

SAWBRIDGECWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

of the Meeting of Sawbridgeworth Town Council held at the Council Offices, Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth at 7.30 pm on **Monday 25 June 2018**.

Those present

Cllr Angela Alder
Cllr Roger Beeching
Cllr Eric Buckmaster
Cllr Ruth Buckmaster

Cllr John Burmicz
Cllr Pat Coysten
Cllr Annelise Furnace
Cllr Don Hall
Cllr David Royle

In attendance:

4 members of the public
R Bowran - Town Clerk

Joanne Sargant – Town Projects Manager

Welcome by the Mayor,
Prayers were read by Gary Hanson,

18/32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Riches – on holiday and Cllr Shaw - work commitment.
Cllr Adamopoulos was absent

18/33 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Interest by Members
There were none.

18/34 PUBLIC FORUM

To receive representations from members of the public on matters within the remit of the Town Council.

Mrs Hazel Mead asked whether retailers were going to be asked to have displays to mark the centenary of the end of WWI

The mayor referred her to the Town Projects manager who confirmed that arrangements for this and other events would be put in hand

Mr Greg Leary asked about progress on the reinstatement of the Elmwood footpath.

The mayor responded that the county councillor was waiting for funds to be transferred to his locality budget, at which point the work could be put in hand.

18/35 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 May 2018 (M01)
[prop Cllr R Buckmaster; secd Cllr Burmicz]

To attend to any matters arising from these Minutes and not dealt with elsewhere on this Agenda.

- **Resolved:** To change the date of the Amenities Committee meeting from 06 May 2019 to Tuesday 07 May 2019.
[prop Cllr Beeching; secd Cllr Hall]

- 18/36 PLANNING COMMITTEE**
Received and noted: The draft minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on:
- 11 June 2018 (P01)

- 18/37 FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE**
Received and noted: The draft minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting held on:
- 11 June 2018 (F01)]

Resolved: To approve the Terms of Reference for the Finance and Policy Committee as recommended by the committee.
[prop Cllr Coysten; secd Cllr Beeching]

The Mayor reminded members that the council's communications protocol is explicit in defining that contact with the press and public on council matters rests with the Mayor and the Clerk.

- 18/38 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL RETURN 2017/18**
1. **Resolved:** To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement. *[prop Cllr Beeching; secd Cllr Burmicz]*

Cllr E Buckmaster arrived at 19.45

2. **Resolved:** To approve and sign the Annual Return for 2017/18. *[prop Cllr E Buckmaster; secd Cllr R Buckmaster]*
3. **Noted:** The recommendations of the Internal Auditor, recorded in Minute F18/08 of the F&P committee meeting dated 11 June 2018

- 18/39 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**
To receive Mayor's appointments and communications.
- First official event was the Clean Air Day organised by Cllr McAndrew of EHDC.
 - Sawbridgeworth Civic Service on 03 June, thanks to councillors who attended and staff for organising refreshments
 - Hosted schools councils on 05 June and 12 June
 - Cllr Beeching's last Music in the Garden event. £2,200 raised for Jacobs Neurocentres. A vote of thanks was proposed to thank Roger (and Jean) for organising this event over the years. *[prop Cllr Alder; secd Cllr R Buckmaster]* Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Cllr Beeching.
 - Dunmow Civic Service on 24 June at which the mayoral chain was transferred.
 - Commended attendance at the Fun on the Field event on Sunday 01 July.
 - Cllr Furnace asked whether there would be a councillor's surgery at the event. *Mayor said this was a fun event but to expect people to approach councillors with concerns.*

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

To receive representatives reports from:

- County Councillor Eric Buckmaster reported:
 - Comments from the Secretary of State about governance of Academy Trusts and teacher recruitment
 - Statistics relating to library usage demonstrating a move from personal visits to on-line visits.
 - Conclusion of the East of England Ambulance service over last winter's issues of service.
 - Success of Social Prescribing programme.
 - Cllr Furnace asked if there were any statistics being gathered to demonstrate time saving for GPs. *Answer was Yes.*
 - The planning decision on a new multi storey car park in Bishops Stortford has been deferred.
- Cllr Royle asked whether we will meet the need for primary and secondary places. *Answer was that the question had been posed to County and response was that although it was marginal it should be satisfactory.*
- Cllr Royle asked whether BSTC will continue to support the Rhodes Centre after the development of the new cultural centre in the town. *Answer EHDC, the Rhodes Trust and BSTC have signed a heads of agreement for the development and are expecting £9m in funding from the LEP. Rhodes will become self-financing.*
- Cllr Royle asked about the outcome of the Cycling and Walking study. *Answer there would be some modifications following comments made. The consultants would not be paid the balance of their fee until the final report was received.*
- Cllr Royle asked about District Plan progress. *Answer EHDC are awaiting the response from the Inspector but anticipated that the District Plan would be adopted by the early autumn.*
- Cllr Furnace commented that the space allocated to Mandeville school was less than in the original plan. *Answer. That is the case, but representations have been made.*
- Joanne Sargant commented on the proposed change of use of a retail outlet in Bell Street to professional services. *Answer. This is a matter for the planning committee to comment on.*
- Joanne Sargant commented on the apparent change of use of a retail outlet in Bell Street to residential use. *Answer. This is a matter for the Clerk to take up with the Enforcement Officer.*
- Cllr Burmicz asked what pressure could be brought to bear on Forebury Estates relating to the re-letting of the GooseFat and garlic site. *Answer. Regrettably this is a commercial decision for the owners.*
- Cllr Beeching commented on scenarios for the future relating to PAH. It seems to be geared to EFDC, UDC and Harlow council. *Answer. A Garden Town Board has been established which will include the CEO and Leader of EHDC.*
- District Councillor Angela Alder reported:

- Visiting an extra care centre in Wokingham on 22 May
- Chairing the Community Forum on 14 June at which councillors looked at ways to interact with their constituents
- Attending a PAG meeting at which the work programme for the coming year was examined.
- On 27 June will be attending the STACC annual meeting.
- Hertfordshire Police were not present,
 - Town Projects Manager reported concerns about travellers' movements in Essex and Hertfordshire.
- Other Representatives & Champions
 - Footpaths. Cllr Royle reported resurfacing of the path to the catholic church; that the flooding issue on the path running south from Gt St Marys will be addressed this financial year; an increase in eco-crime resulting from a lack of dog control and taking regular walks around the footpaths.
 - Litter. Cllr Royle reported that Corinne Lewis had organised a litter collection at hot spots in the town.
 - Pishiobury Park. Cllr Royle reported having examined the Pishiobury GAP and has commented on the lack of provision for adequate access points.
 - Schools. Cllr Royle reported having several school council meetings in the chamber and outlined a programme of meetings for the next year.
 - Training. Cllr Royle reported attending a training session together with Cllr R Buckmaster on Community Engagement, which would be fed back to the F&P committee.

18/41 OFFICERS REPORTS (Verbal)

- Town Clerk
 - Advised that he was collecting Sawbobus after it had been away for two months for repairs under warrantee.
 - Advised that he had agreed with Herts CC footpaths officer to remove leaflet containers from sign boards as they were being used for depositing dog waste.
- Town Projects Manager
 - Reviewed arrangements for the Fun on the Field event to be held on Sunday 01 July.

18/42 DEPOSIT & CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

There were no Documents for Noting and Consultation.

18/43 FINANCIAL REPORT

Noted: The current Financial Report.

18/44 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Noted and Approved: Accounts for payment.

18/45 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Members instructed that any further consideration of ANPR cameras should be deferred until the sponsoring councillor was able to be present a proposal in person.

Meeting closed at 20:41