

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE
CANVEY ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL**

HELD AT THE METHODIST CHURCH, WAARDEN ROAD, CANVEY ISLAND ON

MONDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT:

Councillors: D. Blackwell (Chairman)
D. Anderson J. Anderson R. Bishop B. Dixie P. Greig
N. Harvey (Vice –Chairman) R. Howard (from 8pm)

Also present: Borough Councillor Neville Watson (until 7.55pm), six members of the public, one member of the press
Mrs J. Abel – Town Clerk

69. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. C. Andrews who was unwell, Cllr. P. Davies and Cllr J. Liddiard.

70. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

71. PUBLIC FORUM

A member of the public raised concerns about anti-social behaviour and under age drinking at King George V Playing Fields and at Smallgains.

72. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th July 2008 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

73. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH JULY 2008

Item 41.

Cllr. Bishop advised that the member of the public who had wished to scrutinize the accounts had been able to do this at a Saturday Surgery.

Item 43.20 Canvey Lake

Cllr. Anderson reported that members of the working group had been asked to feed back on the feasibility study presented at a recent meeting and that the proposals would ensure that the Lake would provide an improved and continuing valuable amenity to the local population.

Item 52. Waterside Farm Roundabout – Dragonfly Sculpture

The Clerk reported that Buglife had indicated that it would need further information prior to agreeing the installation of the dragonfly sculpture on Waterside Farm roundabout. Permission had been sought from ECC and a viewing of the sculpture was to be arranged for the Highways Engineer.

Item 53. Seafront Gardens – Bumblebee Park

Members of the Council had met with officers from CPBC and the Clerk on site. However, due to councillor and staff holidays it had not been possible to progress this further.

Item 54. Town Centre Planters

The Clerk reported that the six planters would be delivered on 3rd September to Canvey Supply Co. who had offered to assist with locating the planters in the town centre.

Item 60. Community Initiatives Fund (youth)

The Clerk advised that the application for funds required for the redevelopment of the bungalow at the Skateboard Park may now be made by the Skateboard Group directly. A meeting was to take place on 3rd September at the Bungalow to review the proposals for the building.

Item 63. Reports from Castle Point Borough Councillors

The Council noted that residents requests were still being received to see the new bandstand used for something purposeful. The Clerk reported that it was understood it may feature in some of the Christmas festivities planned by the community.

74. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

i) ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2008 were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. John Anderson.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee meeting attached as appendix A and the recommendations therein are adopted by the Council.

Cllr. R. Howard joined the meeting at 8pm.

ii) PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th August 2008 were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Barry Dixie.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting attached as Appendix B and the resolutions therein are adopted by the Council.

iii) COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th August 2008 were presented by a member of the Committee, Cllr. Dave Blackwell, in the absence of the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Joan Liddiard.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Relations Committee meeting attached as Appendix C and the recommendations therein are adopted by the Council with the following exception:

11. Bus Services

The RECOMMENDATION that an application is made to ECC for the provision of a new shelter at the bottom of Seaview Road at the junction with Eastern Esplanade was not accepted and was referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

iv) POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th August 2008 were presented by a member of the Committee, Cllr. R. Bishop, in the absence of the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. P. Davies.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting attached as Appendix D and the recommendations therein are adopted by the Council with the following exception:

Item 5ii) Grant Applications c) Disability Essex

Cllr. B. Dixie proposed that the wording of the minutes be amended as follows:

RECOMMEND that the application is refused as the Committee felt that the organization's application did not meet the criteria.

RESOLVED that this wording is adopted.

75. CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

Councillors received a short verbal report of a meeting between Cllr. Blackwell, Cllr. Liddiard, the Clerk, representatives from the Transport Museum and the proprietor of GMD Mowers. Positive discussions had taken place about the Christmas festivities for 2008. The Council had been asked to contact school choirs, dance schools and the Salvation Army to establish whether they would be prepared to attend and support weekend events leading up to Christmas. It was proposed that they would be sited outside the Library and permission would be required from ECC for this.

Members considered the possibility of transferring the budget for councillor allowances by virement to a budget to be used for Christmas events. The Clerk advised that this suggestion should be considered by the Policy and Finance Committee initially.

RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to all local schools, dance schools and the Salvation Army to invite them to take part in the festivities being organized. The Clerk also to request permission from ECC to use the area outside the Library for Christmas events.

76. COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

Councillors discussed the regularity of the surgeries and felt that it could be advantageous to make these fortnightly instead of weekly.

RESOLVED that Councillor Saturday Surgeries are held fortnightly from 4th October 2008 and that Councillor contact details and dates for surgeries are displayed in the Council Office window.

77. TOWN CENTRE ENHANCEMENT

Councillors noted that the Essex Probation Service had now started to repaint the railings in the town centre. The Clerk reported the cost of supplies for the railing painting to be £229.79 + VAT. The Clerk confirmed that two quotes for supply had been obtained.

Members agreed that this scheme together with the replacement of lamp columns and installation of planters would markedly improve the appearance of Canvey town centre.

78. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY PRESENTATION

Members noted the presentation dates of 17th and 21st September at the Oysterfleet Hotel entitled '*The tide is high....and getting higher*'. Cllr. Howard encouraged members and the public to attend.

79. TRAINING

i) Code of Conduct

Members were encouraged to attend training being delivered by the CPBC Monitoring Officer on 10th September 2008.

ii) New Clerk's Day, 7th October 2008

RESOLVED to enable Mrs De Can to attend the training event at EALC at a cost of £52 plus travel expenses.

80. REPORTS FROM CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Howard outlined the new Pink Sack recycling scheme which was to be rolled out in October. Additional bags would be available at CPBC offices and the Library. It was suggested that a supply could also be held by the Town Council office.

81. REPORTS FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Howard briefed members on the agenda for the South Essex Area Forum meeting which was to be held on 8th September. Members and the public were encouraged to attend.

Cllr. Howard spoke of his dissatisfaction with the current situation regarding claims made by local motorists who's vehicles were damaged during road works on Canvey Way. The ECC Contractor was refuting all claims of vehicle damage. Cllr. Howard advised that he would be pursuing this with ECC.

Cllr. Howard reminded members of the siren testing on the Island which would be taking place on Saturday 6th September. Members considered the need for an emergency plan and it was felt that this matter could be referred to the Community Relations committee.
The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

CHAIRMAN