

SKEGNESS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held via Video Conference

Held at 7 pm on Wednesday, 7th October 2020

PRESENT: Councillor M Dannatt (Town Mayor) in the Chair.

Councillors: M Anderson, P Barry, S Blackburn, B Brookes, D Brookes, T Burnham, S Claxton, R Cunnington, S Dennis, D R Edginton, A Findley, D Kirk, G Saxon and T Tye.

Officers: Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk.

Invited: Inspector J Barnsley and Sargent G Harrison (Police representatives)

Absent: Cllr J Carpenter.

The meeting was live streamed on the Council's You Tube Channel to public and press.

C85. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (Agenda Item 1)

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: *That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.*

C86. APOLOGIES (Agenda Item 2)

An apology for absence was received from Councillors J Brookes, S Emsen, S Kirk and P Sutton.

C87. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 3)

Cllr S Dennis Category A – Item 6 Payee.

C88. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda Item 4)

A question/statement regarding Remembrance Day was submitted by Mr Kelly, it was agreed this question would be dealt with in item 15 of the agenda.

C89. THE TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE (Agenda Item 5)

The Town Mayor informed Council that a list of Mayoral events has been posted on the Council website, Facebook and Twitter

It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: *That the Mayor's announcements be noted.*

C90. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL (Agenda Item 6)

Cllr S Dennis declared a Category A interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

The Town Clerk reported on a schedule of payments made between 28th August 2020 and 28th September 2020 as shown in Appendix A to these minutes. The Town Clerk answered questions on the payments and bank reconciliations.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: *That the amended schedule be approved, and the bank reconciliation be noted.*

C91. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR (Agenda Item 7)

None received.

C92. QUESTIONS TO/COMMENTS FROM THE LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE REPRESENTATIVE (Agenda Item 8)

The following question was submitted by Cllr M Anderson:

In your answer to my last question regarding hate crimes in Skegness, you said there were 96 in one-year 2019/20 with two convictions. How does this compare to other crimes in Skegness?

Inspector Barnsley had provided some statistics shortly before the meeting that had not yet been distributed, this spreadsheet is to be distributed to all Councillors after the meeting. Sargent Harrison spoke on how hate crimes are dealt with, Inspector Barnsley said that any concerns regarding an investigation should be raised with her direct so that a review could take place.

Councillors asks the Police representatives various questions, they were able to confirm that fines had been issued in the Town for Covid 19 breaches, that hate crimes can include any protected characteristic and that staffing is arranged throughout the district and office are deployed based on need. Councillors were informed that targeted patrols had been organised in a response to an increase in collisions and to target anti-social behaviour.

Councillors thanked the Police representatives for attending.

C93. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES (Agenda Item 9)

A report from the Environment Agency and various papers from the Connected Coast Board were provided. A short discussion on the Connected Coast Board and Towns Fund application took place.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: *That the reports from the Environment Agency and Connected Coast Board be noted.*

**C94. REPORTS BY DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS
(Agenda Item 10)**

None received.

C95. MOTIONS (Agenda Item 11)

Motion

That Skegness Town Council write to Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Public Health England, the Health Secretary and Matt Warman MP to express how dismayed and outraged we are with the decision by Lincolnshire Community Health Trust to continue to close Skegness Hospital Urgent Care during the night.

This action by the Trust leaves the Skegness residents with no health cover during the night and in the middle of a pandemic. This action is totally unacceptable as health services should be ramping up not decreasing with winter approaching.

Proposer: Cllr M Anderson
Seconder: Cllr D Brookes

Cllr Anderson presented his motion and Cllr D Brookes spoke on his support for the motion. A short discussion took place where other Councillors expressed their concern regarding the closure and their support for the motion.

It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: *That motion be approved.*

C96. LINCOLNSHIRE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE LOUTH AND SKEGNESS SURVEY (Agenda Item 12)

Councillors were encouraged to fill in the survey individually.

It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: *That the survey be noted.*

C97. POLICIES REVIEWED (Agenda Item 13)

It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: *That:*

- a) *amendment be made to the Capability Policy on Page 3 to remove the duplication in the 4th paragraph "Chairman of HR Committee"*
- b) *the policies be approved.*

C98. JAPANESE KNOTWEED (Agenda Item 14)

The Town Clerk informed the Council that the first treatment had been carried out and that the two neighbouring properties has agreed to contribute to the costs.

*It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted.*

C99. REMEMBRANCE DAY (Agenda Item 15)

Mr Kelly submitted the following question regarding Remembrance Day:
For one hundred years without fail, the people of this nation have gathered in groups at a set time, on a set day to fall silent and remember the sacrifices made by their family, friends and complete strangers during times of conflict: sacrifices that were made to secure and protect the freedom of all of us.

