

ME Jackson
Town Clerk

EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Held at 7:30 p.m. on
Tuesday 09 March 2021

Vide remote/virtual means on the *Zoom.us* information systems (IS) platform.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Town Councillors: Mrs CM Coe, Chairman & Town Mayor, M Leman, Deputy Chairman and Deputy Town Mayor, Mrs C Allen*, R Allen*, Mrs A Burton, B Granger, Mrs G Granger, R Hills, K Lapsley and Ms S Mannion.

County/Borough Councillors: Mrs J Richards, Mrs C Allen* R Allen*

In attendance: Town Clerk: Mr ME Jackson.
Office Clerk: Mrs C Houghton.
Members of public: One as recorded.

20/170 *Chairman's welcome and opening remarks.*

Cllr Coe greeted Cllrs and the member of the public who was acknowledged and made welcome.

Noted and received.

20/171 *To receive apologies for Town Cllr member and County/Boro' Cllr absence.*

Town Cllr Ms D Almey submitted to the Town Clerk her written and reasoned apology for absence in advance of the meeting. The reasoned apology was recorded by the Town Clerk and brought forward to the meeting for consideration.

Resolved: to accept the tabled apology for absence with reason from the Cllr Almey as recorded by the Town Clerk.

20/172 *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.*

Cllr C Coe declared a pecuniary interest in item **20/179** regarding any future contract with the *Independent Chapel* to park Town Council vehicles in the Chapel grounds on repayment. Cllr Coe is an active member of the Independent Chapel.

Cllrs Mrs C Allen and R Allen as Borough Cllrs declared non-pecuniary interests in 2 particular ongoing major planning applications, firstly the ES Sustainable Urban Extension as Cllr R Allen is on record as objecting to this proposal and both members to the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange, (pre-determination).

Resolved: to allow all three declared Cllrs to remain in the meeting for relevant items to answer factual questions from other members but not to speak against/in favour of any motion or vote on one relating to this matter.

20/173 To receive and approve as a true record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 09 February 2021.

Resolved: to accept as a true record of the Full Council meeting of the 09 February 2021; the minutes tabled for the Chairman's ('wet') signature in due course and already distributed in approved draft to members with their agenda packs. Additionally, the ESTC public website copy may be signed with the Chairman's digital signature.

20/174 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 may wish to address or relate to if any. **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).

The Chairman suspended the meeting at 7.44 p.m. to allow the member of the public to speak. The member of the public requested leave to repeat his statement made to a previous LPCOS Cttee meeting and to request that the Town Council make a statement as to when they will re-open the enclosed tactile play areas in the Town's public parks. The member of the public was informed that the issue would be dealt with under agenda item 20/179. The Chairman re-convened the meeting at 7.46 p.m.

20/175 To note and receive any reports from County and Borough Cllrs including late relevant reports to be tabled since this agenda was set.

Cllr Mrs J Richards spoke on the following matters:

- Confirmed with Town Cllrs they had received copies of 3x County Council latest position statements from Cabinet Members.
- Station Rd traffic issues – Cllr Richards has been busy holding meetings involving residents and the local Police Beat Team.
- Library Public Toilet lease – Cllr Richards is chasing LCC Officers all the way up to the Chief Executive to move this long delayed project forward.
- Breach Lane highway verge damage by a resident. It will be re-instated!

BCllrs Mrs C and R Allen informed members that:

- Budget and Council tax setting has been at the top of agenda matters.
- There will be some increases in brown bin fees and those for removal of unwanted white goods however these are the first such increases in 3 years.
- A HBBC cross party motion will hopefully go forward suggesting that central government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) is

amended soon to require housing developers to build private and unadopted roads to County Highways 'adoptable' standards so that in future they may easily meet the standard to be adopted.

- The aspiration is that all unadopted highways and footways will, retrospectively be adopted by County Highways.
- Breach Lane – concurrence with CCIr Richards.
- Station Road traffic issues - concurrence with CCIr Richards.
- Scourge of fly tipping – recent incidents like the one on the Kirkby Rd have been noted.

Noted and received with thanks.

20/176

To receive any form of Neighbourhood Police report pertaining to Earl Shilton including the local Beat Team Newsletter, (dated March 2021 for February).

a. 18 Feb 21 – damage to a dozen or so of parked vehicles in the Drs Fields area.

Remains under investigation – seemingly a disgruntled individual so an isolated incident.

b. 22 Feb 21 – Road Traffic Accident and injury sustained – Station Rd.

Remains under investigation – police aware

Reports noted and received with thanks.

