

EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Held at 7:30 p.m. on
Tuesday 09 July 2019
At *The Stute*, Station Rd., Earl Shilton, LE9 7GA.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors: M Leman, Deputy Chairman & Deputy Town Mayor,
Mrs C Allen*, R Allen*, Ms D Almey, A Darker, Ms V Darker,
Ms J Duplock, B Granger, Mrs G Granger and Ms S Mannion.

County/Borough Councillors: Mrs C Allen*, R Allen* & C Ladkin.

In attendance: Town Clerk: Mr ME Jackson.
Members of public: As separately listed – 1.

19/040 *Chairman's welcome and opening remarks.*

The Deputy Chairman remarked that he will be grateful for members support for what will be his first ever chairmanship of Full Council.

Noted and received.

19/041 *To receive apologies for member absence.*

Town Cllrs: Mrs CM Coe, Mrs A Burton and Ms A Williams submitted their apologies for absence to the Town Clerk in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: to accept the Town Cllr apologies for absence for the good reasons recorded separately by the Town Clerk.

County Cllr Mrs J Richards apologised for her absence for reasons given and recorded.

Noted and received with understanding.

19/042 *Declarations of interests. To receive disclosures of member's interests, i.e. the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda.*
None.

19/043 *To receive and approve as a true record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tues 11 June 2019.*

Resolved: to accept as a true record of the Full Council meeting of the 11 June 2019; the minutes tabled for the Deputy Chairman's signature and already distributed in approved draft to members with their agenda packs.

19/044 *Application for co-option as a member to fill the Council's 'casual vacancy'.*

Members had received with the agenda packs for last month's and this month's Full Councils the application and CV from Town resident Mr K Lapsley (present as a member of the public), to become a co-opted cllr and fill Council's only *casual vacancy*. After a short discussion and a couple of minor questions put to Mr Lapsley members decided a motion on his co-option.

Resolved: to co-opt Mr K Lapsley on to the Town Council forthwith.

Cllr Lapsley was congratulated by members on his appointment and thanked for his commitment to the Town. Cllr Lapsley duly signed his *Acceptance of Office* and undertook to complete his *register of interests* to be submitted to the Borough Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

19/045 *Public Participation:*

a. *Public speaking protocol – requests received by the protocol deadline to be submitted to the Clerk with details of the agenda item they wish to address or relate to. None.*

b. *That the meeting be adjourned to allow members of the public to make representation about items that are not on the agenda (Electors' Time). N/A.*

19/046 *To note any reports, (not private session items), from County and Borough Cllrs.*

Through Borough Cllrs, County Cllr Mrs J Richards reports that LCC business is mostly routine at the moment due to the time of year and for the changes of post holders to settle in. Borough Cllrs report much the same continues for HBBC especially as the controlling group has changed.

Borough Cllrs report that the pathway to regenerate the Town Centre is now somewhat unclear however there is no reason why this should stop as there is apparently a commitment to keep bilateral council communications open using the established mechanism of the *Town Team Working Group* meetings. Yes, there is a need to recover momentum and Cllr R Allen will investigate the available possibilities to resolve ongoing Town issues such as 'Shilton Lakes' at the back of Wood St shopping parade. As ever, future budget limiting factors will decide Borough priorities.

Borough Cllrs are hoping that the Sustainable Urban Extensions, (SUE), (mainly housing), for both Barwell and Earl Shilton will soon be called-in at the behest of Cllr C Ladkin to the HBBC Scrutiny Commission agenda for this year because of the lack of progress to actually start these long outstanding and promised developments. Borough Councils are judged by Central Government Ministries on the number and ratio of houses built and if below target, without good reason, Borough councils may be penalised with loss of control over planning decision matters and financially.

Linked to the above it is now clear to many stakeholders that the Borough Council cannot clearly demonstrate what is known as having a '5 year land supply' for house building needs. As above the consequences are the same.

Finally Town Cllrs were invited to attend the next Borough Council (Full Council) meeting on the evening of 16 Jul 19 as observers.

Noted and received with thanks.

Borough Cllr C Ladkin leaves the meeting after this item with members' thanks at 7.54 p.m.

19/047 *To receive any form of Neighbourhood Police report pertaining to Earl Shilton including the local Beat Team reports for June (dated July) 2019.*

Chairman's Initials/Signature 

The Deputy Chairman referred members to the Beat Team Newsletter from the agenda pack new in the shortened beat team standard format. Members were advised that one of the 4 Beat Team members has now left on promotion and that this post will be gapped until at least August 2019.

