

MINUTES of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held at FELIXSTOWE TOWN HALL on Wednesday 8 March 2023 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr S Harkin (Mayor)
 Cllr M Richardson (Deputy Mayor)
 Cllr D Aitchison
 Cllr N Barber
 Cllr S Bennett
 Cllr S Bird
 Cllr M Deacon
 Cllr T Green

Cllr S Gallant
 Cllr M Jepson
 Cllr M Morris
 Cllr D Savage
 Cllr A Smith
 Cllr K Williams

OFFICERS: Mr A Tadjrishi (Town Clerk)
 Mrs D L Frost (Deputy Town Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE:
 Mrs S Faversham (Civic Events Officer)
 Mrs S Morrison (Planning Administration Assistant)
 Mr S Congi (Financial Administration Assistant)
 Mrs E Wiggins (Cemetery Supervisor)
 Mrs J Smith (Administration Assistant)
 Ms H Miles (Communications Apprentice)
 2 Member of the public (in person)

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

The meeting was preceded by a moment of reflection delivered by Carolyn Jones, St. Philips Community Hub, Felixstowe.

436. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were none.

437. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from **Cllr S Wiles**.

438. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Member(s)	Minute No.	Nature of Interest
Cllr S Bird Cllr M Deacon Cllr S Gallant Cllr M Jepson Cllr M Richardson	All	Other registerable interests (as Members of East Suffolk Council)
Cllr S Bird	All	Other registerable interests (as Members of Suffolk County Council)

439. QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR

There were none.

440. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 January 2023 be signed by the Mayor as a true record and adopted by the Council.

441. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor spoke of the recent engagements carried out, in particular the events surrounding the 70th Anniversary of the North Sea Floods.

Referring to the funeral and Civic Memorial Service for Cllr Graham Newman, the Mayor paid tribute to all those that attended and supported these moving services.

The Mayor congratulated Litter-Free Felixstowe for winning an East Suffolk Award, at the East Suffolk Awards evening at which Felixstowe itself was a finalist in the Community of the Year category.

The Mayor's charity events had been well-supported and the Mayor thanked those that supported the recent Auction of Promises.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for attending an engagement on her behalf at RAF Wattisham.

Referring to this meeting coinciding with International Women's Day, the Mayor paid tribute to Cllr D Savage, who would be stepping down as a Town Councillor, having been in office for 40 years.

Cllrs A Smith and M Deacon, both of whom were elected on the same day as Cllr Savage in 1983, paid tribute to her long-service and dedication to the town.

Cllr Savage responded to these tributes and spoke of her pride at having been able to serve the Council for so long, her MBE for those services and of the many great friends made along the way.

The Mayor and Council presented Cllr Savage with a gift and some flowers.

It was RESOLVED that the Mayor's announcements be noted.

442. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the following meetings be received and, subject to their accuracy being confirmed by those committees, adopted:

- a) Planning & Environment Committee 11 January 2023
- b) Finance & Governance Committee 18 January 2023
- c) Planning & Environment Committee 25 January 2023
- d) Planning & Environment Committee 8 February 2023
- e) Civic & Community Committee 15 February 2023
- f) Planning & Environment Committee 22 February 2023
- g) Assets & Services Committee 22 February 2023

443. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES

There were none.

444. EARMARKED RESERVES EXPENDITURE

Council noted the approved Earmarked Reserves Expenditure for the year 2022/23 to date of £126,450. Council also noted that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Earmarked Reserve with a balance of £8,009.62 had been recommended by Council's Civic and Community Committee to be renamed and utilise for the Coronation of King Charles III.

It was RESOLVED that:

- i. the approved Earmarked Reserves Expenditure for the year 2022/23 to date was £126,450; and,
- ii. the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Earmarked Reserve with a balance of £8,009.62 be renamed and utilise for the Coronation of King Charles III.

445. LIONS CLUB FACILITY

Council received a recommendation report from Assets & Services to authorise £10,000 from the 2019/20 CIL Earmarked Reserve (*Minute #425 of 2022/23 refers*) to support East Suffolk Council with funding for the new facility for the Lions Club, to enable them to continue to deliver the town's Christmas light displays.

In response to a question on the Council's approach to the use of CIL funding, the Clerk confirmed that the CIL Working Group would continue its work in relation to the strategic use of CIL funding and a report be brought back to Finance and Governance committee in due course.

RESOLVED that £10,000 be authorised from the 2019/20 CIL Earmarked Reserve to support ESC with funding for the Lions Club Facility.

446. S106 APPLICATION FOR GOALS FOR GOSFORD WAY PARK

Council considered the report on the rusted goal posts which had recently been removed from Gosford Way Park on safety grounds and an application to East

Suffolk Council for S106 funding to replace the goals at a total cost of £2,520 +VAT.

RESOLVED that Council approve the application to East Suffolk Council for S106 funding to replace the goals at Gosford Way Park.

447. OCCASIONAL GRANTS POLICY 2023/24

Council considered its Occasional Grants Policy for 2023/24 as recommended by the 15 February 2023 Civic & Community Committee (*Minute #401 of 2022/23 refers*).

RESOLVED that the Occasional Grants Policy for 2023/24 be approved and adopted as presented in the report.

448. PRESS & MEDIA POLICY 2023/24

Council considered its Press & Media Policy for 2023/24 as recommended by the 15 February 2023 Civic & Community Committee (*Minute #402 of 2022/23 refers*).

RESOLVED that the Press & Media Policy for 2023/24 be approved and adopted as presented in the report.

449. INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS 2023/24

Council considered its insurance arrangements for 2023/24 as per the recommendation of the Finance & Governance Committee (*Minute #371 of 2022/23 refers*).

It was RESOLVED that the Council's arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks be approved and confirmed as adequate for 2023/24.

450. INVESTMENT POLICY & STRATEGY 2023/24

Council considered its Annual Investment Policy & Strategy for 2023/24 as updated to reflect current investments.

RESOLVED that the Investment Policy & Strategy for 2023/24 be approved and adopted as presented in the report.

451. FTC/ESC JOINT LIAISON GROUP MEETING

Council received notes of the FTC/ESC Joint Liaison Group meeting held on 21 February 2023.

In response to a question on the Beach Village development, it noted that this was planned to be completed at the end of July 2023.

In response to a question on the new lease for the Martello Café, it could not be confirmed that the new lease was complete as yet.

Members commented on the positive working relationship between the two councils and the opportunity given via the Joint Liaison Group for information sharing.

RESOLVED that the notes of the 21 February 2023 FTC/ESC Joint Liaison Group meeting be noted and Councillors were advised to let the Clerk know of any matters for the next meeting on 6 June 2023.

452. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was **RESOLVED** that the following schedule and payment of accounts be received and approved:

Date	Voucher Nos.	Total Payment
15/01/2023	386 - 403	£8,502.51
31/01/2023	404 - 417	£47,869.84
15/02/2023	418 - 432	£28,541.35
28/02/2023	433 - 451	£49,845.19
	TOTAL	£134,758.89

453. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 8.29pm. It was noted that the next meeting of the Council would be the Annual Council Meeting on 17 May 2023 at 7.00pm.

Date: _____

Town Mayor: _____