

**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 4TH AUGUST 2008 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: J. Liddiard (Chairman)  
D. Anderson C. Andrews D. Blackwell P Davies R. Howard  
N. Harvey

Non-committee members: Cllrs J. Anderson R. Bishop B. Dixie P. Greig

Also present: One member of the public  
Mrs J. Abel – Town Clerk

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All members of the Committee were present.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. R. Howard declared a personal interest in item 7. War Memorial as he is President of the Canvey Island branch of the Royal British Legion.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no contributions received from the public.

**4. CASTLEPOINT ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES (CAVS)**

Cllr. Liddiard welcomed Michaela White and Barry McCarthy of CAVS to the meeting. Councillors then received a presentation from CAVS on the services they provide to the community. CAVS were thanked by the Committee for the work they do in the community. The Committee expressed an interest in working with CAVS in the future. A meeting was being arranged with the Town Clerk to progress this.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING OF 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

**Item 10. Website**

The Clerk reported that the website was now 'live' although further information would be uploaded over the next few weeks.

**Item 11. Coat of Arms/Corporate Identity**

The Clerk reported that lapel badges and photographic ID badges had now been obtained and supplied to Councillors.

The certification for the completion of the coat of arms transfer was due to be sent shortly from the College of Arms.

**Item 12. Councillor Surgeries**

Discussion took place about the need for a rota to ensure councillor availability at the surgeries. It was reported that Borough Councillors had been assisting with the Saturday surgeries. Members agreed that the surgeries would not be able to operate continuously during the holiday period and

the Clerk was asked to advertise that the surgeries would not take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2008. It was suggested that surgeries should be reduced to once a fortnight.

**AGREED** that the matter of holding fortnightly surgeries instead of weekly is considered at the next Council meeting.

## **6. FESTIVE LIGHTING**

The Clerk reported that it was still hoped that Essex County Council would ensure the installation of replacement lamp columns in the Town Centre in sufficient time to allow the festive lighting contractor to erect lighting.

Confirmation was received that the contractor would install LED lighting on the Christmas Tree. The Committee discussed increasing the size of the tree.

The Clerk advised that CPBC were currently unable to provide a date for the light switch on.

**AGREED** that the Clerk sources costs for a 20' tree and the associated lighting. Costs to be reported to the next Council Meeting.

## **7. CANVEY FESTIVAL**

It was reported that a meeting had taken place between Cllr. D. Anderson, the Clerk and the Chairman of the Council to look at ways of progressing this.

**AGREED** that:

- A group of community volunteers is established to source entertainments, acts and stallholders;
- A letter is sent to key organizations and businesses to establish whether they wish to participate in and contribute to the organization of a Festival. Councillors to advise the Clerk of specific organizations they would like the Clerk to contact;
- Following the establishment of a community group comprising of individuals, businesses and organizations, and councillors to progress the Festival, the Clerk writes to relevant seaside traders to advise of the proposals to organize a Festival type event.

## **8. WAR MEMORIAL**

Members were shocked and disappointed to receive a report that the Borough Council had recently formed a view that the War Memorial at The Paddocks should not be renovated in its current position due to uncertainties over the future of the site. Cllr. R. Howard reported that CPBC and ECC were keen to meet with the Town Council to investigate alternative sites for a new war memorial.

The Committee was conscious of the residual issue of the poor condition of the surrounding Remembrance Gardens. Cllr. R. Howard reported that the Town Council had been informally requested to contribute £5000 towards the cost of the Garden renovation. The Committee felt that this sum was excessive.

**AGREED** that the Clerk writes to CPBC to request that the Town Council is given responsibility for upgrading the Gardens in advance of this year's Remembrance Service.

## **9. COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES**

### **i) WINTER GARDENS**

It was reported that although verbal permission had been received from the postmistress at the Winter Gardens Post Office to erect the plaque, written permission was still required. The Clerk

sought clarification on the wording for the plaque. A quote was reported by the Clerk from a specialist Council sign maker of £160 + VAT.

**AGREED** the Clerk to order the Plaque at a maximum cost of £200 + VAT.

## **10. FIRST AID TRAINING**

Councillors noted the Clerk's report of the successful pilot scheme delivered to year 7 children at Castle View School. Some preliminary investigations have been made into delivering further training to children at all three of the Island's secondary schools in 2009. Initial indications were that all the emergency services would be prepared to take part in a citizenship type scheme. An enquiry had been made of the South Essex Area Forum to establish whether an application for funding could be made. Members noted that any application would need to be made in the first week of September and would be viewed more positively if it could demonstrate matched funding. The Committee gave consideration to whether it felt the Council should pursue this training initiative and whether it felt the Council should contribute to the scheme.

**RECOMMEND** that the Council commits a budget of £5000 towards the cost of First Aid/ Citizenship training to year 7 children at the three secondary schools on Canvey Island and supports the Fire Break initiative delivered by the Essex Fire Service.

## **11. BUS SERVICES**

### **i) Installation of new bus shelters**

The Clerk reported grant availability from ECC for the provision of new bus shelters. Members submitted suggestions for possible locations for new shelters. The Clerk advised that the choice of shelter styles was limited and dictated by ECC.

**RECOMMEND** 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. The style of shelter to be agreed by the Clerk and Cllr. Liddiard.

### **ii) Residents suggestions for improvements to local services**

Two residents had submitted suggestions in the Council's suggestion box which were considered by the Committee as follows:

- *That a bus service is provided from the Town Centre to Morrisons.*

**AGREED** that a letter is sent to Morrisons to request that it considers providing transport to its store for residents

- *That the current service along Eastern Esplanade runs later than 8.30pm.*

**AGREED** that the Clerk writes to ECC to request that it considers extending the period of service for this route beyond 8.30pm.

A member of the Committee suggested that a bus service which travelled to Morrisons would also be useful for visitors to the Cemetery.

**AGREED** to write to ECC to request that it considers providing a service to the Cemetery and Morrisons.

## **12. CASTLE POINT HOME SAFETY AND HEALTH PROMOTION COMMITTEE**

Councillors considered an invitation to send a representative to the Committee's meetings. Unfortunately, there were no councillors who were able to attend these daytime meetings.

**AGREED** the Clerk to write to advise CPBC that the Council would not be sending a representative to its meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

CHAIRMAN