

COUNCIL MEETING
24th JULY 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.

213. **Apologies for Absence:** All Members being present there were no apologies for absence.

214. **Declarations of Interest:**

Member	Item	Interest	Reason	Action
Cllr. Mrs. P. Brooks	Control of Lap Dancing Establishments	Personal and Prejudicial	Chairman of District Council Licensing Committee	Remained– Abstained from voting.
Cllr. Mrs. R. Gadsby	Control of Lap Dancing Establishments	Personal and Prejudicial	Member of District Council Licensing Committee	Remained – Abstained from voting.
Cllr. A. Watts	Order of Extinguishment of Footpath 42	Personal	Owner of a property within the Cobbins Brook Flood Plain	Remained
Cllr. M. Reilly	Order of Extinguishment of Footpath 42	Personal	Owner of a property within the Cobbins Brook Flood Plain	Remained

Cllr. Mrs. R. Gadsby	Application for Grant Aid – Waltham Abbey NAP	Personal	Member of WANAP	Remained
Cllr. W. Pryor	Application for Grant Aid – Waltham Abbey NAP	Personal	Member of WANAP	Remained
Cllr. Mrs. S. Stavrou	Application for Grant Aid – Waltham Abbey NAP	Personal	Member of WANAP	Remained
Cllr. S. Pryde	Application for Grant Aid – Community Mural Project Group	Personal	Governor of Hillhouse School and Ward Member	Remained – Voted
Cllr. A. Watts	Application for Grant Aid – Community Mural Project Group	Personal	Related to senior staff member at Hillhouse School	Remained

215. **Minutes:**

RESOLVED – THAT (1) the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 20th May 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,

(2) the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on the 22nd May 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,

(3) the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 22nd May 2008, copies of which had been precisely circulated to all Members, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor,

(4) the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 19th June 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

(5) the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 17th July 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.

216. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:** Cllr.Mrs. Brooks asked to be removed from the Town Promotions Sub-Committee as the meeting dates for the Municipal Year coincided with other commitments. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this be noted.

217. **Questions:** There were no questions in pursuance of Standing Order No. 10.

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

219. **Plans Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 21st May 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. James, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 21st May 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

220. **Plans Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 4th June 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. James, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 4th June 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

221. **Town Promotions Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 9th June 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 9th June 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

222. **Policy & Resources Committee Minutes & Report dated 12th June 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 12th June 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

223. **Plans Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 18th June 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. James, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 18th June 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

224. **Town Plan/Market Town Steering Group Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 19th June 2008:** It was moved by Cllr.Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 19th June 2008 be received.

On Minute 70 – Town Plan/Market Town Partnership – Cllr. Watts stated that it was not the intention of the Steering Group to defer the formation of a Market Town Partnership indefinitely and it was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Resolution at Minute 70 (a) read “the formation of a Market Town Partnership be deferred”.

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes and Report dated 19th June 2008 be approved and adopted.

225. **Establishment Review Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 30th June 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 30th June 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

226. **Plans Sub-Committee Minutes & Report dated 3rd July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 3rd July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

227. **Leisure & Community Committee Minutes & Report dated 3rd July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 3rd July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

228. **Development & Environment Committee Minutes and Report dated 3rd July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Clark, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 3rd July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

229. **Policy & Resources Committee Minutes and Report dated 10th July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes and Report dated 10th July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

230. **T.I.C. Management Sub-Committee Minutes and Report dated 14th July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Webster, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 14th July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

231. **Town Twinning Sub-Committee Minutes and Report dated 14th July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 14th July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

232. **Licensed Bars & Catering Sub-Committee Minutes and Report dated 14th July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 14th July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

233. **Plans Sub-Committee Minutes and Report dated 17th July 2008:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes, Report and Recommendations therein dated 17th July 2008 be received, approved and adopted.

234. **Appointment of Representatives to Other Organisations:** Members considered representation to other organisations and it was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT representatives to other organisations be as set out at Appendix A to these Minutes.

