

# Caistor Town Council: Economic Development Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Caistor Town Council's Economic Development Committee held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019.

**Present:** Cllr S Critten (in the chair), S Davey, S Wright, A Clark & J Hughes.

**In attendance:** J Hanrahan (Town Clerk).

1. **Chairman's Remarks:** Cllr Critten advised that much work was being carried out on a wide range of initiatives which would not bear fruit for a few months but will make a big difference to Caistor when they do occur.
2. **Minutes of last Meeting,** held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019, were proposed and seconded by Cllrs S Critten and S Wright and resolved to be a correct record.
3. **Mill Lane Depot:** Cllr S Critten updated Members on the current position with the project. East Midlands Community Led Housing (EMCLH) have advised Caistor & District Community Trust (C&DCT) on their dealings with ACIS and the drawing up of a Heads of Terms document to clarify what outcomes are expected. The initial bid, for £60k from Home England (HE) and £6750 from CTC, has been sanctioned but just awaiting the due diligence. We will then be seeking the next round of funding for the clearance which has been estimated at £200k and the 10% matches funding will be required from other sources, including the Town Council, which was agreed at November Council. Greg Bacon (ACIS CX) is considering other funding streams if the HE funding is not forthcoming.  
It is anticipated that C&DCT would lead the project with WLDC instructing any works. ACIS as a Residential Provider would then build the scheme and could manage it on behalf of C&DCT.
4. **2-4 Market Place:** A decision is expected by the end of the month from Architectural Heritage Lottery Funds on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November. The C&DCT are to become VAT registered via Ann Robinson. This would ensure there is distance between C&DCT and Lincolnshire Cooperative, who are the landlords. It is understood that Walters have been appointed to market the adjoining property, 5 South Street. Cllr Critten is to meet with Shirley Cross, the owner, to explore if that property could be brought into the scheme.
5. **Markets:** The Town Clerk reported that Lauri Fox had not made much progress, to date, in attracting new traders. However, the Town Clerk reported that the success of the South Street food markets has led to several traders wishing to attend this year's Christmas Market & Lights switch on event. It is hoped that if that is successful the traders will consider attending at our Saturday Markets held in the Market Place.
6. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The Town Clerk reported that West Lindsey District Council are supportive of our suggested approach to the revised Neighbourhood Plan which would identify Strategic issues in Caistor for addressing in the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan in advance of our revising the Caistor Neighbourhood Plan. Andy Gutherson, who undertook the initial study, is unable to advise us due to his position with Lincolnshire County Council. Alternative external consultants are being approached by the Town Clerk. We are asking for their approach to the

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review and costings for prior to Council appointing one to lead the process. An expression of interest has been lodged with Locality for a contribution to the review and technical matters including a housing needs study.

7. **Private Matters:** It was proposed and seconded by Cllrs S Critten & S Davey and resolved that the press and public be excluded to enable the discussion of confidential matters in private.
8. **Property Acquisition:**
9. **Date of next meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Meeting closed at 21:40 hrs (7.40pm)

Jim Hanrahan  
Town Clerk  
15/11/19