

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2008**

- \* Cllr. S.C. Pryde (Mayor)
- “ Mrs. R. Gadsby (Deputy Mayor)
- \* “ Mrs. P.C. Brooks
- \* “ A.B. Clark
- \* “ J.F. Collier
- “ A.L. James
- \* “ W.J. Pryor
- \* “ M. Reilly
- \* “ Mrs. S.A. Stavrou
- \* “ A.P. Watts
- “ Mrs. E.A. Webster

\* Denotes Members present.

In attendance: Town Clerk, Senior Assistant to the Town Clerk and Recreation and Amenities Manager.

673. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mrs. Gadsby, Cllr. James and Cllr. Mrs. Webster.

674. **Declarations of Interest:**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Action</b>
Cllr. S. Pryde	Minute 536 – Request for Hall Concession LAM Action	Personal	Supporter of the Action Group	Remained
Cllr. A. Watts	Minute 652 – Hall Hire Charges – Local Action Groups	Personal	Member of Waltham Abbey Residents Association	Remained
Cllr. S. Pryde	Minute 657 – Request for Hall Concession LAM Action	Personal	Supporter of the Action Group	Remained

675. **Minutes:** RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Members, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

676. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:** Cllr. Watts referred to an issue he had raised with Trevor Baker of Essex County Highways at the last meeting regarding dropped drains in Farm Hill Road and Honey Lane and advised Members that he had now been informed by the Officer that these had been included in a Schedule of Works. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

677. **Questions:** There were no questions from Members in pursuance of Standing Order No. 10.

678. **Public Questions:** There were no public questions.

679. **Plans Subcommittee Minutes & Report dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Brooks, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

680. **Plans Subcommittee Minutes & Report dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

681. **Town Twinning Subcommittee Minutes & Report dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 be received.

On Minute 527 - German Theme Night – Cllr. Pryor congratulated all those involved in the organisation of this event which had been in his opinion a tremendous evening.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes, Reports and Recommendations therein dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 be approved and adopted.

682. **Policy & Resources Committee Minutes & Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryor, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be received.

On Min. 536 – LAM Action Request for Hall Concession – Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou noting that the proposed reduction would be based on bar sales stated that as District Council Portfolio Holder for Crime and Disorder she could not be associated with any resolution encouraging people to drink. Cllr. Watts went on to say that the Town Council continually had difficulties agreeing discounts and he believed that a process should be incorporated into the review of Fees and Charges whereby fixed discounts were available for local community groups and charities and it was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT when discussing the 2009/2010 Budget with the Officers the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee to agree a policy for hall discounts for local community groups and charities.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes and Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be approved and adopted.

683. **Plans Subcommittee Minutes & Report dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

684. **Leisure & Community Committee Minutes & Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Clark, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be received.

On Minute 578 – Town Mead Leisure Park Cholera Brook – Cllr. Pryde asked for a current situation report.

The Recreation and Amenities Manager advised Members that blockages in the brook downstream of the contaminated area had been cleared and that recent heavy rain had flushed the stagnant water through. He also advised that he will continue to monitor and carry out further clearance work in the winter.

On Minute 568 – Town Mead Leisure Park – The Recreation and Amenities Manager informed Members that Thames Water had provided a Programme of Works for the rising main installation. Cllr. Watts recommended the Officer take photographs of the work as it progressed.

On Minute 585 – Waltham Abbey In Bloom – Cllr. Pryde congratulated the Recreation and Amenities Manager on the success of the recent Presentation Evening. Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou went on to suggest that the Officer should contact local nurseries for sponsorship of this event.

On Minute 593 – Town Crier Delivery – Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou advised the Officers that she had details of a local distribution company.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes and Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be approved and adopted.

685. **Development & Environment Committee Minutes and Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Clark, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be received.

On Minute 602 – Highway Matters – Cllr. Clark informed Members that he had received an email from Trevor Baker of the West Essex Highways Office thanking him for the assistance with the Harold Crescent Project, he had also received a note of thanks from the residents.

On Minute 609 – Cycling in Sun Street – Cllr. Pryor informed Members that the Police had been tasked to take action against people cycling through Sun Street and they had displayed posters on lamp columns advising cyclists they were liable to a £30 fine. Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou stated that it was good to see that the Town Council had once again succeeded in their efforts to improve the Town Centre.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes and Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be approved and adopted.

686. **Establishment Review Subcommittee Minutes and Report dated 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

687. **Plans Subcommittee Minutes and Report dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryor, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008 be received.

On Minute 636 – Planning Application EPF/2159/08 Land Rear of Lea Valley Nursery, Crooked Mile, Waltham Abbey – Cllr. Pryor advised Members that in company with Cllr. Reilly he had visited the site and they had found no reason to object to the application.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein be approved and adopted.

688. **Policy & Resources Committee Minutes and Report dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008 be received.

