

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 27 October 2014**.

Those present

Cllr Angela Alder	Cllr Will Mortimer
Cllr Eric Buckmaster – Town Mayor	Cllr Tom Reeks
Cllr Ruth Buckmaster	Cllr Spencer Richards
Cllr Derek Filler	Cllr Joyce Vincent
Cllr Barry Hodges	Cllr Andrew Wincott
Cllr Peter Mitchell	

In attendance:

County Cllr Roger Beeching	PS Ricky Bartlett – Herts Police
Michael Jarvis – H&E Observer	
R Bowran - Town Clerk	Mrs J Kenny – Town Projects Manager

Welcome by the Mayor, prayers were read by Cllr Spencer Richards

14/87 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllr Coysten - unwell.

14/88 PUBLIC FORUM

To receive representations from members of the public on matters within the remit of the Town Council. There were none

14/89 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

14/90 MINUTES

Minute 14/83. Cllr R Buckmaster pointed out that the resolution not to make a decision as to the location of the town sign until the future of the Plane Tree had been determined had been omitted from the minutes of meeting M05.

Resolved: With that resolution added, to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 29 September 2014 (M05) [*prop Cllr Hodges; secd Cllr Filler*]

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

Minute 14/83. Clerk advised that the Tree Preservation Order had been rescinded relating to the London Road Plane Tree and that Herts Highways were intending to remove the tree by the end of October. Clerk was asked to advise members of the public details of its removal and the reasons for its removal.

- 14/91 PLANNING COMMITTEE**
Received and Noted: the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on:
- 29 September 2014 (P08)
 - 13 October 2014 (P09)
- 14/92 AMENITIES COMMITTEE**
Received and Noted: The Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on:
- 13 October 2014 (A02)
- Resolved:** To appoint Cllr Richards to be a member of the Amenities Committee. [*prop Cllr Vincent; secd Cllr Hodges*]
- 14/93 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**
The mayor reported:
- Thanks from St Clare Hospice for the grant of £500.
 - EHDC Urban Conference on 023 November.
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- 14/94 REPRESENTATIVES & CHAMPIONS REPORTS**
To receive representatives reports from:
- **Hertfordshire Police PS Bartlett** reported:
 - Crimes are up but this is due to changes on National Crime Recording standards, increase mainly in “driving away”
 - Speeding issue still present on Station Road
 - Police are supporting a call for a pedestrian crossing near Spellbrook school.
 - There is a public meeting on 06 November at the school to discuss this.
 - There are issues with misbehaviour at the youth club
 - Very supportive of the new cctv system, has thwarted several crimes and helped with several investigations.
 - Next events are the Christmas lights switch on, Remembrance day, Halloween and bonfire night.
 - **County Councillor Roger Beeching** reported:
 - Attending a dementia awareness conference
 - Attending a scrutiny committee on autism
 - WW1 event at High Wych on 08 November
 - Talking to EHDC about delays to conveniences refurbishment
 - Public Health, 16,000 offered health check and 55% took it up
 - Noted there is a reduction in smoking especially during pregnancy
 - Adult health weight problem, there is assistance for Weightwatchers and their ilk
 - Old Time Music Hall at SMH on 14 November
 - Please report any flooding issues so that HCC are aware
 - **District Councillor Eric Buckmaster** reported:
 - Attending “Dementia Friends” workshop
 - A replacement for the EHDC waste services manager has been made

- Talks relating to the development of Central Surgery
- Wellbeing programme, all heads of service have been invited to contribute
- A bid has been made to Sport England for health activities funding
- District Plan, Peter Brett Assoc are advising on the duty to provide travellers' pitches
- Open evenings for prospective candidates for the May 2015 elections
- Activity is still on-going to remove illegal residents on the Esbies Estate.

- **District Councillor Will Mortimer** had nothing to report.

- **Rivers Heritage Site and Orchard Cllr E Buckmaster** reported:
 - Apple day on 11 October very successful, 435 bottles of juice are available for sale
 - Needed are more volunteers for maintenance days

- **HACRO conference.** Cllr Mitchell reported:
 - Speech by Chief Constable Andy Bliss
 - Increase in cyber crime
 - Decrease in traffic offences
 - Speech by Judge Andrew Bright
 - 50% of cases are for sexual offences
 - Reoffending and rehabilitation
 - Can Sawbridgeworth get involved in the programme?

- **Duckling Green.** Cllr Mitchell reported:
 - A recommissioning process was taking place
 - But no grant had been sought for the "Baby Brain" project
 - Importance of registering under 5's as this has a relationship with finding
 - There is a low uptake from the Hadhams, perhaps because of transport issues.

- **Memorial Hall.** Cllr Wincott reported:
 - The enhancement is reaping dividends
 - There is good usage and a full forward diary
 - Car park has been resurface, grant funding has been leveraged by the premises refurbishment
 - WI are funding a new fixed screen
 - funds are healthy and the next project under consideration are photovoltaic roof panels.
 - 08 November – Nostalgia day
 - 13 November – AGM
 - 28 November – Food Festival
 - 01 January - 65 year anniversary!

14/95

CLERK'S REPORT

Received and noted the Clerks Report:

- **Staff Arrangements** We currently have two members of staff on sick leave. Lisa Dale has returned to work and is making a valuable contribution. Gill Abbott who will be away until November. Other members of staff are being redeployed to cover the absence. We

have put a Temporary Receptionist in place to provide some relief to them.

- **Farmer's Market** The October market was attended by 650. There was no significant difference in attendance as a result of the revived Heart Radio campaign.
- **Bell Street CCTV** The installation continues to prove worthwhile and has been visited by clerks from Ware, Hertford, Hatfield and Wheathamstead. The contractors, Sunstone, are using the installation as a case study for a national security journal.
- **Bell Street Conveniences** It now appears that EHDC have treated the installation as a low priority and wish to start the procurement process afresh. The promised SLA from EHDC has apparently not been written despite previous reports. We continue to receive complaints from the public about the poor state of the present facility
- **Christmas Lights event** Plans are now well under way. More details to follow!

14/96 EVENT STAGE

The Clerk presented a paper proposing the purchase of a professional stage system to be used for the increasing number of events being staged by the town council. He also highlighted the health and safety issues that had been identified with the use of half trailers.

Resolved: to purchase an event stage from Alistage at a cost of £7,442 [*prop Cllr Filler; secd Cllr Alder*]

14/97 DEPOSIT AND CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

- None received

14/98 FINANCIAL REPORT

Noted: The current Financial Report

14/99 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Noted and Approved: Accounts for payment

Meeting was closed at 20:55