

TELSCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of a meeting of **TELSCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL** held on **Tuesday 16th March 2010** in Telscombe Civic Centre at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: Mr R Maskell (**Mayor**)
Mr P Howson (**Deputy Mayor**)
Mr J Harris, Ms M Pepper
Mr A Smith, Mr J Page
Mr T Armour, Mr J Livings
Mrs B Sawyers, Ms L Hallett

APOLOGIES

Councillors: Mr T Banning, Mr B Page
Mr D Neighbour

Police Sgt Vokins and PC Newman

The meeting was adjourned at 7.30 pm to take questions from members of the public.

A questioner asked for information in respect of the proposed Kent Gap on the bridleway accessing the A259 South Coast Road. The Clerk advised that access was required by heavy plant from EDF who were undertaking work to lay cables underground. The work had been delayed due to disputes further down the line. The Clerk undertook to establish the likely timescale and advise the resident.

The issue of damage to the grass verges by inconsiderate parking was raised by a resident. Cllr Livings advised there were three agencies involved, depending on the location of the vehicle. Vehicles parked on the verge were the responsibility of East Sussex enforcement officers (telephone 0345 608 0193). Cllr Livings advised it would be helpful if residents could provide photos of offending vehicles with the number plate visible and details of location to the enforcement officer. Vehicles causing an obstruction in an unrestricted area were the responsibility of the Police, and vehicles parked in a restricted area were the responsibility of the Lewes 'parking shop.' The resident requested that the agencies concerned should be encouraged to take more action against offenders.

A query was raised in respect of the three towns' community bus partnership service costs. The costs were explained as £2,200 per annum and that in the early days of the service this had equated to £25 per journey. The service was explained as a contract hire rather than a subsidies travel service. The purpose of the funding was to pump prime the service to ensure that it became self funding. Changes had been made that meant journeys were now possible across the whole area of the three towns –Newhaven, Peacehaven Telscombe and East Saltdean. In addition those under twelve could now travel free if accompanied by an adult. The service publicity was being undertaken by CTLA. The Town Council had also put adverts on the notice boards, an article in the civic newsletter and details on the Council's web site.

A query was raised in respect of the redundant bus stop in Longridge Avenue. The Clerk advised that a request had been made by the residents of The Martlets sheltered accommodation to have the shelter re-sited outside their accommodation. A request had been made to the landowners, thought to be the County Council, and a response was awaited. The alternative to moving the shelter to another site was to remove and scrap it.

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Contd. Public Question Time

A statement was made in respect of a recent meeting concerning possible development at the Saltdean Lido in West Saltdean and the non attendance of Telscombe Councillors. The Chairman advised that some Councillors were away and some did not receive notice of the meeting as it was a Brighton and Hove meeting.

492. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF PREJUDICIAL AND PERSONAL INTEREST

None.

493. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY AND MONDAY 1ST MARCH 2010

The minutes of both the above meetings were approved and signed as correct by the Chairman. It was **agreed** that the confidential pages would be signed at the next meeting when members of the public and press would be excluded.

494. MATTERS ARISING FOR NOTING

None.

495. TO CONSIDER SUBSCRIBING TO THE ACTION IN RURAL SUSSEX – SUSSEX ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS EMPLOYMENT HANDBOOK AND HELPLINE – DETAILS ATTACHED

The meeting considered a proposal to subscribe to the clerks employment handbook and helpline at an annual subscription cost of £400. The service included a handbook updated with latest employment information, access to an HR professional and half a day training for up to six people. It was proposed by Cllr Smith seconded by Cllr Howson and

RESOLVED that the Council subscribe to the local clerks employment handbook.

496. REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES: -

(a) PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2010

The Chairman requested that the minutes of the above meeting be accepted and that the recommendations contained therein be adopted. Seconded by Cllr Smith and it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the above meeting be accepted.

(b) POLICY AND RESOURCES MONDAY 1ST MARCH 2010

The Chairman requested that the minutes of the above meeting be accepted and that the recommendations contained therein be adopted. Seconded by Cllr Howson and it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the above meeting be accepted.

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496. Contd. Reports From the Following Committees: -

(b) Policy & Resources Monday 1st March 2010

It was **agreed** that the confidential pages would be taken to the next meeting when members of the public and press would be excluded.