235. **Development & Environment Committee:** It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT in view of the concerns of local business proprietors and the lack of support for the Chamber of Commerce, the remit of the Development and Environment Committee be extended by the addition of the following;

(a) To support the Waltham Abbey business community and to influence local and national decision makers in shaping policy to create the best environment for business within the Town, and

(b) To co-opt onto the Development and Environment Committee a representative of the local business community.

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

RESOLVED – THAT from the 25th July 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.

237. **Mayor's Announcements, Correspondence and Engagements:** The Mayor informed Members that he had attended the Lea Valley Park Garden Party on the 19th July, attended the Acting Up Theatre School stage presentation on 12th July . In company with other Members he had visited the Bayeux Medieval Festival on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th July, the Annual Civic Service on 13th July and the Deputy Mayor attended an event at the Paternoster Nursing Home on 12th July 2008.

The Mayor went on to say that he had received various correspondence including a letter from the Waltham Abbey Town Partnership regarding the 2012 Olympics which would be referred to the Development and Environment Committee. A letter from the Waltham Abbey Floral Art Society regarding hall hire dates and a letter from a local resident regarding notice boards in the Town Centre which would be referred to the next meeting of the Development and Environment Committee. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

238. **Appreciation:** The Town Clerk informed Members that letters of appreciation for Grant Aid had been received from (a) Waltham Abbey Community Association Day Centre, (b) Cruise Bereavement Care (Epping Forest Branch), (c) Third Waltham Abbey Scout Group and (d) Essex Air Ambulance.

239. **Control of Lap Dancing Establishments:** Members considered correspondence from Epping Forest District Council requesting the Town Council's views on additional powers that District Council might need in the control of licensing of Lap Dancing Establishments. Following a full discussion in which Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou advised that establishments of this nature cannot be prevented merely because people do not like them and went on to say that if establishments do not fall within normal licensing terms the Licensing Authority can take no action. Following further discussion it was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT Epping Forest District Council be advised that the Town Council believes that Lap Dancing Clubs should be placed under the category of Sex Encounter Establishments under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

Cllr. Mrs. Brooks and Cllr. Mrs. Gadsby abstained from voting.

240. **Order for Extinguishment of Footpath 42:** Members considered correspondence from agents for the Environment Agency in the matter of obtaining an Extinguishment Order on Footpath 42 to facilitate the construction of the Cobbins Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme. Following discussion it was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Council offers no objection to the Order for Extinguishment of Footpath 42.

241. **Election Dates 2009:** Members noted a consultation paper from NALC advising that the Department of Communities and Local Government is seeking the views of local councils on a proposal to move the date of local elections from 7th May 2009 to 4th June 2009 so that they take place on the same day as the European Parliamentary Elections. Cllr. Mrs. Webster was of the opinion that the convenience and benefits outweigh the concerns and that the cost saving factor should also be taken into consideration. Following a full discussion it was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT NALC be advised that;

- (1) the Town Council supports the proposal to move the date of the local elections in 2009 from 7th May to 4th June so that they are held on the same day as the European Parliamentary Elections,
- (2) the Town Council would support the proposal to move the date of the Parish Council elections where they are scheduled to take place on 7th May 2009,
- (3) issues effecting the proposal could be the number of separate ballot papers required and allocating time for count to take place,
- (4) these issues could be overcome by the use of colour coded ballot papers and the count taking place on separate days.

