

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11 JULY 2016
AT 7:00 PM IN THE MOOT HALL**

Present: Cllr Digby - The Mayor, took the Chair
Cllr Bond Cllr Fellowes
Cllr Fox Cllr Harris
Cllr Kiff Cllr Palmer
Cllr Walker Cllr Worster

There were two members of the public present, in addition to Cllr Richard Smith – SCC.

1. **Apologies:** Apologies had been received prior to the meeting from Cllrs S Jones & S Osben, in addition to Cllrs TJ Haworth-Culf & M Jones – SCDC.
2. **Councillors' Declaration of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
3. **To Approve the Draft Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 June 2016.**
Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 June 2016 were **APPROVED**. The Minutes were **APPROVED** and duly signed. As Cllr Kiff was not at last month's meeting, he abstained.
4. **SCC report and Correspondence**
Cllr Smith delivered his report and invited questions. (see Appendix One).

Cllr Worster asked whether the County Council could do anything about the smell near the Black Horse and the Town Clerk advised that this is an ongoing issue which Anglian Water are addressing, caused by the level of rainfall in the last few weeks.

Cllr Kiff asked what form the consultation for devolution will take and Cllr Smith explained that it will take an online format.

Cllr Walker asked about a Rights of Way consultation that he believed ends on 24 July. Cllr Smith and the Town Clerk had no knowledge of this, but agreed to investigate further.

The Town Clerk asked for clarification around the process associated with the potential speed reduction on Leiston Road. She had spoken to Cllr Smith on previous occasions and was aware that although there was support locally for this scheme, there was also opposition to the introduction of the 40mph by other residents who were frequent users of the road, as they believed there was very little evidence to support this decision. She had been asked by a resident to ask Cllr Smith what justification there was in these times of austerity to introduce this change, at a significant cost to the tax-payer. She had been given anecdotal evidence of many more accidents along the stretch of road towards Black Heath corner, including fatalities where there is no plan to address road safety. Cllr Smith acknowledged this point and agreed to send the Town Clerk a copy of the Speed Limit report and Cllr Worster commented on the 'noisy minority.'

5. **SCDC Report and Correspondence**

Cllr Haworth-Culf had produced a report to be circulated to Cllrs in her absence (see Appendix Two).

6. **Police Report**

A short report had been supplied by PCSO Kevin Mann, who had worked fewer days than normal in the last month due to annual leave. Eleven parking tickets had been issued, four cautions had been given in June and thirteen motorists will be receiving letters for driving at excessive speed in the town.

7. **PUBLIC FORUM**

The Mayor suspended Standing Orders to invite questions from the public gallery.

A resident questioned Cllr Smith about the introduction of double yellow lines on Crabbe Street rather than replacing single lines that were in place before the resurfacing. Cllr Smith agreed to look into this matter, as it was not permitted to change the line markings without a previously agreed Traffic Regulation Order.

There were no further questions from the Public Gallery and so the Mayor reinstated Standing Orders.

COMMITTEES REPORTS:

8a. **PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

8ai) **Report from Chairman of Property & Finance Committee**

In the absence of Cllrs Jones and Osben, there was no report this month, but the Town Clerk commented on the progress being made with the works to the Groundsman's Cottage, particularly the emergency repairs resulting in a new roof.

8aii) **RESOLUTION to APPROVE** that ATC awards the contract to replace the roof on the Groundsman's Cottage to the company that submitted the most competitive quotation and that can carry out the work in the timeliest fashion.

PROPOSED by Cllr Worster. **SECONDED** by Cllr Harris.

9 In Favour

0 Against

0 Abstentions

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8b. **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

8bi) **Report from Chairman of Services**

Cllr Palmer was pleased that although a number of matters continued to develop, there was nothing to report this month. He was anticipating the receipt of information that would enable full discussion at the Committees meeting.