On Minute 652 – Hall Hire Charges, Local Action Groups – Cllr. Pryde clarified his proposal that the Council charge local Action Groups on an hourly basis. Cllr. Reilly agreed subject to such hiring not interfering with other business. Cllr. Pryor went on to say that most local Action Groups applied for Grants and by so doing we would be effectively double granting. Cllr. Watts having previously declared a Personal Interest advised Members that these issues were precisely what he had in mind when he suggested a full review of the Hall discounting system. Cllr. Watts went on to say that these comments would be taken into account when a policy was discussed. Following a full and frank discussion it was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT no further action be taken as this matter had been the subject of a previous Resolution.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes and Report dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008 be approved and adopted.

689. **Consultation on Planning for Gypsies and Travellers in Epping Forest District:** Members noted a proposed Motion on behalf of Cllr. Mrs. Webster in respect of forming an alliance with local action groups. The Town Clerk explained further the Member's proposal and Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou advised Members that similar action had been taken by Epping Town Council which appeared to be successful and stated she was of the opinion that this would show solidarity with the local Action Groups. The Mayor went on to say that Cllr. Mrs. Webster had given the required notice and on her behalf the Mayor moved – “ That the Town Council forms an alliance with Waltham Abbey Residents Association, Waltham Abbey Neighbourhood Action Panel, Waltham Abbey Town Centre Partnership and other appropriate groups in order to inform the wider public of the consultation on planning for gypsies and travellers in Epping Forest District by way of newsletters, surgeries and public meetings and to answer public questions in respect of the consultation.” On being put to the vote the Motion was carried and it was

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Council forms an alliance with Waltham Abbey Residents Association, Waltham Abbey Neighbourhood Action Panel, Waltham Abbey Town Centre Partnership and other appropriate groups in order to inform the wider public of the consultation on planning for gypsies and travellers in Epping Forest District by way of newsletters, surgeries and public meetings and to answer public questions in respect of the consultation.

**Cllr. Reilly abstained from voting.**

690. **Vacation Powers:** It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT from the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008 until the date of the next ordinary meeting of the Council, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader of Council, Minority Group Leader and the appropriate Committee Chairman in consultation with the Town Clerk be empowered to take any urgent action and to instruct the Town Clerk accordingly.

691. **Mayor's Announcements, Correspondence and Engagements:** The Mayor informed Members that he had attended the Buckhurst Hill Parish Council Carol Concert on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and the King Harold School Christmas event on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009. The Mayor also led the Town Carol Concert on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The Mayor's annual childrens Christmas Party was taking place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

692. **Appreciation:** The Town Clerk circulated a letter from David Leake of DP Leake, Sun Street, thanking the Council for continuing to provide Christmas lighting display in the Town Centre. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this be noted.

693. **Larsen Recreation Ground – Report of the Trustees 2007/2008:** Members referred to the report of the Trustees for submission to the Charity Commission and it was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be approved.

694. **Essex Community Foundation:** The Town Clerk advised Members that a copy of the Essex Community Foundation's Annual Review for 2008 is available in the Members Room. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT this be noted.

695. **Publication Scheme:** The Town Clerk informed Members that the Council was required by the Information Commissioner to adopt a Model Publication Scheme with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. A copy of the Scheme and a copy of the Council's Charges had been previously circulated to Members. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Council adopt the Model Publication Scheme and Charges with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

696. **Blue Plaque Scheme:** Members noted correspondence from Peter Huggins of the Historical Society setting out the suggested wording for the first two blue plaques to be installed. Following discussion it was moved by Cllr. Clark, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT a decision on this be deferred until Members had had the opportunity to meet with Peter Huggins.

697. **Images of the Town Hall:** Images of the Town Hall during World War One when the Hall was used as a temporary hospital were on display. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT these be mounted and placed on display in the entrance to the building.

698. **Quality Council Status:** The Town Clerk advised Members that along with other Towns and Parishes in Essex the Council's application for reaccreditation was considered by the County Panel on the 12<sup>th</sup> December. The Town Clerk went on to say that nine of the ten applications were deferred as due to delays by the Audit Commission these Council's were unable to present last years audited financial statement. The Chief Executive Officer of the EALC had applied to NALC for special dispensation to allow the reaccreditations. It was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

699. **Status List:** Members referred to the Status List and the Senior Assistant referred to the extremely poor response to the Town Plan Consultation Document which had been circulated through the Town Crier Magazine. Cllr. Pryor was concerned that this would affect the application for Grant Aid. The Mayor went on to say that the Council should consider reissuing the document through residents groups and by placing them at strategic points such as Tesco's Stores etc.

Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou asked for a current situation report in respect of the electrical supply for the Quaker Lane Car Park CCTV System. The Recreation and Amenities Manager advised Members that he was meeting a representative of the Electrical Supply Company on 29<sup>th</sup> December.

Cllr. Pryor asked for a current situation report in respect of the replacement boiler at Ninefields Community Centre and the Recreation and Amenities Manager advised that the contractors were due to start on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Status List be noted.

700. **Exclusion of Press and Public:** It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and listed below, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

701. **Minutes – Part B:**

702. **Minutes and Reports – Part B:**

703. **Golf Driving Range:**

**S.C. PRYDE - MAYOR**