The importance of this Act of Remembrance has been reinforced over the last two decades by the recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I note, and understand, that you have already taken the difficult decision to cancel the Remembrance Parade this year. Marching people around in close formation, even outside, must increase the risk of Covid transmission.

While it is a responsible reaction, in the current crisis, to scale back official pageantry to lower the risks of spreading the virus, do the Councillors believe that their duty this year is to provide as safe an opportunity as is practical for those who will be exercising those very freedoms that were so dearly bought?

I, along with my family and certainly many others, will be paying my respects at 11am on Remembrance Sunday, in a socially responsible way, at the War Memorial at St. Matthews Church unless you provide another, more suitable, focal point, perhaps Tower Gardens or Central Beach.

I see that the Mayor will be attending a 'private' event organized by you, but this day, of all days, is not one for exclusion or division. People must be allowed to gather in collective remembrance and trusted to act in a manner that respects the memory of those that they wish to honour.

I ask that you, as Skegness Council, please help the residents of the town to do this in as safe a way as regulations will allow. If Covid restrictions still allow an event at The Cenotaph in London, then they surely permit one in our town.

As a soldier wrote in 1915:

*...To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die*

*We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

He did not survive the war.

“We will remember them.”

The Town Clerk explained that Council has agonised for several months as to how it could facilitate an Act of Remembrance that not only met the Government rules but was safe for the people of Skegness.

After many meetings and discussions, reviewing several alternative options together with the Royal British Legion and the Church of England, the parties involved have regrettably come to a joint decision that with the number of Covid-19 cases now rapidly growing again, it is impossible to hold an event this year that is safe and where the Council can guarantee the virus will not be spread.

Individuals can of course mark Remembrance in their own way but must always be mindful

- not to gather in groups of more than 6 people,
- to ensure social distancing rules and always to follow Government guidelines.

The Mayor will be laying a wreath on behalf of the Town in a small private gathering including the Royal British Legion representing the armed services, to avoid crowds congregating and this will be recorded and shared on-line. It was felt those who fell during the wars would not want the public to place their own and others' lives in danger in these circumstances.

Regarding the national event held at the Cenotaph in London, it is understood that this will be much smaller than usual. Regardless of this there will be considerable controls in place over who is allowed in the area and huge resources in place to ensure that there is appropriate social distancing and other safety measures in place. Watching this national event on TV is perhaps, for this year, the best and safest way for the general population to mark their respects.

A discussion took place and thanks were given to the Remembrance Day working group, in particular Cllr A Findley for all his hard work. Council recognised there was no other decision that could be taken. The Mayor informed members that he would also be representing the Town on the 11th November 2020 at 11am.

*It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: That the verbal report be adopted.*

C100. HR COMMITTEE VACANCY (Agenda Item 16)

*It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED: That Cllr A Findley sit on the HR Committee.*

C101. CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS (Agenda Item 17)

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: *That the Council office closes at 4:30pm on Wednesday 23rd December 2020 and re-opens on Monday 4th January 2021.*

C102. TOWNS FUND APPLICATION (Agenda Item 18)

The Town Clerk gave a verbal report on the application that had been submitted to the Connected Coast Board for a sensory and heritage trail in Tower Gardens. A discussion took place. Cllr Cunnington was thanked for bringing this to the attention of members and the Town Clerk was thanked for putting the submission together.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: *That the verbal report be noted.*