8c. **PLANNING**

8ci) **Report from Chairman of Planning**

Cllr Worster reported that an application had been received to convert part of 152 High Street into four residential flats and the application to build forty-three new homes on the former Brick Dock site is due to be reviewed by the Planning Committee at SCDC on 21 July. Together with Cllr Bond, he is working on the representation that ATC will make.

8d. GRANTS, REQUESTS & EVENTS

8di) Report from Chairman of Grants, Requests and Events Committee

Cllr Bond had nothing to report at this meeting.

9. Representatives' Reports.

- Cllr Bond with Cllr Worster had attended a Heritage training session hosted by Suffolk Preservation Society.
- Cllr Harris had been to a meeting of the Museum Trustees on 24 June. He also requested permission to be the Council's representative for the RNLI, given that both bodies would need to be involved in the preparations for a new lifeboat coming to Aldeburgh. This was **APPROVED** by a **UNANIMOUS** show of hands.
- Cllr Kiff reported on the ABA meeting he attended at The Red House on 6 July and explained that there had been a disappointing response to the hanging baskets appeal this year resulting in a shortfall. There was also a presentation by one of the Economic Development Officer for SCDC.
- Cllr Walker had appealed on Facebook for suggestions about a BMX or scooter track on Kemp's Field and was pleased with the initial response.
- Cllr Palmer, along with other Cllrs had been involved with several Neighbourhood Plan meetings.
- Cllr Worster had been involved with the Jubilee Hall Trustees to discuss the necessary repairs and renovation to the building.

10. Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk reported that the Annual Return had been submitted to the external auditor and she awaited feedback. Their report is usually issued by the end of September.

Discussions continue concerning Police resource within the town and she hoped to bring this item to the next Committees meeting for further discussion. It appeared that the choices were becoming stark; either pay more than twice the current amount for a lesser level of service or have no resource at all. The Town Clerk had put forward a proposal suggesting a seasonal resource, but this has also been rejected by the Constabulary. There is a meeting with the new area Inspector on Tuesday 19 July.

Cllrs have been invited to the opening night of the Summer Theatre and a selection of performances at Snape Proms as the guests of Aldeburgh Music.

11. Mayor's Notes.

The Mayor reported that he had been involved in a variety of events and meetings during the past month. These included;

- 19 June – Aldeburgh Music Festival Service
- 21 June – Presented prizes for Carnival Poster Competition and chaired the Carnival Meeting
- 25 June – Rugby Club Presentation Dinner
- 26 June – Felixstowe Civic Service
- 30 June – The High Sheriff of Suffolk's evening of music at Snape Maltings
- 1 July – Attended an opening for local artists at the Peter Pears Gallery

- 3 July - Bury St Edmunds Civic Service
- 6 July – Attended and presented prizes at Aldeburgh Primary School Sports Day followed by cake-cutting at an Aldeburgh Primary School Reunion party.

12. Correspondence

A letter had been received expressing disappointment at the lack of facilities for people wanting holidays in Aldeburgh without having to pay premium prices. It gave examples of the caravan site effectively being another method to have a second home in town and was dismayed by the lack of B&B accommodation. Cllrs acknowledged that the letter made a number of valid points and the Town Clerk intended to circulate to the ABA and the DMO team at SCDC. There was then a short conversation about affordable accommodation in the area, concluding that the Youth Hostel at Blashill was probably the most reasonably priced.

13. Gifts and/or Hospitality Received by Councillors

Cllrs had nothing to declare this month.

14. Items to pay – details had been previously circulated to Cllrs.

All payments were **PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL**
PROPOSED by Cllr Fox. **SECONDED** by Cllr Kiff.

9 In Favour

0 Against

0 Abstentions

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting ended at 7.45 pm.

There followed a brief In-Camera Council meeting regarding a financially sensitive matter.

The next meeting of Aldeburgh Town Council will take place on Monday 8 August 2016 at 7.00 pm in The Moot Hall.