

SAWBRIDGEGWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

of the Meeting of Sawbridgeworth Town Council held at 19.30 in the Council Chamber, Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street on **Monday 27 June 2022**.

Those present

Cllr Angela Alder	Cllr Annelise Furnace
Cllr Eric Buckmaster	Cllr Fred Parr
Cllr Ruth Buckmaster	Cllr Greg Rattey
Cllr John Burmicz	Cllr John Rider
Cllr Craig Chester	Cllr David Royle

In attendance:

J Sargent – Interim Town Clerk

1 member of Hertfordshire Constabulary

Welcome by the Town Mayor followed by thought for the day from Cllr John Rider

22/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Nathan Parsad

Cllr Angus Wyatt

Approved [Prop Cllr Rider; Secd Cllr R Buckmaster]

22/27 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of Pecuniary Interests.

22/28 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions raised

22/29 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23rd May 2022 (M01)

[prop Cllr R Buckmaster; secd Cllr A Alder]

There were no matters arising from these Minutes and not dealt with elsewhere on this Agenda.

22/30 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Received and noted: the minutes of the planning committee held on 9th May 2022 (P19)

Received and noted: the draft minutes of the planning committee held on 13th June 2022 (P01)

22/31 FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Received and noted: the draft minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 13th June 2022 (F01)

22/32 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2020-21

1. **Noted:** the report of the Internal Auditor as reviewed by the Finance, Policy and Economic Development committee at its

meeting on 13th June 2022.

2. **Resolved:** to approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement, as recommended by the Finance, Policy and Economic Development committee at its meeting on 13th June 2022.

[prop Cllr A Furnace; secd Cllr E Buckmaster]

3. **Resolved:** to approve and sign the Annual Return for 2020/21 as recommended by the F&P committee at its meeting on 13th June 2022.

[prop Cllr A Alder; secd Cllr R Buckmaster]

22/33

MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

To receive new Mayor's appointments and communications

Cllr G Rattey advised

- He attended the lighting of the beacon for the Queens jubilee celebrations which had a great atmosphere.
- Emily a 7 year old girl who had been making badges to raise money for Ukraine charity funding and passed him £125.
- Attended the Bishops Stortford Pride event
- Attended the Platinum Jubilee service at Great St Mary's Church
- Written the monthly article for the Flyer
- Attended the Bullfields Jubilee party and judged the cakes.
- Promoted a video on Sawbridgeworth
- He had started visiting and promoting every shop and business in Sawbridgeworth completing two or three visits to businesses per week.
- He had met with three senior police officers to discuss hate crime, he thanked the Clerk for arranging the meeting.

22/34

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Received and noted: Representatives reports from:

- County Councillor E Buckmaster additionally added;
 - The speed and volume surveys for the North and West of the Town were being completed and the one near to Bullfields was indicating the support for introducing a 20mph zone.
 - School Lane statutory consultation has been completed and subject to design work.
 - Growth and transport plans are being assessed and he is looking for items that may impact on Sawbridgeworth and will share this with members.
 - The local cycling and walking infrastructure plan are still in discussion with East Herts and County.
 - He will move a 30mph sign in Sheering Mill Lane due to poor visibility.
 - Sheering Mill Lane no entry design work is complete
 - An explanation was made on the County Council grass cutting scheme to encourage growth of wild flowers but road safety would be met at junctions and grass cutting completed at these locations.
 - From 2024 new waste disposal will be completed through energy recovery units and no longer into landfill.
- Questions to the County Councillor:
 - Cllr A Furnace thanked Cllr E Buckmaster for persisting seeking funding for Sawbridgeworth but did he have anything further to add regarding walking

- and cycling plans.
 - Cllr E Buckmaster will look at what can feasibly be done as cycling lanes are difficult to put in but other developments such as safe areas, routes and crossing points
- District Councillor Cllr A Alder – referred to her report.
 - Cllr A Furnace asked if there was an update on waiting times when contacting East Herts District Council.
Cllr A Alder will update when she has any updates.
- District Councillor Cllr R Buckmaster – updated on a shared prosperity fund meeting she had attended with Cllr E Buckmaster and the Clerk. She said there will be a push on getting money for Sawbridgeworth projects.
- J Burmicz – updated he was working on issues with developers and planning issues.
- Hertfordshire Police Report (Verbal report from PC S Marshall):
 - No steep rise in crime but 4 burglary dwellings have been recorded and 4 theft of motor vehicles but 3 had been recovered.
 - Damage had been caused to Great St Marys Church and further work is being completed to try and identify the offenders.
 - Bishops Stortford PCSO's will support Amanda now Paul has left until a new PCSO can be appointed.
 - E Bikes have been purchased for officer use and will be arriving soon.
- Other Representatives –
 - Cllr D Royle, will continue to try and arrange school council meetings.
 - Cllr A Furnace raised the positive news on the school placements being found for Ukrainian children she asked what policy was used to get the places.
Cllr D Royle stated it was under a fair access policy and he was supporting applications for places still being sought.
 - Cllr R Buckmaster, updated on RHSO juice sales were going well but stock was short. Apple day will be on the 8th October 2022.
SYPRC has a new treasurer and the AGM will be on the 5th July at 7:30pm
 - Cllr A Furnace, corrected a location on her report for the Repair Café now at Bullfields not Church House at the same time and date.
 - Cllr Royle and herself went on the marsh walk which was very interesting.

22/35 OFFICERS REPORTS

The Clerk read from his report

The Events manager reported that the Christmas Lights event will be moved to a Sunday due to the demand completing it on a Saturday and impact on local residents. Possible date Sunday 4th December and

times will be decided nearer the time.

Cllr R Buckmaster asked if other groups will be made aware of the change of day

Action Jo Sargent will ensure other groups in the town are aware of the event times and dates.

22/36

Fun on the Field will be returning and will not be a commercial type event but more local charities and groups will be invited to run stalls.

UPDATE ON UKRAINE LOCAL SUPPORTING EVENTS

Cllr D Royle update members on the numbers of visa applications and arrivals and that one family had returned to Ukraine.

Hertfordshire County Council are completing welfare checks, English lessons continue at the congregational church all supported by volunteers.

Cllr D Royle thanked Gary Hanson from the church for his support and the funding from Cllr E Buckmaster.

Cllr E Buckmaster wanted his thanks noted for the work being completed by Cllr D Royle

22/37

FREEDOM OF SAWBRIDGEWORTH

The Clerk update members on the policy and how to nominate people for the award and if this was to be adopted.

- Cllr A Alder would like a medallion to be awarded with the certificate and

Action - Jo Sargent will explore sourcing these from a current supplier of Mayors medallions

Resolved: [*prop Cllr A Alder; secd Cllr R Buckmaster*]

22/38

GREATER ANGLIA STATION ADOPTION SCHEME

Cllr E Buckmaster updated members on the scheme to adopt a station with the positive points will little monetary investment the scheme would demand. Local sponsors and volunteers will be sought to ensure Sawbridgeworth station looks attractive and free from litter.

- Cllr Alder and Furnace thought the scheme was a positive move to make the station and location more attractive.

Resolved: [*prop Cllr A Alder; secd Cllr C Chester*]

22/39

DEPOSIT & CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

Noted: The deposit and consultation documents

22/40

FINANCIAL REPORT

Noted: The current Financial Report

22/41

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Noted and Approved: Accounts for payment

22/42

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas

22/43

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve that pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following agenda item – Asset development

Resolved: [*prop Cllr R Buckmaster; secd Cllr A Alder*]

Meeting ended at 8:53pm