

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Hessle Town Council held on Tuesday 19th May 2020 at 7.30pm via ZOOM conference call in line with the temporary powers enabled by Section 78 of the Coronavirus 2020 Act.

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday 19th May 2020 at 7.30pm
(*Public Forum at 7.30pm)
Town Hall, South Lane, Hessle

MINUTES

Present: Councillors J Bovill, B Carroll, P Davison, G Fordham, L Howe, A Nolan (arrived 8.15pm), D. Nolan, V Padden, A Potter, and J Wilding

Also present (non-Voting Advisor) – Mr Paul Hogan

Assistant Town Clerk: Mrs Jo Render

Apologies received from: Cllr Cross, Cllr Sutton & Cllr Langdale

Members of the public present: Mrs Lindsey Wood & Mrs Pam Locker

Under advice from ERNLLCA, the need for an Annual Meeting of the Council has been suspended - current legislation provides that the existing Chairman remains in office until a new Chairman is elected. It follows therefore that Cllr Davison who is currently Chairman, will continue to hold that post until the crisis has passed and an Annual Council Meeting can be held physically to elect a new Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

The Chair wished to pass on the Council's condolences to Cllr Sutton for the loss of her husband Captain John Sutton, who served as her consort during her period in office as Mayor. He also wished to pass on best wishes to Brian Jeffries, ex Councillor who is currently recovery from a bleed on the brain.

18945 PUBLIC FORUM

To hold the Public Forum to allow any members of the press or public to speak.

The Chair moved item 6 to this point in the meeting.

Local Plan Review – Land Bid Ref no. HES-6 – Tranby Lodge Gates and green space -To discuss the above area and green space.

The Chair welcomed members of the public; Mrs Wood and Mrs Locker to the meeting.

Mrs Wood was invited to speak to this item. She read out a document in support of the land being retained as a green space for the community. The document had been emailed to councillors prior to the meeting. She explained that she has started a petition and Facebook page to save the Tranby Lodge Gate land. She went on to say that this area is an historical and beautiful wildlife space and should be kept as such for the residents of Hessle to enjoy. She understands that there is a covenant on the land and has asked Alan Menzies – Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration at East

Riding of Yorkshire Council for full details of the basis on which the land was transferred to the Council – to date she has not received a reply. She urged the Town Council to lend its support in protecting and preserving this special piece of land for future generations. Mrs Wood was thanked for her input.

Mrs Locker then spoke to the committee. She agreed with everything Mrs Wood said and wanted the Council to support the protection of this green space for generations to come. It is an important green space and worth fighting for. Hessle has gradually seen site after site of greenspace disappear, and it is important that this site is protected.

Cllr Davison thanked Mrs Locker for her input.

Cllr Nolan agreed that he was keen to retain the site as open space for Hessle. He went on to say that this land was owned by the East Riding Council and had a covenant on it, stating that it should be kept as green space, however it is marked as potential development land in the East Riding of Yorkshire Local Plan. It is important that the Town Council has a proposal to put to East Riding Council and to demonstrate that we wish to do something with the area, it is not enough to say that we just don't want it developing. Cllr Potter also suggested that the council look at placing TPO's on some, if not all of the trees. All were in favour of contacting East Riding of Yorkshire Council to discuss the transfer of the land to Hessle Town Council, as public amenity land.

(Nolan/Bovill)

Resolved - Hessle Town Council consider that Tranby Lodge Gateway is an important historic feature as an attractive green space with mature trees and that it complements the Southfield Conservation Area. Hessle Town Council notes the serious under-provision of adult recreation/play space in Hessle and there are few remaining areas of suitable publicly owned land.

Hessle Town Council resolves to seek the transfer of the Tranby Lodge Gateway site and the green space from East Riding of Yorkshire Council, for the purposes of making it a public amenity garden.

Mrs Locker and Mrs Wood left the meeting.

18946 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

The Chairman will now read out the following – Members must declare their pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in items at this meeting – *rather than personal and prejudicial interests* – and ensure that they act appropriately.

None received.

18947 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2020 and authorise the Chairman to sign.

(Howe/Bovill)

Resolved – The minutes of the meeting held on the 17th March were confirmed as a correct record and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

18948 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Cllr Davison advised that the Council had received a letter from the Rt. Hon Robert Jenrick MP - Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. It explained that £3.2 billion of

additional funding has been made available to larger councils with £1.6 billion of that being made available to lower tier Councils.

Cllr Davison advised that as Chair of the Council it was his intention to write to East Riding Council and request monies to help cover the costs incurred during the Covid -19 pandemic, including the loss of Town Hall income. All agreed that this was a good idea.

(Davison/Fordham)

Resolved – Cllr Phil Davison, as Chair of the Council is to write to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and express an interest in receiving some of the additional funding which has been made available to principal councils from central Government.

18949 POLICE MATTERS:

To receive the latest figures/information on police matters pertaining to Hessle since the previous meeting.

