

WESTGATE-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

Meeting: Inaugural annual statutory meeting.

At: The Town Hall building, 31, St Mildred's Road, Westgate on Sea, CT8 8RE.

Date: 13th May 2015.

Present: Cllrs: Ashbee, Charlton, Cornford, King, Morrish, Nightingale, Pennington, Rickett, Rolfe and Scott.

Ms C. Feeney representing Thanet District Council.
Mr R.Styles interim Clerk.

Ms Feeney presided and opened the meeting. Ms Feeney moved to next business.

001: ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr King was nominated.

Cllr Rolfe proposed and Cllr Rickett seconded.

There being no other nominations, Cllr King was elected unopposed.

RESOLVED

Cllr King gave a brief acceptance speech and moved to next business.

002: ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Rolfe was nominated.

Cllr Rickett proposed and Cllr Morrish seconded.

There being no other nominations, Cllr Rolfe was elected unopposed.

RESOLVED

003: APOLOGIES

None applicable.

004: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Cornford as chief beneficiary of the ownership of the Town Hall building.

005: OFFICIAL IDENTITY OF THE COUNCIL

The meeting considered the various options and the following were proposed:

Westgate -on-Sea Town Council

Proposed by: Cllr Rickett and seconded by Cllr Morrish
and

Westgate-on-Sea Parish Council

Proposed by: Cllr Scott.

005: OFFICIAL IDENTITY OF THE COUNCIL CONTD

There being no second for Cllr Scott's proposition, it fell and the matter was put the vote.

9 Cllrs for and 1 against.

MAYORALTY

It was decided to defer the decision on having a civic post of Mayor instead of a chairman to a later meeting.

COAT OF ARMS

Cllr Rickett opened the debate on the subject of which Coat of arms to adopt as there were three choices. After a brief discussion Cllr Ashbee suggested that the matter also be deferred to await more information.

006: COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

After a debate it was agreed to form two Committees to be used as required by the Council. For the time being the Council will manage most matters, but instruct the two committees as necessary. The Council Chairman and Vice Chairman will preside.

The two Committees will be:

- Finance and General purposes.
- Planning and Environment.

Proposed by: Cllr Charlton.

Seconded by: Cllr Pennington.

RESOLVED

007: APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND MEMBERSHIP OF KALC

It was agreed to join KALC and to appoint Cllrs Cornford and Scott as the Council's representatives.

Proposed by: Cllr King.

Seconded by: Cllr Rolfe.

RESOLVED

008: COUNCILLORS ALLOWANCES

After a debate on whether to accept a fixed allowance per councillor or instead disburse the money as a grant fund it was decided to do the following:

'The sum of £3,000 to be allocated from the budget. £1,000 will be available for Cllrs expenses paid on receipt of invoice etc and monitored by the Clerk and £2,000 will held available for grant applications.

Proposed by: Cllr Ashbee.

Seconded by: Cllr Nightingale.

RESOLVED

009: ADOPTION OF DRAFT STANDING ORDERS & THANET CODE OF CONDUCT

The Council agreed to adopt the NALC model of standing orders as its own Standing orders and to adopt the Thanet version of the Code of Conduct in order to comply with its founding document or order.

Proposed by: Cllr Cornford.

Seconded by: Cllr Rickett.

RESOLVED

010: APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY TOWN CLERK

The Council agreed to ask Mr Styles to stay on as Interim Town Clerk for up to 3 months. Mr Styles agreed with the proviso that his employer Ramsgate Town Council gave him leave to carry out the interim function for 3 months.

Proposed by: Cllr King.

Seconded by: Cllr Ashbee.

RESOLVED

011: APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Council agreed to appoint Mr K.Funnell as Internal auditor for 2015/16.

Proposed by: Cllr King.

Seconded by: Cllr Morrish.

RESOLVED

012: INITIAL BUDGET STRUCTURE

BUDGET

The Council noted the initial budget structure.

BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

The Council to appoint the Unity Trust Bank as its banker.

APPORTIONMENT OF ASSETS= MARGATE CHARTER TRUSTEES

The Council instructs the Interim Clerk to write to Margate Charter Trustees with an initial claim of 16% of the total assets of the Charter trustees following its devolution from the Charter trustees.

Proposed by: Cllr Charlton.

Seconded by: Cllr Cornford.

RESOLVED

ALLOTMENTS

The Council agreed to delegate the administration of its allotments to Ramsgate Town Council for 12 calendar months and authorises the Clerk to write to TDC to inform them of the Council's decision. RTC agree to administer the Westgate-on-Sea Town Council allotments for £2,500 per annum, with the allotment rental income accruing to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council.

Proposed by: Cllr Rickett.

Seconded by: Cllr King.

RESOLVED

NEXT MEETING

1st June 2015.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm.

CHAIRMAN