



**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of
Westgate-on-Sea Town Council held in Town Council Office
78 St Mildreds Road, Westgate on Sea CT8 8RF
Held on Tuesday 5th June 2024 at 7.00pm**

Present

Cllrs Wallin (Chair); Worrow (Vice-Chair); Thomason; King; Veck; Scott.

Also in attendance

Ms Nabila Yakub (Interim Town Clerk); Cllr Derek Crow-Brown (KCC), Jason and Aaron (Community Warden); approx. 8 residents

To receive apologies and grounds for absence

Cllr Donaldson (family commitments); Cllr Mulinya (holiday)

Members' Interests

Cllr King: Non-pecuniary but mentions a connection to the union bus service

Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting dated 24th May 2024 be signed and approved as a correct recording of the meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Closed Session of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting dated 24th May 2024 be signed and approved as a correct recording of the meeting

Updates

Jason Gordon (Community Warden): reports no major incidents have taken place. He reports on work done for the upkeep and wellbeing of Westgate-on-Sea town and residents, including reporting on potholes and fly-tipping, as well as his support to volunteers serving dinner to 60 residents at the church and the scam talks he is holding.

Aaron Kluibenschadl: Team Leader for Thanet and Canterbury. Reports cuts to the service by £1 million and the resulting geographical placement for staff remaining. From 12 wardens, only 5 are left (3 in Canterbury, 2 in Thanet). Reports on the importance of the warden service for wellbeing, welfare visits, self-referrals, as well as being a visible presence on streets.

Aaron introduced the new Case Management System, to record how wardens are performing, which is also important to track the needs of residents and cross-reference them with social services.

Cllr Wallin: reads report by PCSO Steven England

Resident: Informs about the removal of signs "No solar panels on farmland". Also refers to Manston Special Developments, to replace the old buildings there – hopes that a historical mural there will be protected.

Cllr King: refers to Cllr Crow-Brown with reference to the 35 Bus, maintaining that there are good grounds for a review on the basis of the 9-point plan, the first two of which refer directly to the elderly and the disabled. Informs that a Quality Impact Assessment was not carried out and hopes that, as a Community Councillor, Cllr Crow-Brown will represent us in obtaining this review. Cllr Crow-Brown agrees to help Cllr King in this process.

District Cllrs

Cllr Scott: reports on ongoing issue of fly-tipping on Station Road and St Mildreds Road and mentions that some flats are not being served by rubbish collection. Mentions that some properties have received seagull-proof bags, which are necessary but must also be brought in and out.

Cllr Scott would like to have a Ward Walk to go around areas. Jason Gordon agrees to inform Councillors when the next Ward Walk takes place.

Cllr Scott asks to be encompassed within the work party of Cllr King and Cllr Crow-Brown.

Town Councillors' Reports

Cllr Wallin:

- Announces updating the audio and video system for recording meetings in the next few weeks
- Was satisfied with the Annual Town Meeting and the speakers present
- Mentions some ongoing issues, due to historical and also current reasons
- Mentions the many post-it stickers at the Annual Town Meeting about the skatepark and recommends getting the current one into good condition before opening a new play-area
- Will begin publishing attendance records of Councillors at meetings
- Mentions that some Councillors are favourable to holding meetings once every 6 weeks
- Informs that he had a positive meeting at Manston with Tony Freudman
- Lists the Members to each Committee (Finance and General Purpose, Planning, HR, Events and Tourism)
- Proposes that the Planning Committee meet before every Full Council meeting
- Proposes that the Events Committee meet every 3 months

Cllr Worrow:

- Proposes holding meetings every 6 weeks if we want to improve attendance
- Regarding Planning, objects to the small Chapel in the Sea Bathing Hospital complex to be turned into a flat due to its historic importance

Cllr Thomason:

- Requests as much notice as possible by email regarding upcoming meetings

Cllr King:

- Emphasizes the importance of correct procedures
- Regarding Committees, mentions that appointments are made at the Annual General Meeting. Should a Councillor wish to join a Committee they are to put their name forward for vote in FC.
- Recommends that Councillors go and attend other Town Councils' meetings
- Informs that the play-area has already been agreed upon and budgeted and therefore cannot be delayed or overturned, and that the skatepark repairs should not be done at the expense of the new play area.
- Emphasizes that Committees have become a priority and that a calendar must be drawn up to be presented on the Agenda. Also that Events are very important to the town and that meetings once every 3 months is too few.

Cllr Worrow:

- Proposal to add to the next Agenda: Full Council once every 6 weeks.

Accounts and Audits:

Cllr Wallin: Informs that he cannot say much due to ongoing legal issues.

- Cllr Wallin reads from Cllr Donaldson's report: The Internal Audit has been completed by Roger Taylor Popplett. The external Auditor will be Mazars.
- An Internal Auditor is required, who must be a Councillor. A member of the Finance Committee is recommended.

D-Day Event

Cllr Wallin reports on D-Day activities. A double-sided flag was purchased, which will be displayed in the Council offices after the beacon lighting ceremony.

Public Right to Speak

A resident asks whether the Council paid for the flag. Cllr Worrow proposes the Council refund Cllr Wallin for it. Proposal was not seconded.

A resident asks about Allotment Meetings and whether there will be an Allotment Sub-committee. It was agreed that there will.

A resident asks whether Alison Eardley has been contacted. It was resolved that Cllr Veck will contact Alison to request updates and inform the Jacqui and Maureen of the WAGAH group.

There were some complaints about words said in front of the public both at the Annual Town Meeting and at the Annual General Meeting.

A resident proposes and Cllr Worrow agrees that Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge be merged into a single Town Council.

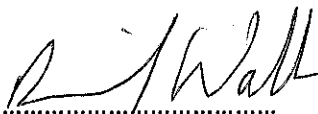
A resident recommends planning for meetings in advance, such as Christmas, and involving all the town groups in organising them.

A Councillor proposes having non-councillors in the Events Committee. Three of the residents present state they are willing to join.

Next meeting

Full Council called for 3rd July 2024 at 7 pm

Meeting was closed at 8.35 pm

Signed  Dated.....

Chair of the Council