

**EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Held at 7:30 p.m. on  
**Tuesday 10 December 2019**  
At *The Stute*, Station Rd., Earl Shilton, LE9 7GA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

County/Borough Councillors: Mrs C Allen\* and R Allen\*,

In attendance: Town Clerk: Mr ME Jackson.  
Members of public: Nil.

- 19/128** *Chairman's welcome and opening remarks including the Westfield Ward By-Election held on 05 Dec 19. To formally receive the by-election result and welcome the new elected member to the Town Council.*

The Chairman was most pleased to welcome the duly elected Cllr Ross Hills to the membership of ESTC following the recent by-election. Cllr Hills signed his 'declaration of acceptance of office' as witnessed by the Proper Officer. The full complement (14) of members has now been restored.

The Chairman made a brief general point of praise for the 29 Nov 19 ESTC Christmas Lights event and promised more comments later at the appropriate agenda item.

***Noted and received.***

- 19/129** *To receive apologies for member and other cllr absence.*

Town Cllr Ms D Almey submitted to the Town Clerk, with a good reason, her written apologies for absence in advance of the meeting. These apologies and reason were recorded by the Town Clerk and brought forward to the meeting for consideration.

***Resolved: to accept the tabled apologies for absence from Cllr Ms D Almey as stated and recorded.***

County Cllr Mrs J Richards apologised in advance with reasons for her absence.

***Noted and received with thanks.***

- 19/130** *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 Mrs A Burton declared a non-pecuniary interest in any discussion regarding the Town's well known voluntary group Earl Shilton in Bloom (ESiB).

**Resolved: to allow Cllr Burton to remain in the meeting for any ESiB item for discussion purposes only, i.e. but not allowed to propose or vote on any motion brought forward.**

19/131 To receive and approve as a true record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tues 12 November 2019.

**Resolved: to accept as a true record of the Full Council meeting of the 12 November 2019; the minutes tabled for the Chairman's signature and already distributed in approved draft to members with their agenda packs.**

19/132 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**

19/133 To note any reports, (not private session items), from County and Borough Cllrs.

a. Cllrs Mrs C and R Allen stated that because of the extant *General Election* *purdah* period they had nothing meaningful to report from HBBC.

**Noted and received with thanks.**

b. Cllr Mrs Janice Richards supplied for the meeting 2 written reports. Firstly, the LCC Leaders position statement dated 04 Dec 19. Secondly likewise, the position statement from the LCC Cabinet lead member for children and family services also dated 04 Dec 19.

Additionally, Cllr Richards sent her best wishes to members for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Noted and received with thanks.**

19/134 To receive any form of Neighbourhood Police report pertaining to Earl Shilton including the local Beat Team report for November (dated December) 2019.

The Beat Team monthly report was received as usual. Members were disappointed to note a monthly high spike (11) in the instances of motor vehicle crime for the Town. Members were also advised that the lead and lag time for police crime statistics could be as much as 2 months behind the current month. With some irony, members observed that the report format was stale with a paragraph referring to open windows on 'hot days and nights'. Members hoped that the addition of a replacement officer, bringing the Team back up to its strength of 4; will soon make a positive deterrent impact on crime. The Town Clerk promised to forward to members the latest police email contact details.

**Report noted and received with thanks.**

19/135 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. 14 Nov 19 - Leicestershire Police Intercultural Social Evening.

Cllrs Leman and Burton attended this event on behalf of the Town Council and found it a worthwhile form of engagement including a tour of the HQ Control Room and other facilities. A very good event.

**Noted and received.**

b. 18 Nov 19 – Town Mayor at the HBBC unsung hero award event.

Cllr Coe having attended this event to support the Town's nominee, whilst disappointed to a degree the latter did not win through, was though impressed with the overall standard of achievements recorded by nominees as a whole from young to the older age ranges. A splendid event.

**Noted and received.**

c. Late relevant events to be reported since this agenda was set.

