

THESE MINUTES NOT YET CONFIRMED

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

**MINUTES of the Meeting held on Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 7.30pm at
1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton IG10 2QZ**

Present:

Councillors:

M Stubbings		
P Abrahams	R Brookes (From Min No 231)	B Cohen
C Davies	S Fontenelle (From Min No 228)	L House
W Kauffman	S Murray	M Owen
C C Pond	C P Pond	K Rainbow
J Riley	G Wiskin	D Wiskin

Officers:

M Squire (Town Clerk)
P Bryce (Community Manager)

226 Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were received from Cllrs Beales, Downing, and Murphy.

227 Declarations of Interest

Cllr C C Pond declared the usual non-pecuniary interest in any agenda items relating to the work of Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) and Essex County Council (ECC) as a member of these authorities.

228 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 January 2024 were CONFIRMED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

229 Public Representations

None were received.

230 Questions Without Discussion

None were received.

231 Town Mayor's / Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk reminded members of the Annual Town Meeting which is taking place at the Murray Hall on Tuesday 5 March, (the agenda to be distributed in due course). Also the defibrillator training to be held at Murray Hall on 29th February at 6pm – 8pm.

232 Town Mayor's Engagements and Announcements

The Town Mayor reported that since the last Council meeting held on 30 January 2024, he had attended the following events.

- World of Work Conference with the YES Partnership – 7 February 2024
- Town Mayor's Civic Service Loughton Methodist Church – 11 February 2024
- Visit to Alderton School – 12 February 2024

233 Reports from Committees

233.1 Environment & Heritage Committee

The meeting held on 30 January 2024 was NOTED.

The continued success of the Loughton Wombles was highlighted. .

There was much discussion regarding the appalling state of the roads and footways, and the number of potholes. Members agreed that the residents should be made aware that Loughton Town Council is not responsible for the repair of the Highways and Essex County Council is the authority. It was agreed that the document 'Who Does What' which shows which tier of local government is responsible for what council issues should be circulated via all Town Council mediums; including future editions of 'Think Loughton', noticeboards, website and social media.

233.2 Planning and Licensing

The meeting held on 5 February 2024 was NOTED.

233.3 Resources and General Services Committee

The meeting held on 7 February 2024 was NOTED.

Cllrs Cohen, Owen and Wiskin were thanked for all their work on the financial assistance grants Min No 313. Some £26k was distributed to 26 organisations in Loughton.

234 Reports from Members on Outside Organisations

The reports from the following meetings were NOTED.

- I. Epping Forest Local Councils' Liaison Committee Meeting held on Thursday 1 February 2024 – Cllr David Wixley.

Cllr Wixley reported that the planning application by Qualis on the Pyrles Lane Nursery site referred to in his report were for 43 dwellings and not 45. There will be a net gain of 42 dwellings as No. 79 Pyrles Lane will be demolished as part of the scheme should the planning permission be granted.

- II. The Broadway Town Centre Partnership: Thursday, 11 January 2024 – Cllr Rose Brookes.

235 Removal of seven Loughton salt bins by Essex County Council (ECC)

The Town Clerk reported that further e-mails have been exchanged between the Town Clerk and Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport and provided further background information and the current state of play. There are indications that at least one salt bin has now been replaced and refilled. Town Clerk has approached ECC to clarify what is happening now.

236 ECC/EFDC Planting of trees without consultation with the Town Council

The Council NOTED that ECC/EFDC have erroneously mis planted a significant number of trees, both at Hillyfields and Jessel Green without any consultation with the Town Council and are causing problems. In both cases ECC has undertaken to move the trees to a better location that is agreeable to Loughton Town Council (LTC). The Town Clerk also highlighted that another tree had now been planted on the grass verge near the old changing room building, along Willingale Road which belongs to LTC. Members AGREED that this tree should remain.

This agenda item would further be discussed at the next Recreation Committee meeting on Tuesday 27 February 2024.

237 Programme of Meetings for 2024/25

Members AGREED the new timetable of meetings with the date of the December 2024 Council meeting to be moved to 11 December 2024.

It was also NOTED that the last Council meeting of this current Town Council would remain as 23 April 2024.

Signed:
Date: 23 April 2024