

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
OF THE CANVEY ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE PADDOCKS, LONG ROAD, CANVEY ISLAND ON  
MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2008 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors (Committee Members): J. Liddiard (Chairman) D. Anderson  
D. Blackwell R. Howard  
Non-committee members: Cllrs J. Anderson (from 8.40pm) R. Bishop B. Dixie P.Greig

Also present: Three members of the public

Mrs Julie Abel – Town Clerk

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. P. Davies who had a work commitment.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were received.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mo matters were raised.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

**Item 4.11. Bus Services**

Councillors felt that further information was required from ECC about the incidents of vandalism to buses cited. Cllr. Howard advised that residents had raised a petition to have the service reinstated.

**AGREED** the Clerk to write again to ECC to seek information on the incidents of vandalism.

**5. CANVEY'S GOT TALENT**

The Committee welcomed Mr Graham Hyde to the meeting to discuss the proposal that the Town Council organizes an annual talent show which made use of the bandstand.

**AGREED** to defer further consideration of this matter to the next meeting.

**6. TOWN CENTRE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES**

The Committee thanked Mrs Abel and Mrs De Can for organizing the successful Christmas festivities and light switch on held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2008 in the town. Cllr. Rod Bishop was also thanked for his significant contribution to the day. The Committee was keen to see this event continue in future years and was particularly pleased to acknowledge the clear benefits of working in partnership with other organizations such as the Library and the Knightswick Centre.

**i) CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2009**

Members noted that the Town Council/CPBC's contract with Lumalite had now ended and that a new contract would need to be negotiated for lighting in the Town for 2009.

**RECOMMEND** that a budget of £5,000 is raised for lighting in 2009.

**ii) CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES 2009**

**RECOMMEND** that a budget of £5,000 is raised for festivities in 2009.

## 7. CANVEY FESTIVAL

The Clerk reported that there had not been an opportunity to progress this event as a great deal of staff time had been taken in organizing the Christmas event and installation of the town Christmas tree. The Committee discussed the need for an additional member of Council staff to take responsibility for event organization.

**AGREED** that;

- the Clerk organizes a meeting between interested organizations and the events organizer from Barleylands at an early opportunity
- the Policy and Finance committee is asked to consider the implications of employing an events' organizer at its next meeting..

## 8. CRIME REDUCTION - PUBLIC MEETING

**AGREED** that the Committee keeps a watching brief on the need for a meeting.

## 9. WAR MEMORIAL – MAINTENANCE

The Committee noted the success of the recent Remembrance service held at the memorial at The Paddocks. The Council had not yet received a response to its letter to CPBC advising of CITC's willingness to take responsibility for the maintenance of the garden area. Cllr. Howard advised that he had been in contact with the Canvey Royal British Legion which was keen to progress the matter of replacing the war memorial. Members felt that the community's preferred location for the memorial was The Paddocks.

**RECOMMEND** the Clerk to write to CPBC to advise that the Council is disappointed that CPBC to relocate the memorial and that CITC feels that the community's preferred location for it is on The Paddocks site.

## 10. HESTER PLAQUE

The Clerk reported that the owners of Winter Garden Post Office were unwilling to have the plaque erected on the premises and had suggested displaying it on a post nearby. Members felt that this would compromise the security of the plaque. Councillors suggested Hilton Road Baptist Church or the Community Hall as alternative locations.

**AGREED** Cllr. Joan Liddiard to meet with the resident who proposed the project initially to establish an alternative location for the plaque.

## 9. INSTALLATION OF NEW BUS SHELTERS

The Clerk reported three locations suggested by councillors for the provision of new bus shelters as follows:

- Furtherwick Road, outside the chemist near Grafton Road
- Between Maurice Road and Arcadia Road in front of Phoenix Stores
- Dovernelt Road, opposite Nearbuys

Councillors noted that the Clerk intended to arrange an assessment of the locations by an ECC Highways officer prior to submission of the grant application. The Committee felt that any new bus shelters should be in keeping with those already in situ. The Clerk advised that when the Council owned its own shelters it would become responsible for their maintenance.

**AGREED** that the Committee's preferred location for the installation of a new shelter was at Furtherwick Road. The Clerk to submit an application for funding for a shelter in this location subject to a satisfactory assessment by the Highways officer. The style of the shelter to be negotiated with ECC prior to installation.

**RECOMMEND** that the Council raises a budget for bus shelter installation in 2009 of £5000.

## **10. COMMUNITY DIRECTORY**

The Clerk outlined a proposal received from a member of the public that the Council considered preparing an annual directory to be delivered to each home detailing clubs and organizations on the Island. Members discussed this at length. The Clerk pointed out that it would not be possible for the Council's existing staff to take responsibility for producing this.

**AGREED** that the Clerk obtains an indication of the cost of production and delivery of a community directory to be reported to the next meeting.

## **11. NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS – PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

The Committee was disappointed not to have received any suggestions for collaborative working from the two Forums. It was suggested that the Committee could raise a budget to assist in achieving joint capital projects on the Island however, this was not considered necessary at this stage.

**AGREED** the Clerk to write to John Riley (CPBC) to advise of the Council's willingness to work with the Forums.

## **12. NOTICE BOARDS**

The Council noted the recent success of its application for £6,000 to the Community Initiative Fund for financial assistance with the purchase of Town Council notice boards.

The Clerk advised that the cost of seven notice boards (one for each ward and one for the outside of the Council Office) was in the region of £14,000 for a style which was similar to those of CPBCs.

**RECOMMEND** that the Council meets the balance of the cost of seven notice boards at a sum not exceeding £8000.

## **13. FOUR YEAR PLAN**

The Clerk outlined the benefits of creating a medium term forward plan for the committee.

**AGREED** that the Clerk prepares a draft four year plan to be presented to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

CHAIRMAN