

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 7.30pm
(*Public Forum at 7.35pm)
Large Front Room
Town Hall, South Lane, Hessle

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Adams, Bovill (Chairman), Davison, I. Hardy, Keillor, Toogood and Walker.

Humberside Police – PCSO Jess Watts & PC Ollie Turner

Clerk: Mrs Kim Cooper

Apologies: Cllrs P Hardy (Vice-Chairman), H. Hogan, Langdale, Nolan, Padden and Sutton
Mr Paul Hogan & Mr Bob Carroll – (Non-voting Advisory Members)

134372 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public or press present.

134373 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

The Chairman 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.

Cllr Bovill declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 134380 (d) (iii) as he lives on a street in Hessle which could be affected.

134374 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(Davison/Adams)

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th September 2023 and the minutes of the Urgency Meeting held on 18th October 2023 and authorise the Chairman to sign.

134375 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

Whilst appreciating that some people were working, on holiday or attending other events, the Chairman was asked to comment that there had been a low attendance by Hessle Councillors at this year's Remembrance Sunday event at the Church on 12th November.

134376 POLICE MATTERS:

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

PCSO Jess Watts and PC Ollie Turner from Humberside Police attended the meeting and provided information on crimes that have occurred and been reported in Hessle since October. PCSO Watts confirmed that shop thefts have increased significantly, but they have now arrested 4 known prolific shoplifters in connection with most of these, together with the identification and arrest of a suspect for a Hanoi burglary in the area. They still require residents to report all crimes to 101 or 999 in an emergency and try to actively encourage this on their social media platforms, but asked if the Council could help in any way. The Council and Clerk confirmed that an article could be written for our Newsletter with details of arrests made in connection with crimes in Hessle in order to update residents and also to reiterate that they need to report all crimes or if they see anything suspicious to the 101 number in order for the Police to be aware of incidents happening in Hessle, and that officers can be deployed or undertake regular patrols of any high anti-social behaviour areas. The Clerk will meet with PCSO Watts in order to produce an article for publication.

134377

CCTV:

Item received from the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee for further discussion by Full Council following Councillor Nolan's visit to the ERYC Bridlington CCTV Suite and the email received from the ERYC Service Manager (copy enclosed for perusal), with a further proposal and reduced quote for 'Black Wall' monitoring of the Town Council's CCTV cameras and if the Police are present, to request information or any key performance indicators on how beneficial the ERYC Bridlington CCTV suite is to them in other areas already using the monitoring service and if it would make a difference to Policing in Hessle.

As PCSO Watts and PC Ollie Turner were present they both confirmed that if the Hessle CCTV system went into the ERYC Bridlington monitoring suite it would be a significant benefit to them. The new Melton Police station is equipped with state of the art systems and infrastructure and has a live link/feed to all the cameras in the ERYC Bridlington suite. Officers based in Melton are able to liaise with the ERYC staff directly at Bridlington to request live footage be viewed from any of the cameras for any incidents or crimes as they are reported. Details from the footage is then relayed to Police on duty who can then be deployed to exact locations by the live monitoring Officers. For ongoing investigations ERYC are also able to help the Police by monitoring known crime gangs, specific vehicles or people wanted by setting up alerts from footage received from ANPR and facial recognition cameras installed in towns and villages. PCSO Watts confirmed that monitoring has undoubtedly made a difference in areas where it is currently in operation with faster identification and specific location of suspects which has led to less time wasted and more arrests made.

(Davison/I. Hardy)

RESOLVED that whilst the Council are in agreement in principal for the Hessle CCTV cameras to feed into the ERYC CCTV monitoring suite, this should initially be for a one year trial and as the cost for this reduced service is still quite high, this item be deferred to the Budget Committee in January for consideration of affordability and decision as part of the 2024/2025 Budget. Members asked PCSO Watts if it would be possible to arrange a visit to the new Melton Police Station in order to have a look at some of the new systems and their monitoring/call staff and she confirmed that she would look into this.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Watts and PC Turner for attending the meeting and for providing the updates and information.

134378

WOODFIELD LANE BRIDGE:

The Clerk provided an update following the tragic incident in September and a letter sent to Network Rail requesting immediate action to review and upgrade any security measures they have in place. A response was received from Network Rail confirming that the bridge is actually owned and maintained by East Riding Council. East Riding Council confirmed that our letter had been received and assigned to their Bridges & Coastal Engineering Dept. However, the ERYC Bridges Team have now confirmed that the bridge is owned by National Highways and that they have forwarded our email and a copy of our letter to them. We are now awaiting a response from National Highways.

(Chair/Davison)

RESOLVED noted.

134379

HESSLE CREDIT UNION – Second quarter report:

To receive the latest report from Mr Andrew Penny relating to the second three months of activity, July 1st to September 30th 2023.

(Davison/I. Hardy)

RESOLVED that the report is received and noted. Hessle Town Council would like to congratulate all the volunteers involved with the local Credit Union branch and to thank them for their continued time and dedication, together with the good news of further positive progress made in Hessle for local residents.

134380

ERYC

a) Community Governance Review – Final Recommendations Report

Council to receive details of the final recommendations that have been considered and agreed by the ERYC Member Working Group for Hessle Parish and boundaries.

(Davison/Chairman)

RESOLVED that the details of the final recommendations are received. The Clerk is to clarify the final recommendation as it does not mention the increase in Councillors for the Westfield Ward. The Council would also like to know how close Hessle is to be able to have a fourth Ward Councillor, given the increase in housing and population numbers over the last few years, together with ERYC's proposed recommendation for 2 further Town Councillors.

b) ERYC – Overview & Scrutiny Committees

Council to consider putting forward any suggestions to ERYC for topics for scrutiny as part of the 2024/205 municipal year. Topics must be of a strategic nature that affect the East Riding as a whole.