(Davison/Fordham)

Resolved – The latest figures/ information on police matters for the Hessle area were noted. Clerk to write to Humberside Police and ask for comparison figures for the whole of the East Riding of Yorkshire.

18950 FINANCE MATTERS:

a) Annual Audit 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020:

To note that due to the current crisis, the District Auditors, PKF Littlejohn, have extended the deadline for the Annual Return to be sent to them by Friday 31st July, in order to allow Councils to liaise remotely with their Internal Auditors. The Clerk is currently liaising with our Internal Auditor in order to complete the Year End Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

b) Income/Expenditure Reports to 31st March 2020:

To receive the financial reports as given for perusal.

c) Schedule Nos. 246 and 247 (Receipts & Payments)

To receive schedule 246 to 29th February 2020 and schedule 247 to 31st March 2020 as given for perusal and authorise the Chairman to sign.

(Davison/ Carroll)

Resolved - to note and accept the update with regards to (a) the Annual Audit -1st April 2019 to March 2020, (b) the income and expenditure reports to 31st March 2020 and (c) Schedules numbered 246 & 247 and authorise the Chair to sign.

d) Hessle & Anlaby Food Bank

Hessle Town Council to agree to the formation and registration with the Charity Commission of the Hessle & Anlaby Food Bank and to approve the Town Council members to act as Trustees.

Cllr Carroll gave an update on the food bank to date – and thanked all those who had been involved in its set up, particularly – Ann Cross, Louise Dalo, Mark and Louise Kensitt and all the volunteers and drivers, he also thanked all those who have made donations including; Hessle Sportive, Brooklands and Cranswick foods. To date £6000.00 has been received in donations.

Thanks to Herons, Sainsburys and Co-op who have all helped collect food donations. The food bank is proving busy, and last week alone helped 86 families.

Cllr Carroll feels that the Food bank may have missed out on financial donations and grants as it has no charitable status, he has submitted the application to the Charity Commission, using a template constitution provided by the Commission.

Cllr David Nolan said that the Food Bank has been a great success so far, however both he and Cllr Annie Nolan expressed concern that there was no provision in the constitution for holding public meetings – which was needed to be fully transparent.

Cllr Carroll explained that once a charity number has been received, the trustees can then amend the constitution to include anything. He saw no reason to delay the registration and in fact any amendment to the constitution at this stage may result in the application being rejected by the Commission as it would differ from their template.

A discussion took place and it was proposed that the constitution be changed, once the charitable status had been confirmed to include that at least one meeting of the trustees per year be open to the public. Cllr Nolan advised he would be happy to support this.

Paul Hogan expressed his thanks to Cllr Carroll for all his work in setting the food bank up – logistically there have been big issues to deal with both current and going forward.

(Davison/Carroll)

Resolved – The Town Council agreed to the formation and registration of the Hessle and Anlaby Food Bank with the Charity Commission and approve the following as trustees; Cllr Carroll, Ann Cross and Paul Hogan. Upon receipt of the charitable status, that the constitution be changed to include public participation in at least one meeting per year of the trustees.

18951 TOWN HALL MATTERS/PROJECTS/FUTURE PROJECTS:

a) A Town Hall for the 21st Century

There are no further updates to report due to the current crisis. ERNLLCA staff are working from home and are dealing with urgent telephone and email requests from Councils only. They will deal with paperwork once they are allowed to return to the office and the Clerk will forward the Loan application at that time. The architect is also currently not working and will contact the Clerk to undertake a site visit with members of the Working Party when current restrictions are lifted and group meetings allowed.

Cllr D Nolan asked that the working party members meet to discuss any way of moving this forward, perhaps with the submission of a planning application.

(Davison/Nolan)

Resolved -to note the update and Clerk to remind members of who is on the working party, and for those members to consider how the project can be moved forward.

b) Hessle Community Centre Project

Cllr Carroll provided an update. Simon Quartermaine from the York Diocese has returned to work, so Cllr Carroll intends to meet with members of the sub-committee to discuss the valuation and required works and then to start negotiations with the Diocese and revert back to Full Council.

(Davison/Carroll)

Resolved - update noted

c) Tower Hill Memorial Park

The Clerk has forwarded details of our Solicitors to the East Riding Senior Legal Officer, James Ashby-Kelly, and we are awaiting a response.

(Nolan/Davison)

Resolved – Clerk to request solicitors chase up East Riding to prevent any delay in progressing this.

d) Prestongate

There are no further updates. PCSO Austin Petch is currently on sick leave due to a significant injury and the Clerk will progress this upon his return to work.

(Nolan/Davison)

Resolved – Clerk to write to Inspector Hinch, Humberside Police and ask that this matter is progressed.

18952 STANDING ORDER 9.1

A member may ask the Chairman of the Council or the Chair of any committee any question concerning the business of the Council provided that two working days' notice of the question has been given by the member to the Town Clerk.

None Received

18953 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings (minutes previously circulated) and approve any recommendations and resolutions contained therein;

Planning & Traffic – 5th May 2020 (Bovill/D. Nolan)