20/177

To note and receive any reports from member representatives to recent (remote/virtual) non-Town Council outside bodies, meetings, events or working parties excluding Police reports and the Town Team Working Group (TTWGp) including relevant late items received since this agenda was published. **None.**

20/178

To invite/nominate member representatives to attend meetings/events that are not Town Council initiated including remote and late relevant invitations too.

a. 16 Mar 21 at 5.45 p.m. Town Team Working Group by Zoom.

Noted and received by members.

b. Relevant late items. **None.**

20/179

To receive minutes, draft minutes and or a verbal report on Leisure, Parks, Cemetery and Open Spaces (LPCOS) Cttee meetings or business of interest and possible concern plus any immediate recommendations for spending from the annual budget or Reserves.

Full Council Members noted and received the draft minutes of the LPCOS Cttee meeting of 02 Mar 21. In particular, the Cttee Chairman briefed Members on the following issues:

1. A recommendation is made to Full Council regarding the lockdown of enclosed tactile play areas. In light of the Government's 'stepped' withdrawal from the National Winter lockdown the Cttee recommend that all closed areas of the Town's parks are opened on Monday 29 March 2021 in line with Government steps.

Resolved: to open up all closed tactile play areas of ESTC parks with effect from 29 March 2021 in line with Government steps for ending lockdown. The resolution includes the continuance of applying measures for the safety of the public and staff, e.g. hygiene applications and public safety notices.

2. Other LPCOS Cttee resolutions involved the following matters:
- Staying with the current cost effective supplier of bedding plants.
 - External Funfair May 2021? – too early – later in the year perhaps.
 - Groups meeting on ESTC parks may do so in line with Government steps.
 - Football pitch surface improvements.
 - RoSPA works quotations.
 - Consideration of tree works at Mill Lane Cemetery.
 - Weaver Springs Park Pavilion legionella prevention measures.
 - ESTC Truck and other vehicle parking arrangements post Office move.

Noted and received.

20/180 *To receive a written and or verbal report from the Chairman of the Events Cttee regarding recent meetings and or pandemic lockdown updates concerning 2020/21 events.*

No further updates at this time.

20/181 *Correspondence received including: relevant late items received.*

a. *Late - copy of joint HBBC/Police advice letter to shopkeepers/businesses not to put up with and how to report verbal abuse by potential customers who will not comply with lockdown safety measures*

b. *Late – resident's reported concerns regarding broken glass and litter around the MUGA on Maple Way Park. (Cleared asap by ESTC Groundcare Operatives). Secondly, a highway matter on Doctors Fields. Resident signposted to County Highways reporting services (specific email address).*

Noted and received.

20/182 *To receive the Town Clerk's Finance Report including late relevant items.*

a. *A motion to resolve the receipt and approval of the monthly ESTC accounts for month ending 28 Feb 21.*

(Bank reconciliations for signature by the Chairman)

Resolved: that Cllr Coe as meeting Chairman may sign the accounts for the month of February 2021 as a true record of ESTC's financial status as at 28 Feb 21.

b. *Banking: current account suggested return to solely the Unity Trust (online) Bank to meet the future needs of the Town Council. RFO's thanks and update.*

The Town Clerk thanked cllr signatories and colleagues for supporting the transition which is proceeding as planned.

Noted and received.

c. *Outsourcing salary payroll function update.*

This is progressing as expected and should be in effective for the Mar 21 payroll and end of year P60 procedures.

Noted and received.

d. Local Government Unions pay claim for 2021/22 – revised submission.

Noted and received.

f. Late relevant items. **None.**

20/183

To receive the Town Clerk's general report including relevant late items received since this agenda was published.

The Town Clerk reported to members a *late item* as follows:

a prospective buyer of a house on Union Mill Close is put off the purchase because of the close proximity of Mill Lane Cemetery trees to the common property line. Members are aware that the Cemetery and trees were in place decades before the houses. If and as necessary the matter will be referred back to the LPCOS Cttee for further consideration.

Noted and received.

20/184

Planning applications/correspondence received as a Town Council 'consultee' from HBBC, adjacent Districts and or LCC as Local or County Planning Authorities. Also to:

a. Note a Planning Cttee Chairman's verbal or written reports and possibly, discuss and receive non-private session items from the Planning Cttee; e.g. a verbal/written report from the Planning Cttee of the 09 Mar 21 meeting, especially regarding major or controversial applications concerning the Town.

1. 21/00125/HOU – 84, Equity Rd – attach front porch <3m x <3m.

No material Consultee comments.

2. 21/00056/HOU – 76, Equity Rd – front 2 Storey extn and canopy porch and single storey side extn.

No material Consultee comments.