Noted and received.

19/048 *To note and receive any reports from member representatives to recent non-Town Council outside bodies, meetings, events or working parties excluding Police reports and the Town Team Working Group (TTWGp).*

a. The LRALC AGM Sat 15 Jun19 at County Hall.

The Chairman attended this meeting as the delegate for ESTC and sponsored the only motion put forward by any Leicestershire or Rutland Local Council member. The Town Clerk attended also but in another capacity. After some heartfelt debate the ESTC motion, taken in 2 parts, was defeated. The Clerk went on to inform members that he had a full AGM pack in the Office should anyone wish to read it in full or in part. Overall LRALC is in a good position to support its member Councils and it only right that the Town Council supports the AGM. This was a good meeting for networking with other Councils and service providers.

Noted and received.

b. HBBC Parish Forum, Newbold Verdon, Thurs 20 Jun 19.

Cllr Mrs C Allen attended this meeting and kindly produced a written brief to members before this meeting. Cllr Allen verbally emphasised points from the meeting such as the forthcoming HBBC Rural Strategy; the LCC passenger Transport Policy & Strategy – there will be cuts of about £0.4m to the subsidy (on an annual basis); and the HBBC *Community Safety Partnership* strategy report, (crime, disorder & Fire and Rescue Services). The Police are now attempting to move reporting for their '101' service away from telephone systems to online reporting which is hoped will prove to be less (time) frustrating for residents.

Noted and received with thanks.

c. LCC/LRALC 2019 Annual Parish Liaison Event Mon Evening 08 Jul 19.

Cllr R Allen attended this annual event along with about 100 other delegates and like the Parish Forum at sub para b. above, one of the main briefings was about LCC cuts, in particular again to the passenger transport subsidy.

Noted and received with thanks.

*d. Late relevant events to be reported since this agenda was set. **None.***

19/049 *To invite/nominate member representatives to attend meetings/events that are not Town Council initiated including invitations received since this agenda was set.*

a. ES in Bloom 2019 Judging Event a.m. 02 Jul 19.

The Clerk and members acknowledged that this event had indeed passed. It was well attended by Council members and was enjoyed by all as was the previous *Baracca Open Garden* event held recently but separately.

*b. Late relevant invitations received since this agenda was set. **None.***

19/050 *LPCOS Cttee meeting/business matters including:*

a. Draft minutes and a verbal report of the Cttee meeting of 02 Jul 19.

Chairman's Initials/Signature 

The Cttee Chairman briefed members on matter in the draft minutes which were **noted and received**. Salient points included:

1. Some recent ASB in QEII the Hall Field Park.
 2. The spending intentions of the Cttee contained in the draft minutes.
 3. The need for the Cemetery groundcare works to be brought up to at least a satisfactory standard immediately.
 4. With the permission of the Cttee Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Full Council the Town Clerk detailed the spending plan itemised in the draft minutes as follows:
 - i) Annual Rospa report repairs to come from the 'Parks Earmarked Reserves.
 - ii) The other parks spends to 'lay where they fall' i.e. the actual park so that a clear picture emerges of where future costs are likely to fall so giving clarity and guidance to future budgeting.
 - iii) Members were reassured that all VAT will be fully recovered, that Earmarked Reserves for Parks will remain very healthy and that, most importantly, the Town's parks will not lose their (safe) amenity to residents.
 5. Trees – One minor sick tree in Wood St Park has been 'finished off' by vandals uprooting it completely; a resident has reported a large sick tree in Weavers Springs Park and the Office Clerk is chasing LCC officers for the comprehensive tree survey commissioned and carried out recently.
Resolved: to agree all the spending recommendations by the LPCOS Cttee in their draft meeting minutes from the current year budget and reserves as appropriate.
- b. *Recommendations (including spending) to Full Council. See sub para a above.*

- 19/051** *To receive written and or verbal reports from the Chairman of the Events Cttee regarding recent meetings, feedback from recent events and progress towards future 2019/20 events.*

Minutes of the Cttee meetings of 02 Jul 19 were tabled. The Cttee Chairman laid the emphasis on the fact that 'Shilton by the Sea' (Seaside) at the turn of July and August will require as many cllr volunteers as possible over the 3 day event please. The Cttee Chairman briefly reminded members of the remainder of events for the calendar year.

Noted and received.