Cllr Leman attended the recent LOROS Carol Service at Leicester Cathedral and to support it was most worthwhile and enjoyable.

**Noted and received.**

**19/136** To invite/nominate member representatives to attend meetings/events that are not Town Council initiated including invitations received since this agenda was set.

a. 16 Dec 19, 6.15 p.m.- Town Mayor is Civic Guest at HBBC Carol Service.

b. Dec 19 – Town Mayor has full programme of Residential Care home visits. Including:

- Park Grange.
- Bethel & Bethesda.
- Kingsfield Court (including St Peter's RC Primary Sch carol singing).
- Age UK Kings Walk for Christmas Lunch.

**Noted and received.**

**19/137** LPCOS Cttee meeting/business matters including:

a. Draft minutes and or a verbal report of the Cttee meeting of 03 Dec 19.

- The safety reported and costed play equipment repairs for the 2 mobilus will go ahead as planned after expert professional examination.
- Maple Way Park footpath works are suspended until the exceptionally wet Weather subsides.
- The Maple Way Park 'Rocker' play equipment replacement base works will be shortly carried out despite the wet weather.

**Noted and received.**

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

c. Recommendations (including spending) to Full Council. **None.**

**19/138** To receive written and or verbal reports from the Chairman of the Events Cttee of recent meetings plus feedback/forward regarding 2019/20 events especially Christmas Lights 2019.

In the absence of the Cttee Chairman, Cllr Coe and other members reported that overall the event was a success again this year. The entertainment was varied and well received, no complaints were received on the night, and numbers of residents and their guests attending seemed to be up on last year's figures.

The only disappointment was the mechanical failure of the snow machine. In future the machine will thoroughly tested before the event. Cllr Leman did suggest to all members that they should consider making known ESTC event dates a priority for their attendance please. The dates for 2020 are already known to all members.

**Noted and received.**

**19/139** *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, discuss and receive non-private session items from the Planning Cttee meeting held earlier on Tues 10 Dec 19.*

The Planning Cttee Chairman briefed members on the latest routine applications which of particular note included:

- Wholehearted support for the re-development of the 'Town Cricket Club.
- Engaging with a developer for regarding a possible 270 dwellings for a greenfield site to the North-East edge of the Town.
- Objection to 4 apartments on Station Rd.
- Objection to an improper vehicle reclamation works off Nock Verges.
- Objection to a Landfill Site at Barrow Hill Quarry, Mill Lane.

**Noted and received.**

b. *Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange (HNRFI) – members to discuss and possibly resolve a motion on the Town Council's stance, for or against, this proposal.*

At length the members discussed from notes tabled and past reports made by the ESTC representative to the recent 'Combined Parishes' meetings. In essence, members felt that to name the project a rail freight interchange is a disingenuous misnomer as only approximately 11% of any freight will be hauled by rail; the majority will be by HGV to which end there will be the further stifling of the current road network, more pressure on air quality safety standards, noise pollution and low wage warehouse jobs that are not required or wanted by the areas potentially affected.

**Resolved: that the stated position of ESTC is to be against the HNRFI project development.** Cllr B Granger requested that his vote against this resolution be recorded in these minutes.

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

**19/140** *Correspondence received including relevant late correspondence received since this agenda was set.*

a. *Earl Shilton in Bloom (ESiB) meeting minutes dated 14 Oct 19 and copy of request put to the LPCOS Cttee re reciprocal plant watering arrangements.*

**Noted and received as was the LPCOS Cttee agreement to the reciprocal hanging basket watering arrangements.**

b. *The RCC 'Oil Buying Club' involvement from ESTC?*

**Noted and received.**

c. *Request to support the Local Council Electricity Parliamentary Bill.*

**Resolved: to support this potential bill, (actions-on by the Town Clerk).**

d. *Late relevant Item of correspondence.*

A request has been made through the Borough Council the East Midlands regional body of the Ministry of Defence for all Town and Parish Councils to consider signing-up to the *Armed Forces Covenant (AFC)*. The Covenant affirms the commitment of local communities to recognise the particular needs of present and past service personnel and their families.

