



Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council of

Westgate-On Sea Town Council

on Tuesday 8th January 2019

Held at

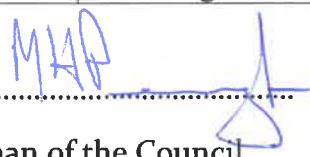
**United Reformed Church, 54 Westgate Bay Avenue,
Westgate-On-Sea, Kent CT8 8SN**

Present	Cllrs Pennington (Chairman), Cornford, King, Nightingale, O'Connor, Page, Rolfe, H Scott, M Scott	
Also, in attendance	Mrs Gill Gray (Town Clerk), 7 members of the public, Cllr Bambridge (TDC) and Cllr Dawson (KCC)	
	Chairman's Welcome The Chairman opened the meeting with the usual "housekeeping" instructions and advised that the meeting was being recorded on a video camera. It was agreed that Item 12 would be moved to follow Item 8.	
1 586	To receive apologies for absence Cllr Micallef and Laura Bungard	
1 587	Minutes a)RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th December 2018 be signed and approved as a true record of the meeting.	
1 588	Members' Declarations of Interest None	
1 589	Report of the Community Warden The Town Clerk advised that the Community Warden had sent her apologies; there was no monthly report to Council due to Christmas break.	
1 590	County and Thanet District Councillors' Reports Kent County Councillor Dawson provided a report to Council on various issues including Westgate Library, zebra crossing on Westgate Bay Avenue, litter signage and proposed crossing outside Ursuline College. Cllr Pennington enquired if a meeting could be arranged with the KCC Cabinet Member to discuss proposals; Cllr Dawson agreed to try to facilitate this on behalf of Town Council. Discussions followed which focussed on disabled access needed, funding shortfalls and how these could be met. Thanet District Councillor Bambridge provided a report to Council on various issues including Westgate Pavilion and the need works to be undertaken to utilise the venue, Manston airport site, freight contract for Ramsgate ferry	

	terminal, Local Plan progress and litter problem in gardens of Ethelbert Square.	
1 591	<p>Public Participation Session</p> <p>There were no requests received by the Clerk for public participation at this meeting.</p>	
1 592	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>The Chairman reported on the recent attendance to the Westgate Pavilion to observe the issues facing the group who own the property. The Community Development Officer from TDC has recently met with the Chairman and Town Clerk which was beneficial for the exchange of information on both sides; hopefully closer working relationship as a result. The Chairman added that there had been discussions commenced with Margate Civic Society to discuss the issues identified at the October Council meeting.</p>	
1 593	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>The Town Clerk reported on the process adopted last year for dealing with issues relating to Members, internal issues including procedure and staff performance. The outcomes were that all complaints were not received in writing or were resolved; therefore, issues are now closed. The Town Clerk reminded all Members of the Code of Conduct and Social Media Policy; copies were provided at the meeting. Following recommendations from the HR Committee it is requested that all Members sign a declaration to confirm the policies are read and understood. The Town Clerk advised of a recent NALC communication that raised the issue of bad behaviour nationally, following consultation a report is due to be published shortly by the Committee on Standards in Public Life, it is hoped that the Town Council can endorse any proposed process change as a result. The Town Clerk added that the administrator had coped professionally in December and proved herself to be an asset to the Town Council.</p>	
1 594	<p>Councillor's Reports</p> <p>Cllr Rolfe reported that sadly a resident had died recently and therefore it was important to get the defibrillator out on site as soon as possible. The Town Clerk agreed to treat this as a priority for this month and to ensure a list of defibrillators available in the Town was made available on the Town Council website and social media.</p> <p>Cllr M Scott reported that there was growing evidence on social media that there was an increase in criminal behaviour; the Town Clerk agreed to invite the local PCSO to the Council meeting in February.</p>	

	<p>Cllr O'Connor was pleased to report that road markings were being repainted in some locations; this is welcomed to help reduce accidents.</p> <p>Cllr King requested an update on the position with the Margate Civic Society and the proposed Asset Transfer for the Recreation Ground Lymington Road. Cllr King urged Members to identify income streams and adopt assets from TDC; he suggested the provision of beach huts and acquiring a kiosk for potential income streams. Cllr O'Connor added that a Working Group could be formed to look at options, to source grants and invite volunteers to get actively involved.</p> <p>The Town Clerk suggested contact with the Coastal Tourism and Development Manager would be the best approach for any proposals for the foreshore area. It was agreed that any proposals should be detailed in writing and feasibility studies undertaken before progressing and debating; Cllr O'Connor agreed to provide a draft template for Members to debate and agree at the next Council meeting.</p> <p>Cllr H Scott reported that knitted poppies for Remembrance 2019 were well underway and Cllr Micallef has been instrumental in this initiative.</p>	
<p>1 595</p>	<p>Finance Reports</p> <p>The Town Clerk presented Members with the Bank Reconciliations for November; Budget versus Expenditure Report to end of November 2018; Forecast Report to end of November 2018.</p> <p>A, B and C It was RESOLVED: that the Finance Reports were received.</p> <p>Cllr King requested that a payments report should be produced for the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting; Town Clerk and Cllr O'Connor to work on this together.</p>	
<p>1 596</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Cllr H Scott requested that the 14 Suffolk Avenue application be discussed first as some members of the public had attended the meeting to listen to debate, the Chairman agreed.</p> <p>F/TH/18/1109</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: that comments that were made by Kent Highways in relation to this application be echoed by the Town Council and a request for the extension of the consultation period be supported.</p> <p>FH/TH/18/1561</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: that no objections were raised by Council.</p>	

	<p>FH/TH/18/1672 It was RESOLVED: to ask CAAG for comments and a view on the design as this was in the Conservation Area.</p> <p>F/TH/18/1678 It was RESOLVED: to raise objections to this application under Policy D1 which is on the grounds of no natural light, lack of ventilation, potential fire risk and lack of outward facing aspect (ie no external windows).</p> <p>F/TH/18/1678 – 1800042REF – Planning Inspectorate Reference APP/Z2260/W/18/3213363 It was RESOLVED: Town Clerk to draft a response for Cllr H Scott to enhance and submit to the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Town Council by the deadline of 28.01.19.</p>	
1597	<p>Draft Strategy and possible Tiering of Westgate Library Members were advised of the consultation meetings taking place at the Ramsgate and Margate libraries on 23.01.19. After discussions it was agreed that the Chairman would contact the Chairman at Birchington PC to investigate their approach. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should source a copy of the latest Libraries and Museums Act to share with Members. It was agreed that Members should respond individually to the consultation on this matter as there was no clear mandate following discussions. The Chairman agreed to draft and send a formal letter to KCC to relay the concerns of the Town Council. The Town Clerk to display a poster and have information for residents at the Council offices. Cllr M Scott to assist with linking from website to social media to raise awareness for residents in the community.</p>	
1 598	<p>Next Meeting The next meeting is 5th February 2019</p>	
1 599	<p>Meeting Closed at 8.46pm</p>	

Signed.....

Chairman of the Council

Dated.....
