

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Full Council** held on  
Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:00pm  
in The Source, Southgate, Sleaford

**PRESENT: Councillor B Watson, (Chairman)**

Cllr D Birks	Cllr M Suffield	Cllr J Mathieson
Cllr H Lorimer	Cllr M Graves	Cllr D Suiter
Cllr M Allan	Cllr C Darch	Cllr K Fernandes
Cllr G Titmus	Cllr D Vere-Critchier	Cllr J Titmus
Cllr G Jackson	Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford	

**Also Present:** Mrs S McIntyre, (Clerk) and Mrs M Waddingham (Assistant Clerk).  
Mr A Plummer (Solicitor), a representative from the press and 4 Members of the Public.

**FC.1 APOLOGIES.** Apologies, with reasons were given to the Clerk from Councillors T Mayfield and K Dolby.

**FC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** To receive any interests. There were none.

**FC.3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.**

- The Chairman attended a Choral Society event on Oct 26<sup>th</sup>.
- There is a charity Greek night on November 11<sup>th</sup> – tickets still available.

**FC.4 CLERK'S REPORT.**

- Core strategy newsletter – to be circulated.
- Lincs Community Land Trust conference – Cllr KF requested details. Bookings through the office.
- Details of Remembrance events – November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

**FC.5 CHAPLAIN.** To discuss whether Sleaford Town Council wish to have their own Chaplain. The Chairman explained that the Vicar would if requested come to FC meetings and offer a prayer. If staff or councillors were ill or needed pastoral advice he would be available.  
It was proposed by Cllr D Birks and seconded by Cllr H Lorimer that the TC accepts the new Vicar as the TC Chaplain.

Vote 11 for; 1 against and 3 abstentions. The Resolution was passed.

**FC.6 COUNCIL COMMITTEES.** Councillors who are not on Committees. The Chairman explained that in the past the protocols were observed and non-committee councillors did not attend committees unless they could prove a need and for which agenda item. He said that currently STC was not following its own procedures.  
The Clerk explained the NALC guidelines which were adopted as part of the current STC Guide to Standing Orders.  
The Chairman explained it was the decision of the Committee Chairman.

Cllr K Fernandes said all members were elected and should be able to stay, there is a duty to the electors to monitor the committees.

Cllr D Suiter said that denying Councillors information is a big mistake.

Cllr D Birks said he had attended Personnel Committee meetings, he was not challenging the regulations but he felt obliged to monitor the workings of the committee.

Cllr M Allan said the committee structure is a nationwide structure in all organisations – there has to be a structure otherwise it is a recipe for chaos. This Council is ineffective enough without exacerbating the situation.

Cllr K Fernandes said all members should have the right to attend all meetings and he would be putting in a proposal to change the Guide to Standing Orders.

The Clerk requested that this be in writing to be brought to a FC meeting.

Cllr M Graves said the meeting should note the regulations in the Guide and he proposed that the meeting move to the next business. This was seconded by Cllr M Allan.

Vote 14 for, 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

**FC.7 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”. Mr A Plummer to remain for items 11 and 12.

Proposed by Cllr H Lorimer, seconded by Cllr D Vere-Critchler.

Vote 15 for. The public and press left the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr M Allan and seconded by Cllr M Graves that items 11 and 12 be dealt with next.

Vote 15 for, the Resolution was passed.

**FC.11 NKDC meeting Oct 29<sup>th</sup>,** - report from that meeting. Mr A Plummer introduced himself to members.

The detail of the discussion, and the Resolution at this time are confidential.

**FC.12 Legal Services document** – Discuss and take report from meeting with solicitor. This was dealt with and resolved as recommendation 4.8 above.

**FC.8 COMPLAINT.** To discuss the outcome of a complaint. The Chairman said that a recent complaint had been dealt with satisfactorily.

**FC.9 PROTOCOL.** To remind Councillors of the protocol regarding staff. The Chairman reminded all Councillors about observing the protocols. Amendments to be made – ‘Leader’ to read ‘Chairman’  
It was resolved that all Councillors should be reminded of the protocols.

**FC.10 NKDC fact sheet** – look at circumstances surrounding the issue of this.

It was resolved that on this occasion, nothing should be done in view as it is too late.

**FC.13 Questions/comments from Open meeting and afterwards – report from WG.**

It was resolved that the meeting be extended for 15 minutes.

It was resolved that the paper including the replies should be accepted. The general comments and replies should be published on the web site.

The details of those attending the Church are to be passed to the WG members to be turned into facts and figure which can be published.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Before the meeting closed, Councillors were reminded of the need to respect the confidentiality of the discussions, the documents etc as the details is extremely sensitive.

At 9.16pm, there being no further business, the meeting was closed.