**Resolved: to sign-up to the AFC forthwith, (actions-on by the Town Clerk).**

- 19/141** *To receive the Town Clerk's General Report including relevant Items for inclusion received since the agenda was set.*

The Town Clerk reported that the ESTC tipper truck may have a damaged front near-side shock absorber and so the truck will go into an approved workshop for investigation and most probably repair.

**Noted and received.**

- 19/142** *To receive the Town Clerk's Finance Report including:*  
*a. That Council authorise the Chairman to sign-off the RBS accounts reconciliation statements for November 2019 if bank statements received and note the latest forecast of outturn budget against actuals if ready.*

The full November 2019 accounts package was tabled on the night for members to examine and question.

**Resolved: to allow the Chairman to sign the November 2019 RBS cashbook (3 of) accounts statements as true.**

- b. Note the receipt of the £20k VAT refund as claimed by Council.*

**Noted and received.**

- c. Relevant items for inclusion received since the agenda was set.*

The Town Clerk pointed out he has made a £2k booking error to the wrong account code (Community Grants instead of Community House), which will be corrected in the December RBS accounts.

**Noted and received.**

Point of order: taken unwell, Cllr Mrs G Granger left the meeting at 8.43 p.m. when this agenda item was completed. Members wished her well and a speedy recovery.

**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.**

- 19/143** *Staffing Cttee issues including legacy legal matters updates and items received since this agenda was set including a verbal report from the Chairman of the Staffing Cttee and or Town Clerk such as:*

- a. To note and receive Staffing Cttee draft meeting minutes from Tues 26 Nov 19 and actions taken.*

The Staffing Cttee Chairman briefed members on the following points from the Cttee meeting minutes:

- Legacy item updates – none.
- The successful end of a staff member's probation period.
- The contract of the Head of Groundcare.
- The contract for a Groundcare Supervisor.
- The precept 2020/21 draft staff cost model
- Agreed staff pay scale points with effect from 01 Apr 20.
- The good progress of the recently recruited Groundcare Operative

**Minutes and verbal report noted and received.**

b. *Associated and or late relevant items deemed necessary. None.*

**19/144** *Planning Cttee private session items. Updates from the Cllrs and Town Clerk including:*

a. *The Premises projects: ES SUE/HBBC Officer meeting 25 Nov 19 and possible report from a possible all stakeholder meeting a.m. 10 Dec 19.*

The Chairman and the Town Clerk reported on the meeting with the Barwood Land planning agent under the aegis of HBBC on 25 Nov 19. The meeting was cordial and clear from the prospective of all parties. Barwood Land still hope to have a tangible planning application on the table for HBBC by Easter 2020.

The Library Offices/public toilet premises project meeting for the 10 Dec 19 was cancelled by mutual consent as all parties agree matters are well in hand and making good progress.

**Noted and received.**

b. *The Dalebrook Farm (DBF) development: any update – meeting with CE HBBC and officers on 18 Dec 19.*

REDACTED COPY FOR PUBLIC WEBSITE  
*MR Jackson Town Clerk*

Cllr Coe reported to all members that she, the Town Clerk and other Cllrs will meet with the Chief Executive of HBBC on 18 Dec 19 to discuss the appalling state of DBF and recent criminal activity attracted to the site.

**Noted and received.**

c. *Related planning matters received since this agenda was set. None.*

**19/145** *Early Intervention Worker – end of contract decision(s) requested by the local Methodist Churches Circuit.*

Members praised the success of the project and the Clerk reiterated the financial position for the current budget year.

**Resolved: to inform the employer to keep the approximate £2k grant for this financial year and use it for ad hoc intervention work.** (Cllr B Granger voted against this motion and requested his vote be recorded in these minutes.)

**End of Private Session & Confidential Items.**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 p.m. thanking members for their attendance and contributions.**

Chairman's Initials/Signature *lllll*

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2019/20