

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HERTFORD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE ROBIN ROOM, THE CASTLE, HERTFORD ON
MONDAY, 27 JULY 2009

The Mayor, Councillor D R Poole

Councillors: Miss K P Darby, Mrs H P Durbin, Mrs B S Haddock, M A McCormick, Mrs S M Newton, R A K Radford, Dr L E Radford, P A Ruffles and Miss J C S Sartin.

Town Clerk, Mrs N L Villa
Responsible Finance Officer, Mr S Davies
Assistant to the Town Clerk, Miss M Challis
The Rev'd. Jo Loveridge, Mayor's Chaplain

Mrs Angela Emsley
Mrs Trish Goldsmith
Past Youth Town Councillors, Mr Craig Andrews and Miss Natalie Wren

HAPTC County Officer, Carina Helm

Prayers – The Rev'd. Jo Loveridge led the opening prayers

Presentations – The Mayor presented the retiring members of Hertford Youth Town Council with their certificates, and also presented Mandy Challis with a certificate to recognise completion of the S.L.C.C.'s "Working With Your Council" course.

81. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor P A Ruffles declared a personal interest in agenda item 7 relating to Hertford Civic Society as he is a member of the Society.

Councillor H P Durbin declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 relating to Hertford Civic Society as she is the Vice-chairman of the Civic Society

82. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed new Councillors Angela Emsley and Matthew McCormick.

The Mayor said that he has attended a number of civic appointments since his appointment and is enjoying the role. He is looking forward to the traditional Mayoral visit to Evron in September.

83. THE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 30 March and the Annual Town Council meeting held on 21 May 2009 be approved as a correct record and the Chairman authorised to sign the same.

84. QUESTIONS AND/OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

85. MEMBERS' BRIEFING - POWER OF WELL BEING

HAPTC County Officer, Carina Helm gave members a training session and powerpoint presentation on the new Power of Well Being.

This power enables eligible local councils to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of their area.

86. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Councillor Miss K Darby moved the report of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 8 June 2009.

The Town Council was commended for taking the initiative to effect repairs on All Saints' wall, recognising that a lengthy discussion with the various public bodies involved could take several months and that the work was of high priority for the appearance of the church.

The Town Clerk was also able to confirm that the Ministry of Justice had replied to a letter regarding conflicting advice on the management of memorial testing. The Ministry of Justice is now working with ICCM for a joint solution, however in the meantime, the Town Council's policy is to apply visual and hand testing only.

There were concerns that the Council's Grants Policy does not allow places of worship to receive grants, irrespective of that the application may be to enable the building to be used by the wider community. Councillors were advised that they would have the opportunity to amend the Grants Policy wording later in the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report of the Community Services Committee held on 8 June 2009 be received.

87. DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE

Councillor Miss J Sartin moved the report of the Development and Leisure Committee meeting held on on 23 March and 22 June (this includes the relevant reports of the Planning Sub-Committee meetings of 2 February, 16 February, 2 March, 16 March, 30 March, 13 April, 27 April, and 8 June 2009).

Concerns where raised about the Committee's proposed way forward on the Medlock Fountain issue. The Chairman stated and the Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Council has absolutely no evidence of any legal responsibility for ownership or maintenance of the Medlock Fountain in Salisbury Square.

In response to a question concerning roundabout signage, the Chairman confirmed that the Committee is continuing to express its concerns to East Herts Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report of the Development and Leisure Committee meeting held on on 23 March and 22 June (this includes the relevant reports of the Planning Sub-Committee meetings of 2 February, 16 February, 2 March, 16 March, 30 March, 13 April, 27 April, and 8 June 2009) be received.

88. FINANCE, POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Councillor S Newton moved the report of the special meeting of Finance, Policy and Administration Committee held on 8 June and the meeting on 29 June 2009.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report of the special meeting of Finance, Policy and Administration Committee held on 8 June and the meeting on 29 June 2009 be received.

89. REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

The Council was asked to review and consider amendments to the policies within the Constitution; particularly the Aims and Objectives of the Council for 2009/10.

No amendments were suggested.

Councillors thanked the Town Clerk and the officers involved in the production of the revised Constitution.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The Council approved revisions and adopted the revised Constitution of the Council.