Chairman proposed that this item be moved to after item 16. Seconded by Cllr B Watson.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.8 MONUMENT GARDENS:

- **Sleaford in Bloom.** A report had been submitted by Cllr G Titmus. Cllr M Allan spoke about the need to keep this site in a tidy state. Cllr G Titmus said that the Town Council should welcome volunteer help and support. Mr D Howorth reminded the meeting that the Town Council no longer has a dedicated gardener. Cllr B Watson proposed that Cllr G Titmus's recommendations should be accepted. Seconded by Cllr J Charlesworth.

These were:-

- a) That the STC welcomes the offer of SIB to support the maintenance of the Monument Gardens; with specific details and clear demarcation to be agreed beforehand with the Town's Services Department.
- b) That the work undertaken on the Monument Gardens should be mindful of extant proposals for the establishment of a museum and possible public toilets on the site.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.9 DOG LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: To note her February and March reports – to approve that follow up action is the responsibility of the Services Committee.

The reports had been circulated. It was agreed that the Services Committee should receive these so that any action needed could be discussed. The

Personnel Committee also to receive them to monitor the contractual and personnel issues.

Problems at West Banks and Westgate were discussed. Mr D Howorth explained this was because of one irresponsible dog owner.

Cllr G Titmus proposed that in the week leading to the Jubilee, the Dog Law Enforcement Officer should be asked to patrol areas where known events were being staged. Seconded by Cllr D Birks.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.10 USE OF COUNCIL OPEN SPACES;

- **Eastgate Green** – Slea Paddlers – use of the Green Saturday May 19th for a ‘come and try’ day.
- **Duck Races – June 16th.**
- **‘Soccer Tots’ – mini football.**

Details of the above were circulated. It was proposed by Cllr D Suiter and seconded by Cllr T Mayfield that these be approved en bloc – subject to further information being obtained about the mini football as it seemed to be a commercial venture.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.11 MONEY’S YARD TOILETS.

The Clerk gave a verbal report about the hand over and first three weeks. It may be possible to obtain signage from NKDC graphics department.

SER.12 EASTGATE GARAGES.

A report from Mrs S Goodland was noted.

Cllr D Birks proposed that the Town Council proceeds with the planning application. The Clerk explained this Resolution already exists. Cllr B Watson proposed that the application is submitted as soon as possible with a close boarded fence on the boundary. This to include the Town Council’s comments as to why this should be the case. Seconded by Cllr D Birks.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.13 BOSTON ROAD KIOSK. Reply from the tenant who requested a change of staffing arrangements.

Further details from the tenant had been circulated.

It was proposed by Cllr D Birks and seconded by Cllr J Charlesworth that the Town Council’s insurance cover be checked with respect to the requested changes.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.14 MARKET – Update on some problems with one of the adjacent restaurant owners. Report attached.

A report about some recent problems had been circulated. This was noted.

If the problems persisted then the Police/PCSO's should be informed.

SER.15 RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION.

It was proposed by Cllr D Birks 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 public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw. Seconded by Cllr D Suiter.

Vote – 7 for. The Resolution was passed.

SER.16 CEMETERY – RECENT TREE PLANTING.

It was resolved that all the trees should be removed and the Town Council should look at other ways of removing the water from the land.

SER.7 WAR MEMORIAL.

Cllr G Titmus explained the submitted report. To progress, advice is needed from the NKDC Conservation Officer – but currently there is no one in post.

After a meeting with the Conservation Officer, it will then be known whether work can continue or whether planning permission is needed.

Cllr G Titmus's full report was noted and accepted.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.27pm.