- 19/052** *Planning applications/correspondence received as a Town Council 'consultee' from HBBC, adjacent Districts and or LCC as Local or County Planning Authorities. A Cttee Chairman's verbal report on non-private session items from the Planning Cttee meeting held earlier on 09 Jul 19.*

The Cttee Chairman ran through routine applications in a verbal report highlighting the 2 that ESTC will submit negative or suggestion 'Consultee Comments' on – see the Cttee minutes for the full details of all applications.

Noted and received.

Additionally these late items:

a. *Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange – 2nd informal consultation.*
Members were issued with the 'dbsymmetry' letter dated 28 Jun 19 which details the 2nd informal public and local council consultation period. Members were asked to consider a ESTC corporate response at some time in the near future as well as individual responses.

Noted and received.

b. *HBBC briefing note for Borough Towns & Parishes – '5 year Housing Land Supply: Position & Impact Statement June 2019'.*

Members were issued with a hard copy of this briefing note and Cllr R Allen explained background and connotation points that were worth amplification, e.g. land banking tactics and the need to complete housing against government targets too.

Noted and received.

19/053 *Correspondence received:*

a. *Earl Shilton in Bloom (ESiB) meeting minutes if any.* **None.**

b. *Relevant late correspondence received since this agenda was set.*

i) ESTC Insurers letter notifying a selling of their shares to another company. No further action required.

ii) *Westfield Farm construction traffic improperly using Keats Ln – Cllr R Allen gave an update on more strident enforcement action now being taken by HBBC to prevent HGV traffic which is not allowing residents the quiet enjoyment of 'their' road particularly as there is no through road!*

iii) *NALC legal update from the recent Fri Round Robin.*

Members received an explanation about the use of secret ballots and discretion in minutes when naming individuals who are involved in public participation.

iv) *HBBC Electoral Services letter dated 08 Jul 19 calling for comments about the siting of Town polling stations.* Self explanatory.

All items noted and received.

19/054 *To receive the Town Clerk's General Report including:*

a. *An offer from HBBC for places on an Equality & Diversity training course.*

Noted and received.

b. *Relevant items for inclusion received since the agenda was set.* **None.**

19/055 *To receive the Town Clerk's Finance (& Policy) Report including:*

a. *An update on authorised banking and investment signatories.*

Members were informed that signatories are now in place as previously resolved.

Noted and received.

b. *That Council authorise the Chairman to sign-off the current, investment and petty cash account reconciliation statements for May 2019 and possibly June 2019.*

Only the May 2019 accounts were ready for consideration.

Resolved: that the Deputy Chairman may sign- off the reconciliation statement to the accounts for the month of May 2019.

c. *For members to consider insurance cover for cyber attack system damage.*

Members received the ESTC Insurer's proposal form plus costs in their agenda packs for consideration. After some discussion regarding covers and costs no proposal for any motion came forward therefore the matter was:

Noted and received.

d. *Relevant Items for inclusion received since the agenda was set. None.*

Confidential Items – in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public will be excluded from the agenda items below by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed and will be requested to withdraw. Members will resolve to go into Private Session. So resolved.

19/056 *Staffing Cttee issues including a legacy legal matter update and items received since this agenda was set.*

Members were informed that the final draft of the Employment Tribunal evidence bundle (183 pages) has been received by Council from Council's solicitor. Four final ESTC individual witness statements will be required in the near future under advice from ESTC's solicitor. The tribunal hearing is scheduled for early March 2020.

Noted and received.

19/057 *Planning Cttee private session items. Updates from the Cttee Chairman including:*

a. *The Premises project.*

Members were briefed that all stakeholders are quietly engaging to move this project forward especially through respective solicitors for ESTC and LCC with regard to the first floor 'Office' lease plus in regard to the initial works required.

b. *The Dalebrook Farm development.*

Cllr R Allen, (mainly in his role as a Borough Cllr), informed members about the current improper occupation of the site, the declaration by the site owners that this latest incursion does not have formal or informal permission of the owners, the continued impasse between Borough Council and owners re the long term non-compliance with the legally binding terms of the approved application plus the possible consequences to planning consents and conditions should HBBC, as the Local Planning Authority, make changes to the outline permissions for the Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) – see minute **19/046** above.

c. *Matters received since this agenda was set. None.*

End of Private Session & Confidential Items.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.16 p.m. thanking members for their attendance and contributions.

Chairman's Initials/Signature 

