

**Minutes of the Town Council meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Chantry Centre, Chantry Way, CM11 2AP
on Thursday 7th March 2024 at 7pm**

Present: Chairman: Cllr M Thomas
Vice-Chairman: Cllr J Devlin

Councillors: J Clark, L Clark, M Dear, K Herlock, J Leung, C May, M Moore, K Mordecai,
E Sainsbury, D Spencer, G Talbot, A Talboys, J Tutton

Also present: the Town Clerk

116. Apologies for Absence

Cllr A Adshead, R Clark, J Henshaw, M Mordecai

117. Members Declarations of Interest with regard to items on the Agenda

None.

118. Public Participation Session with respect to items on the Agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest

None.

119. Town Council Minutes

Members **(a)** received and considered the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 25th January 2024, and **(b)** approved the signing of the minutes as a true record.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2024 be approved and adopted.

120. Chairman's Report

Cllr Thomas gave a verbal report of the events he had attended on behalf of the Town Council since the previous meeting.

RESOLVED: information noted.

121. Committee Meetings

(a) Planning Committee

Cllr Tutton presented the minutes of the meetings held on 13th and 27th February. In total 17 applications were considered with 7 of those objected to, and every meeting now seems to have members of the public in attendance due to the types of applications that are coming through. Recent large applications include land south of London Road for a Lidl store and 130 dwellings, and there was a large public turnout speaking against it. Also, 89 High Street, the original application had been accepted but they had used a second application to add a large extension and again many residents attended to express their concerns and objections. The ongoing application for 97 Chapel Street was finally passed by Basildon Borough Council as was the re-building of Reids in Laindon Road.

(b) Health, Well-being and Environment Committee

Cllr Moore presented the minutes of the Health Well-Being and Environment Committee meeting held on 20th February 2024. Members of the Christmas Lights working party recently met with the supplier to discuss enhancing the scheme for 2024/2025, further to discussion on litter bins it has been arranged that the Basildon Cabinet Member for Waste and Recycling, Cllr Kevin Blake will be attending the next Committee meeting to discuss replacement of damaged bins in Billericay, and Cllrs Thomas and Herlock had offered to judge the shop window competition for Demetia Awareness Week.

(c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, Cllr Thomas presented the minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting held on 29th February 2024. The annual review of the risk assessment, asset register and terms of reference was undertaken and the documents approved. Members received details of Martyn's Law which is a legal requirement for venues to consider the threat from terrorism. The Chantry Centre was discussed at the Annual Town meeting and the Committee will consider all feedback from those present.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of all the above Committees are approved and adopted.

122. Courses and Conferences

(a) Members received and considered a list of EALC courses taking place in 2024.

RESOLVED: information noted.

123. Town Council Elections – Thursday 2nd May 2024

Members received:

(a) a copy of the presentation slides following the Basildon Borough Council pre-election briefing for Town Councillors held on 22nd February 2024, and:

(b) the Town Clerk gave all members present a set of nomination papers. Cllr Devlin has offered to deliver the papers to Basildon Council and therefore members were asked to bring them into the Town Council office by Wednesday 27th March 2024.

RESOLVED: that all of the above information is noted.

124. Council Meeting Dates 2024-25

Members received the dates of all council and committee meetings being held between May 24 and June 25

RESOLVED: information noted.

125. Items for Information

Members received the following information:

(a) High Street Post Office – Cllr Devlin informed those present of the current status of the search for someone to take the Post Office over from November 2024.

(b) Business Improvement District – the group has been officially set up as a stand-alone entity and the Chantry Centre is being used as a portal for post. The BID will enable businesses to put money into initiatives to attract people to the area.

RESOLVED: **(a)** and **(b)** information noted.

126. Consideration of Items for Press Release/Social Media

- High Street litter pick Saturday 18th May 2024

127. Questions from the Press and Public

None

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm

Cllr ThomasDate
Chairman