(Chairman/Davison)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council will put forward a suggestion for the ERYC Overview & Scrutiny Committee to discuss the lack of Traffic & Parking Enforcement in the East Riding and that as part of the discussion, consideration should be given to Traffic & Parking Enforcement Officers working later than 6.00pm in order to deal with persistent parking issues in certain areas.

c) ERYC Anti-Social Behaviour Data

To receive and note the latest six monthly updates from the ERYC Anti-Social Behaviour Team.
(Davison/Chairman)

RESOLVED that the latest ERYC Anti-Social Behaviour team updates are received and noted.

d) ERYC Parking Review Panel

RECOMMENDATION from the Planning & Traffic Committee for Full Council to review and consider the responses below for submission to the ERYC Parking Review Panel;

- i) Hessle Town Council notes with concern that ERYC are considering the introduction of car parking charges to Hessle's currently free car-parks. Such a proposal in 2009 generated over 7800 petition signatures against in the Hessle area.
- ii) Hessle Town Council are concerned that such charges would drive shoppers away to the nearby free (*parking at local*) Superstores and Retail Parks and will be damaging to the retailers in Hessle (*who are surrounded by these stores and retail parks which are all within 2/3 miles*).
- iii) Hessle Town Council are also concerned that it would displace workers and commuters into nearby Town Centre (*residential*) streets, thereby adding to the existing congestion and shortage of on-street parking.
- iv) Hessle Town Council requests that any conclusions from the Car Parking Review Panel are subject to Public Consultation.
- v) Hessle Town Council would require ERYC to undertake an Impact Assessment.

(Davison/Toogood)

RESOLVED that with some minor amendments (in italic) to the responses above, Hessle Town Council supports and agrees with the Planning & Traffic Committee and that these concerns are submitted to the ERYC Parking Review Panel.

134381 HESSE TOWN COUNCIL FORTHCOMING MEETINGS 2024 AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DATE:

To note the new list of Committee and Full Town Council meeting dates for 2024. This will be emailed to all members and will be available on the website. The Annual Town Meeting must take place between 1st March and 1st June (Local Government Act 1972, S12, para 14(1) and is usually scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday in April, however as the Town Hall may still be undergoing renovation work, the clerk has provisionally pencilled this in for Tuesday 28th May 2024 for the Council to agree.
(Davison/Adams)

RESOLVED that the new Committee & Full town Council meeting dates list is received and noted and that Tuesday 28th May 2024 is agreed for the Annual Town Meeting.

134382 FINANCE

a) Schedule Nos: 289 and 290 (Receipts & Payments up to 30th September 2023 and 31st October 2023):

(I. Hardy/Davison)

RESOLVED to approve the copies as given that were duly signed by the Chair of Finance & Personnel at the meeting held on 8th November 2023.

134383

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.

134384

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL RECOGNITION AWARDS:

The Clerk has now written and prepared the documents for the Hessle Town Council Community Award Scheme Details, Policies for the Community Award and Honorary Freeman and Freewoman Award and the proposed Nomination Form. Hessle Town Council to formally approve and adopt all the documents and the scheme can then be put into effect.

(Chairman/I. Hardy)

RESOLVED that the documents for the Hessle Town Council Recognition Awards are approved and adopted. The Clerk will add the details to the website and information will be provided to residents in the newsletter.

134385

TOWN HALL – RENOVATION WORKS

Following the Town Hall working party meeting held on Monday 2nd October the Architect provided various samples and a 'mood board' from the interior designer for various areas with suggested colours for vinyl, parquet and carpet flooring for the rooms and the new toilets, together with her proposals for the exterior and interior Victorian heritage colour scheme. The samples and proposals were viewed at the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee meeting in October and the Committee requested these be taken to the next Full Council meeting for all members to see and make any comments.

(Chairman/Davison)

RESOLVED that the details and suggestions from the interior designer are received and the Council are happy with the proposed colour scheme and flooring choices.

134386

RURAL MARKET TOWN GROUP:

To receive and consider the email received from the Rural Market Town Group, to join the group for free until the end of February 2024.

(Davison/Chairman)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council takes advantage of the free membership to the Rural Services Partnership until February 2024.

134387

WORLD PEACE FLAG:

In light of the continuing war in Ukraine and the conflict now in Israel and Gaza, Councillor Nolan has purchased a World Peace Flag. Council to consider and vote on the Ukrainian Flag in the Square being taken down and replaced with the World Peace Flag.

(Adams/Toogood)

RESOLVED that after considering the World Peace Flag provided by Councillor Nolan, members concluded that it is not suitable and that it does not replace the Ukrainian Flag put up in the Square underneath the Union Flag.

134388

REMOTE MEETINGS:

Council to note that following campaigns by the LGA (Local Government Authority), SLCC (Society for Local Council Clerks), various County Associations and Town & Parish Councils since the pandemic lock-down, the Government have now voted and disagreed with the House of Lords and will not allow Town & Parish Councils to have the flexibility of holding virtual meetings.

(Adams/Davison)

RESOLVED noted.

134389

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

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

Planning & Traffic – 3rd October 2023 – (Adams/Davison)

Planning & Traffic – 7th November 2023 – (Adams/Davison)

Environment & Open Spaces – 14th November 2023 – (Toogood/Davison)

Events & Communications – 4th October 2023 – (Davison/Walker)

Events & Communications – 1st November 2023 – (Davison/Chair)

Finance, Personnel & Asset Management – 11th October 2023 – (I. Hardy/Davison)

Finance, Personnel & Asset Management – 8th November 2023 – (I. Hardy/Davison)