The meeting closed at 8:28pm

Skegness Town Council

Current Account

Appendix A

List of Payments made from 28/08/2020 to 28/09/2020

Date	Payee	Ref	Amount	Detail
01/09/2020	DVLA	DD	265.00	Vehicle Tax - WN62
04/09/2020	Lincs Pumps & Pipelines Ltd	EB363	528.00	Pond pump blower unit
04/09/2020	Travis Perkins	EB363	56.99	Public Property Materials
04/09/2020	Nisbets	EB363	82.56	Café Cleaning, hygiene & eqpt
04/09/2020	Anglian Water Business	EB363	45.18	Water Rates Unit
04/09/2020	Burdens Group	EB363	1,081.32	Mower lease and equipment
04/09/2020	Charles H Hill Ltd	EB363	180.61	Equipment Repairs
04/09/2020	HMRC	EB363	5,566.02	PAYE Contributions mth 5
04/09/2020	LCC Pension Fund	EB363	6,108.23	Pension Contributions mth 5
04/09/2020	Screwfix	EB363	29.99	Workwear
04/09/2020	Sid Dennis & Sons Ltd	EB363	80.16	Waste Disposal
04/09/2020	Museum Conservation Services	EB363	5,258.34	Jolly Paintings Restoration
04/09/2020	Amazon Business	EB361	145.53	Café Equipment & COVID PPE
04/09/2020	ESPO	EB361	34.14	Cleaning & Stationery
04/09/2020	Pilgrim Foodservice	EB361	396.46	Café Stock purchases
04/09/2020	Turner Price	EB361	383.56	Café Stock purchases
04/09/2020	EMS Pest Control	EB361	100.00	Pest control
04/09/2020	Pure Clean	EB361	30.00	Window Cleaner
04/09/2020	P & R Decorator Centre	EB361	4.50	Public Property Materials
04/09/2020	Anglian Water Business	EB361	42.09	Water Rates Unit
04/09/2020	Expenses	EB365	90.68	Reimbursement of café purchases
04/09/2020	Expenses	EB365	6.70	Reimbursement of café purchases
04/09/2020	Expenses	EB365	3.00	Reimbursement of café purchases
04/09/2020	Expenses	EB365	18.38	Reimbursement of café purchases
07/09/2020	Lloyds Bank	DD	81.98	Bank Charges
07/09/2020	Godaddy.com	CCAUG	115.10	Web domains
07/09/2020	BT Group	DD	68.39	Broadband building
07/09/2020	ARK ICT	DD	63.12	IT Equipment
08/09/2020	ARK ICT	DD	156.89	Software support & anti virus
09/09/2020	Expenses	EB367	26.34	Reimbursement of Café Stock Purchases
14/09/2020	Opus Energy	DD	65.96	Units Electric
14/09/2020	ARK ICT	DD	46.20	IP Phones
15/09/2020	Expenses	EB369	30.61	Reimbursement of Café Stock Purchases
15/09/2020	Fuel genie	DD	626.91	Petrol and Diesel
18/09/2020	O2	DD	57.79	Mobile phones
18/09/2020	ICO	DD	55.00	Subscription
21/09/2020	British Gas	DD	555.91	Electric Tower Gardens
21/09/2020	British Gas	DD	87.26	Electric Tower Gardens
21/09/2020	iZettle	DD	46.80	EPOS Subscription
22/09/2020	7core Electrical Wholesale Ltd	EB368	56.70	Public Property Materials
22/09/2020	Charles H Hill Ltd	EB368	279.04	Equipment Repairs
22/09/2020	Nisbets	EB368	123.26	Café Cleaning & Consumables
22/09/2020	Screwfix	EB368	12.99	Tools replacement
22/09/2020	Turner Price	EB368	127.20	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	Viking Direct	EB368	101.95	Postage and Stationery
22/09/2020	Workwear Express	EB368	206.17	Workwear
22/09/2020	ELDC	EB366	1,805.99	Unit Rent & Service Charges
22/09/2020	Amazon	EB366	2.42	Office expenses
22/09/2020	Nisbets	EB366	26.96	Café Cleaning
22/09/2020	Turner Price	EB366	55.82	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	Pilgrim Foodservice	EB366	81.84	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	Sid Dennis & Sons Ltd	EB366	57.34	Waste Disposal
22/09/2020	P & R Decorator Centre	EB366	14.34	Public Property Materials
22/09/2020	01Direct Ltd	EB370	265.19	Equipment
22/09/2020	Charles H Hill Ltd	EB370	62.65	Equipment repairs
22/09/2020	P & R Decorator Centre	EB370	14.34	Public Property Materials
22/09/2020	EKM Ltd	EB370	1,488.00	Playground repairs
22/09/2020	Pilgrim Foodservice	EB370	46.36	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	PAT Test UK	EB370	72.00	Equipment repairs
22/09/2020	Travis Perkins	EB370	50.78	Public Property Materials
22/09/2020	Turner Price	EB370	104.85	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	ELDC	EB364	650.25	Units Rent
22/09/2020	Amazon Business	EB364	11.20	Cleaning & Hygiene
22/09/2020	B A Bush & Sons Ltd	EB364	11.94	Puncture repairs
22/09/2020	ESPO	EB364	18.20	Cleaning & Hygiene
22/09/2020	R W Stokes & Sons Ltd	EB364	72.00	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	Rialtas Business Solutions ltd	EB364	348.00	Software support & maintenance
22/09/2020	Turner Price	EB364	65.21	Café Stock Purchases
22/09/2020	G F Tomlinson Building Ltd	EB364	438.90	Construction costs
22/09/2020	Sid Dennis & Sons Ltd	EB364	1,048.72	Waste Disposal
23/09/2020	Anglian Water Business	DD	29.00	Water Rates unit
23/09/2020	Anglian Water Business	DD	14.00	Water Rates unit
25/09/2020	British Gas	DD	35.70	Gas Tower Gardens
25/09/2020	Staff Salaries	EB372	25,847.73	Staff Salaries mth 6
			Total Payments	56,268.74