3. 21/00169/CONDIT – HBBC Leicester Rd Crematorium – 'conditions' variations.

No material Consultee comments.

4. 21/00116/HOU – 85, Hinckley Rd – Single storey extns side and rear plus works.

No material Consultee comments.

5. Relevant late applications/correspondence received since this agenda was set.

i) 21/00131/Full – 111, Hinckley Rd., - uplift of child minding business.

No material Consultee comments.

ii) 21/00209/HOU – 34, Doctors Fields – extensions to property.

No material Consultee comments.

All noted and received.

b. Rail Freight Interchange (RFI) Parishes Meeting Notes 16 Feb 21 and Lutterworth Rail Line alternative document.

Members are grateful for being kept up to date with the discussions and actions of the *Joint Parishes Group*. The alternative Cosby Rail line was of particular interest.

Noted and received.

c. Relevant late applications/correspondence received since the Cttee agenda was set. ***None*** apart from a minor reference to responses to BDC Local Plan.

Point of Order: the member of the public leaves the meeting before private session items are discussed as does CCLr Mrs J Richards with the thanks of Members at 8.29p.m.

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.

20/185 *Planning matters which should be heard in private session:*

To consider the issues/updates from the Chairman/Town Clerk/Members or others regarding the:

a. *The Premises projects – update re new Library Office facility and public toilet. Additionally, Town Team Working Group (TTWGp) information regarding a possible site for housing the ESTC Groundcare Team and, for example, the ESA Boxing Club.*

The Office move to the ES Library and the opening of the Public Toilet are held up by the drafting of leases between the County and Borough Councils. Additionally:

1. *Possible vacant possession premises – Chairmen’s sanctioned conversation (for the Groundcare Team).*

The Chairman reported that she has spoken to the freehold owner and he is ‘open to discussion’. The Chairman suggested that with the coming lighter nights, more clement weather an organised visit of the potential site, with the owner’s consent etc, might provide clarity for all parties especially if dual access points could be considered feasible. Members were informed that the LCC site of industrial units down on Oaks Way are being considered and an interest registered with LCC Officers.

Noted and received.

2. *Boxing Club Update.*

The Earl Shilton Amateur Boxing Club have informed the Chairman they have moved to temporary premises in Barwell as they cannot find any that are suitable in the Town. ESTC members remain keen to find the Town’s award winning Boxing Club a permanent home in the Town as a main priority.

Noted and received.

3. *Avant Homes Employment Land update.*

The Chairman informed members that this area was also being looked at for a possible home for the ESTC Groundcare Team combined with community facilities such as a conjoint home for the Boxing Club.

Noted and received.

4. *TTWGP notes 19 Jan 21 and electric charging points for HBBC Wood St car park. Town Cllrs concerns.*

Members who attended the TTWGP meeting of 19 Jan 21 suggested at this forum that the 2 HBBC car parks might be considered in any next tranche of EVC installations. One Town Cllr subsequently suggested by email only that this was not a good idea they 'might be vandalised or worse'. The Cllr did not attend this meeting to advance his view further.

Noted and received.

b. *Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension (ES-SUE) – Consortium revised 'heads of terms' (HOTs) for an access land etc - update if any.*

ESTC have not received an updated draft of the ES-SUE HOTs following on from significant differences required by ESTC to the initial draft however, the Consortium have/are:

- i) Carrying out tree, heritage and general environment surveys.
 - ii) Have publish an *article of intent* in the official HBBC Borough Bulletin.
- ESTC will in due course be seeking significant support and advice from HBBC in their legal duty as Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Noted and received.


c. *Late relevant confidential items received since this agenda was set.*
None.

20/186

Staffing Cttee issues including:

a.

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC WEBSITE



b. *Legacy legal matters updates including – Employment Tribunal (ET) formal appeal against a significant part of the overall judgement confirmed as launched by Council's legal team.*

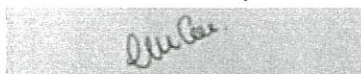
ESTC Solicitors inform Council that the Appeal has formally been launched to an Employment Appeals Tribunal (EAT) however there is no further update as such.

Noted and received.

c. *Relevant late items received since this agenda was published.*
None.

20/187

Mill Lane Cemetery – grave space legal matter update.



The grave plot deed holder has invited ESTC to deal amicably with him directly rather than his previously appointed solicitor. ESTC's solicitor has been instructed to do so revising the proposed contract accordingly.

Noted and received.

Last Item.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m. thanking remaining members for their attendance and contributions.

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Chairman's Initials/Signature: 
digital signature see ESTC Minute 20/010 for authorisation

2020/21