

Lowestoft Town Council

Meeting of the Community Safety Committee

Via Video Meeting
14:00 on 22 October 2020

MINUTES

Video meeting participants: Cllrs Sue Barnard, Neil Coleby, Graham Parker and Andy Pearce (Chair)

Also participating: Shona Bendix (Clerk) and Lauren Elliott (Committee Clerk)

11. Welcome

As the Chair and Deputy Chair had both given apologies, an appointment needed to be made from amongst the Councillors present at the meeting to preside over this meeting. Cllr Barnard proposed that Cllr Pearce preside over this meeting; seconded by Cllr Coleby. There were no further nominations. The vote was taken and all Councillors voted in favour. Councillors and members of the public were reminded of the right to report and the application of the video meeting protocol, and the meeting was welcomed.

12. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Peter Lang, Paul Page and Keith Patience. Cllr Peter Collecott had not provided apologies and was absent. Cllr Coleby proposed acceptance of the apologies received; seconded by Cllr Pearce; all in favour.

13. Declarations of Interests and dispensations

There were none.

14. Receipt of any comments and noting that the draft minutes of the meeting on 1 September 2020 will be considered at the next appropriate meeting

The Committee had previously resolved that it would like to consider Covid-19 recovery actions to support the town and the Committee's Terms of Reference have been updated to reflect this. It was requested that a standing item to allow this consideration be included on future agendas. It was queried whether enquiries have been made with East Suffolk Council about the Town Council appointing a representative to their Safer Neighbourhoods Committee. Officers will check whether a response has been received.

15. Advance comments from the public on any matters on this agenda

There were none.

16. The security of the Town Council's assets, including the following:

- 16.1. How to improve security of The Ness, following reports of vandalism – There have been no further reports and it seems this was targeted at workers during the lockdown, although the Town Council understands that their work was permitted. It is possible that further incidents may occur, but the play equipment and structures on the site are as robust as possible. The scheduled completion date has been pushed back but still should be imminent. An assessment as to whether CCTV or other security measures are needed is required, and this Committee may wish to use Sparrows Nest as a comparison. Options could be considered at the next meeting, which may include exploring whether CCTV provision from Hamilton House would be feasible, or whether regular inspections and patrols would be appropriate. There may be low-cost solutions available, and the Council has already received approaches from companies offering CCTV solutions. It was agreed this should be explored as a wider town strategy, as the Council could also have priorities elsewhere. This site was identified specifically due to the targeted vandalism which has taken place.
- 16.2. Any measures required to improve the safety of the Town Council's assets, including extending the provision of CCTV – This item also ties in with item 17. Discussions held as part of the Quarterly Liaison Meeting with East Suffolk Council are confidential but there has been no substantive update on the CCTV service yet. The Town Council could complete a needs

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assessment across its assets but not across the whole town. It was requested that the Clerk make enquiries with East Suffolk Council as to whether it has completed its own needs assessment, which could inform the Town Council's decisions about potential locations for CCTV. A steer from Full Council will be needed to determine what security measures should be progressed. The Clerk will also enquire with East Suffolk Council about the anticipated cost of the provision of CCTV on land owned by the Town Council, which will inform the considerations of this Committee and the Budget and Loan Sub-Committee. It was requested that an item provisionally be added to November's Full Council agenda, so that this Committee and the Budget and Loan Sub-Committee can continue its consideration which a clearer indication as to what Full Council would like to see.

16.3. Any relevant reports from the East Suffolk Council Quarterly Liaison Meeting – The discussions were confidential but there were no reports for the consideration of this Committee.

17. An update on the CCTV service

This was covered with the discussion of item 16.2.

18. Noting that the Standing Orders and Policies Sub-Committee is considering Committee and Sub-Committee structures and Terms of Reference, and consideration of whether to submit any comments

The review will be taking place during the Standing Orders and Policies Sub-Committee's meeting in January, and will look at how the different Working Groups, Sub-Committees and Committees interact with one another, as there are number of items which require the consideration from the perspectives of several Committees and Sub-Committees, which risks conflicting decisions being made. Committees and Sub-Committees are being asked to feedback any comments. It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next agenda.

19. Date of the next meeting

19.1. This was provisionally agreed as 19 November at 14:00, subject to the Chair and Deputy Chair confirming their availability.

20. Items for the next agenda and close

There were no requests in addition to the items already identified during the meeting. Should East Suffolk Council welcome a representative from the Town Council onto their Safety Neighbourhoods Committee a representative will need to be appointed at November's Full Council meeting.

The Chair thanked those who had been viewing the meeting via live stream. There were no confidential matters for consideration and the Chair closed the meeting at 14:27.

21. Resolution to close the meeting to the public

Signed:
19 November 2020