(c) AMENITIES AND CIVIC CENTRE MONDAY 8TH MARCH 2010

The Chairman requested that the minutes of the above meeting be accepted and that the recommendations contained therein be adopted. Seconded by Cllr Sawyers and it was

497. NOTIFICATION OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2010

RESOLVED that payments of £14,994.77 for January 2010 be approved and receipts of £1,168.13 for January 2010 be noted.

RESOLVED that payments of £37,049.69 for February 2010 be approved and receipts of £1,447.43 for February 2010 be noted.

498. REPORTS FROM: -

(a) The Mayor

The Mayor advised he had nothing to report.

(b) The Deputy Mayor

The Deputy Mayor advised he had represented the Mayor at the recent quiz night.

(c) County Councillors

Cllr Livings advised that he was seeking support for a letter of objection to proposals for a twelve meter wide footpath across the Joff field. Cllr Livings advised the field was well used by residents from both Peacehaven and Telscombe, in particular local youth football teams. Cllr Livings advised he would be drafting a letter for consideration by the Planning and Highways Committee.

Cllr Livings reported that the County Council web site had achieved a top four star rating in a national survey. The County Council had been rated joint top for equality in respect of employment by Stonewall.

Cllr Livings advised that proposals for the relocation of the Newhaven recycling plant would be considered by the County Council planning committee on 24th March with a proposed move to the new site in October 2010.

Cllr Livings reported that the Crown Estates had granted a licence for an off shore wind farm between Newhaven and Brighton. The licence had a four years lead development time scale.

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498. **Contd. Reports From: -**

(c) **Contd. County Councillors**

The County Council trading standards department was increasing its campaign against scammers and criminals and urged residents to report any dubious literature they received – it could be handed in at the local library.

The Police and Crime Act 2009 had amended the legislation in respect of the offence of selling alcohol to children.

The County Council had received new funding from the Office of Fair Trading to establish an internet enforcement team.

Cllr Howson reported that the County Council's health scrutiny committee was maintaining a six monthly check on maternity units.

Cllr Howson advised that it is proposed to make Peacehaven and Telscombe a no cold calling area.

(d) **District Councillors**

Cllr Maskell reported that the District had set a 2.5% increase in its Council Tax. Details of recent changes in District Councillor responsibilities were also outlined with Councillor Saunders stepping down as lead Councillor on housing and Councillor Chartier taking over. Councillor Pepper asked if District Councillors would consider opposing a supermarket expansion in Lewes to help maintain the market town environment.

(e) **Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Cllr Livings advised he had the Minutes from the last Peacehaven and Telscombe Town Forum meeting, and would leave a copy with the Town Clerk.

Cllr Livings advised that Age Concern had a new Treasurer following the sad death of the previous Treasurer. Mr Bill Trill also died approximately 3 weeks ago. Mr Trill was also a member of the British Legion. The new Treasurer had found problems in paperwork with the Trustees and the Chairman and Treasurer were due to have a meeting with a solicitor to sort it out.

Councillor Hallett reported that the British Legion poppy appeal had raised £6,441 which was the most for a number of years. Funds were being used to help a £20million appeal for a new army recovery facility. Councillor Hallett concluded by advising the Legion are looking for a new meeting venue.

The meeting was advised that local parliamentary candidates would be attending various meetings of the Access Group and a coffee morning was being held to which Councillors were invited.

The Chairman advised that Telscombe Residents Association would receive a presentation from Southern Water at their next meeting on 1st April.

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498. **Contd. Reports From: -**

(c) **Contd. Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Cllr Harris reported that Neighbourhood Watch now had a full committee and a new Chairman and that the organisation continued to attract new members. Cllr Livings reported that he is a member of his local Neighbourhood Watch and that a recent attempted theft was reported and the culprits caught.

499. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS AS URGENT**

Councillor Armour outlined problems with a blocked gate on the Tye and he had been advised to obtain witness statements by the Police. The Town Clerk confirmed that he had attended a meeting with ESCC, but this was only in respect of bridleway 8. Cllr Smith advised that the Tye working party were working on the action plan from the Milton report and this would be included.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

Signed
Mayor, Cllr R Maskell

NB The next Council meeting will be the annual meeting of the Council and will be held on **Tuesday 18th May 2010** commencing at **8.00 pm**.