

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Loughton Town Council, Council Chamber,
1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton IG10 2QZ on Wednesday 18 September
2024 at 7.30pm**

Present

Councillors: C Pond (in the Chair)
W Dodd A Fricker
S Harriman J Obaseki (from Min No EH28)
C Ubah (from Min No EH29) K Valentine

Councillors

also Present: D Wixley
R Brookes

Officers: Mark Squire (Town Clerk)
Pippa Bryce (Community Manager)

Member of the Public Simon Forsdyke

EH25 Apologies

No apologies were received.

EH26 Declarations of Interest

Cllr C Pond declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda items relating to the work of Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) and Essex County Council (ECC) as a member of these authorities. Cllr Wixley declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 5, Speed Watch Presentation, as he knew the member of the public who addressed the committee meeting.

EH27 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2024 were CONFIRMED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr J Obaseki joined the meeting during the next item.

EH28 Public Representations

None were received.

Cllr C Ubah joined the meeting during the next item.

EH29 Speed Watch Presentation

The Committee thanked Mr Simon Forsdyke, who organises a local Speed Watch Group, for his highly informative presentation and concerns over speeding motorists in general and specifically in the Roding Valley / Valley Hill area. The Committee AGREED to put an article in Think Loughton, Ward Councillors were asked to put forward some proposals and the Town Clerk will include in the next Recreation Agenda.

EH30 Town Clerk's / Chairman's Report

The Committee NOTED the updates on the following.

- Alleyway project – Min no EH11.1 -
 - Tree Report - Min no EH14 -
 - Spring Bulb Display on Borders Lane - Min no EH15 -
- Also, the recent correspondence regarding, anti-social behaviour and parking problems, in and around the new housing developments along Borders Lane and the adverse state of Loughton High Street was discussed and noted.

EH31 Essex Transport Strategy – ‘Help shape the future of transport in Essex’ – Min no EH5

The report was received and NOTED

EH32 Jessel Green - Fields in Trust – Min EH6

The Committee NOTED that the Town Clerk had written to Georgina Blakemore CEO, EFDC (letter acknowledged) regarding the request to protect Jessel Green with Fields in Trust status. Committee members were concerned that any green other significant green areas in Loughton could be in potential ‘jeopardy,’ for example Rochford Green.

EH33 Weekly Markets – Min no EH8

The Committee were hugely disappointed to NOTE that the Senior Assets Manager at Qualis, had now informed Loughton Town Council that the pavement area for the proposed weekly market has been adopted by ECC Highways. This latest development has significantly delayed progress on setting up this weekly market. The official licensing channels would be sought for permission and would inevitably mean that the market would not now start until Spring 2025.

EH34 Heritage Asset and Conservation Areas

EH34.1 Extension and Protection of areas within Loughton - Min EH9.1

Members noted the report and the Town Clerk should instigate the formal application process to include The Uplands (and also Loughton Cricket Club), Ollards Grove and 313 High Road.

EH34.2 Heritage Plaques – Min EH9.2

Committee members noted the report and thanked the staff for all their work and the owners of 19 York Hill for their delightful ceremony.

EH35 Allotments

EH35.1 Willingale Road Allotments Report

Committee members NOTED the report.

EH35.2 Pyrles Lane (former) Allotment site

Committee members noted the original letter to EFDC in September 2021 and RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should send a further letter to EFDC, stating that there is a demand/waiting list for allotments and ask EFDC to send a copy of the Secretary of State’s discharge of the land.

EH36 Events

EH36.1 Loughton Wombles – Min no EH12.1

The Committee NOTED the report.

EH36.2 Loughton Horticultural Show – 2pm Saturday 7 September 2024

The Committee NOTED that the 5th Loughton Horticultural Show 2024 at the Murray Hall in Borders Lane had been a great success and that

an appropriate donation from monies made on the day would be made to the Town Mayor's chosen charity, Loughton Voluntary Care.

EH36.3 Loughton Day – Saturday 21 September 2024 - Min no EH12.3

The Committee NOTED that there has been a very strong response to this year's event from the Loughton community with stall applications up c60% on last year. Members were encouraged to attend the event and contribute to running and donating to the second-hand Town Council bookstall to raise funds for the Town Mayors chosen charity, Loughton Voluntary Care.

EH36.4 Remembrance Parade

The Committee NOTED that this event has been scheduled for Sunday 10 November 2024. Support was requested from members to assist in stewarding the parade with further details to follow in due course.

EH36.5 Light up a life

The Committee NOTED that this event has been scheduled for Saturday 30 November 2024 with further details to follow in due course.

EH37 Cemetery Matters

EH37.1 Closed Churchyard – Min no EH14.1

The Committee NOTED that the Town Clerk was awaiting further communication from St Johns the Baptists Church.

EH37.2 Holm Oak – Min no EH14.2

The Committee NOTED that the crowning work was carried out on the 9 September 2024.

EH38 Removal of seven Loughton Salt Grit Bins by Essex County Council (ECC) – Min no EH17

The Committee NOTED the report and as there had been no further response from ECC, AGREED to proceed on the recommended basis.

EH39 New Essex County Council Climate Action Advice Packs - 30 May 2024 Green report - MinEH20

Committee members thanked Cllr Fricker for providing his detailed report. Cllr Fricker to prepare an item for the November meeting.

EH40 Memorial Tree and Bench Policy – Min RC39

The Committee members AGREED to adopt the Memorial Tree and Bench Policy to all open spaces under the remit of the Environment and Heritage Committee, in keeping with the Recreation Committee.

EH41 Christmas Windows Competition – Min EH21

Committee members AGREED the amendments to the judging grid.

EH42 Indoor /outdoor car boot policy

Committee Members AGREED the car boot policy.

EH43 Financial Position

Current Financial Position

Members NOTED the report.

EH44 Environmental Issues
No further issues were raised .

EH45 Future Work of the Committee
No new items were raised.

Signed:
Date: 20 November 2024