242. **NALC – Report of the Chief Executive:** The Town Clerk referred to the June 2008 report of the NALC Chief Executive. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

243. **NALC Briefing – Empowerment White Paper:** The Town Clerk referred to the NALC Briefing on the Empowerment White Paper – Communities in Control. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) The Briefing Paper be noted and (b) the Town Clerk prepare a report for presentation to the September meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

244. **Essex County Council – Services for Adults:** The Town Clerk referred to a letter from Essex County Council setting out proposals for transformation of in house provided - services for adults. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

245. **Tourist Information Centre Management Committee:** The Town Clerk advised Members that there had been a duplication of representation on this Management Committee in that Mrs. Gadsby had been listed to represent both Councils and at the recent meeting of the Management Committee it had been agreed that the Town Council should make a further nomination. Cllr. Mrs. Webster went on to refer to Excursions 2009 Exhibition to be held at Alexandra Palace on 17th January 2009 and suggested that the Town Council should exhibit at this venue rather than the Essex Tourism Show which is normally attended. Following full discussion it was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) Cllr. James fill the vacant place on the Management Committee and
(b) the Officers investigate further the Excursions 2009 Exhibition and report to a future meeting.

246. **Waltham Abbey Neighbourhood Action Panel:** Members considered an application for Grant Aid from the Waltham Abbey NAP to provide them with a working fund. Following a full discussion it was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT the Neighbourhood Action Panel be awarded a Grant of £500.00 for the 2008/09 Financial Year.

247. **Community Mural Project:** Members considered an application for Grant Aid from Jonathan Foster, Head of Art at King Harold School, on behalf of the Community Mural Project Group. Following a full discussion in which Members put forward various options it was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT a Grant of £200.00 be awarded.

(Voting was recorded as 8 votes for – 2 votes against – 1 abstention.)

248. **Status List:** Members referred to the Status List and Cllr. Mrs. Webster advised Members that in her capacity as County Councillor she had met with Cllr. Hume who had agreed that Essex County Council would fund the provision of standard railings for installation in Highbridge Street. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

Other issues were dealt with as follows; It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Council lodge a formal complaint with Thames Water regarding the raw sewage in Cholera brook, the complaint to be copied to the Environment Agency and Environmental Services at Epping Forest District Council and
(b) the Officer to prepare a full report in respect of the Ninefields heating system to the September meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee.

249. **West Essex Primary Care Trust:** The Town Clerk advised Members that the West Essex PCT Annual Report 2007/08 is available in the Members Room. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this be noted.

250. **The Essex Design Initiative:** The Town Clerk advised Members that copies of the Public Art Guide, the Essex Design Guide and the Urban Place Supplement published by the Built Environment team at Essex County Council are available in the Members Room. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

251. **Application for Grant Aid:** Members considered an application for Grant Aid from Waltham Abbey Citizens Advice Bureau in the sum of £1,640.00. This is the cost of their occupancy charge for office space in the Town Hall for the year 2008/9. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT a Grant of £1,640.00 be awarded to the Citizens Advice Bureau.

252. **White Water Canoe Course -Planning Application:** Members noted that the Borough of Broxbourne had provided details of the planning application in respect of the White Water Canoe Course at Station Road, Waltham Cross and invited the Town Council to make comment. Following discussion it was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Council support the application.

253. **Public Conveniences Adjacent to the Town Hall:** Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou advised Members that at the recent Town Centre Partnership Meeting she had received a complaint regarding the cleanliness of the public conveniences adjacent to the Town Hall which she had reported to the Officers. The Recreation and Amenities Manager advised that he was liaising with a specialist cleaning company for a deep clean of the premises following which ongoing maintenance would be reviewed. Following further discussion it was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Officers investigate engaging a cleaning company to carry out ongoing cleaning of the premises and
(b) the Officer to copy cleaning check sheets to Members.

254. **Waste Bins:** Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou informed Members that Apollo Construction had agreed to fund the provision of waste bins on the route from Tesco Stores to King Harold School. It was moved by the Mayor and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

255. **Waltham Abbey Stakeholders Meeting:** Cllr. Mrs. Brooks informed Members that she had the minutes of the last meeting which would be distributed to all Members and that she would be unable to attend the next meeting of the group on the 12th September. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT following distribution of the minutes to Members a decision would be made regarding attendance at the September meeting.

256. **Exclusion of Press and Public:** It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and listed below it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

257. **Minutes – Part B:**

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

259. **Ninefields Community Centre:**

S.C. PRYDE - MAYOR

