

SAWBRIDGEWORTH 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 February 2013**.

Those present

Cllr Barry Hodges – The Mayor	
Cllr Jane Adams	Cllr Will Mortimer
Cllr Angela Alder	Cllr Tom Reeks
Cllr Eric Buckmaster	Cllr Brian Rochester
Cllr Derek Filler	Cllr Joyce Vincent
Cllr Peter Mitchell	Cllr Andrew Wincott

In attendance:

PS David Cook - Herts Police	PC Russell Jones - Herts Police
1 member of the public	Eleanor Patmore – H&E Observer
R Bowran - Town Clerk	Jo Kenny – Admin Officer

Welcome by the Mayor; prayers were read by Cllr Jane Adams.

12/146 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Pat Coysten was absent.

12/147 PUBLIC FORUM

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

12/148 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

12/149 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 28 January 2013 (M08) [*prop Cllr Alder; secd Cllr Filler*]

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

12/150 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Received and Noted: The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on:

- 28 January 2013 (P14)
- 11 February 2013 (P15)

12/151 AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Received and noted: The minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on:

- 11 February 2013 (A03)

12/152 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

To receive mayor's appointments and communications, the mayor visited:

- 29 Jan – Town twinning meeting
- 04 Feb – S.S.A. meeting
- 08 Feb – ATC Awards night – Chelmsford
- 15 Feb – with Clerk to police briefing for May Fayre
- 18 Feb – Dedication of Rotary bench at West Road
- 24 Feb – Volunteers lunch at Hailey Centre

The mayor announced upcoming appointments:

- 02 Mar – Civic Dinner at hertford
- 06 Mar – Visit to mandeville School
- 15/16/17 Mar – visit by Les Violons de Bry
- 20 Mar – Official Opening new offices
- 23 Mar – Open Day at new offices
- 26 Mar - chair CVS meeting
- 30 Mar - Quiz Night at The Manor
- 08 May – visit to Bry-sur-Marne for 40 year twinning anniversary

12/153 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

To receive representatives reports from:

- **County Councillor Roger Beeching**
 - was not present:
- **District Councillor Eric Buckmaster** reported:
 - Attending the scouts AGM
 - EHC full council announced a 1% decrease in council tax
 - Recycling issues mean that cardboard will probably now be mixed with dry goods
 - The district Plan public consultation has been put back – again – until the summer.
- **District Councillor Will Mortimer:**
 - Had no comments to make
- **Hertfordshire Police PC Russell Jones** reported:
 - No increase in crime following the Christmas period
 - Recovery of some stolen goods
 - Theft of a motor vehicle, two on bail
 - New PCC, for community based policing, an update on policing priorities
 - Community speed watch with members of the public
 - Some new vehicles, quad bikes and off-road buggies plus new bicycles
 - Soon to be based at The Cottage
- **Other Representatives**
 - **Footpaths Officer Cllr Brian Rochester** reported clearance of a number of footpaths illustrated by photographs

12/154 CLERK'S REPORT

- **The Manor and The Cottage** Following my report last month the project is currently fourteen weeks late and that there are still a number of significant issues still to be resolved. These mainly surround the lack of communications to be delivered on time. The project is under budget and we have taken a number of steps, all at the expense of the contractors to minimize the impact of this.
- **Farmers Market** The licence we applied for has been rejected and we are currently in discussions with EHDC to resolve the issues they have raised.
- **Community Transport** We have now purchased, with funds from Herts CC, the vehicle we will use for the expansion of our service. Detailed

routes will be agreed at the steering group meeting on 28 February. Discussions are taking place with the Duckling Centre, Princess Alexandra Hospital and the GP's surgery.

- **Bell Street car park trial** The financial implication is that a subsidy of around £22k will be required to continue the trial into next year. This is budgeted for and incorporated into our precept.
- **Fly Posting** Although we have been successful in stopping the practice of fly posting on the highways, there is an on-going problem opposite The Maltings on Station Road. We have made further representation to EHDC and are now advised that they accept responsibility and will take action.
- **War Memorial Refurbishment** The PCC have expressed concerns that they didn't know anything of our plans to refurbish and repair the War memorial. This has been rectified by a letter to the PCC after discussions with St Albans diocese.
- **May Fayre** We have attended the initial police briefing for "Operation Apron 3" and are assured of police support. We have applied for road closures as usual which will be carried out by the town council.
- **"All About Sawbridgeworth"** Are supporting the proposal to consolidate a town wide Events Diary, probably on the town council's web-site. Support has been shown for the Bell Street car park scheme, participation at the Farmers Market and an expansion of the Christmas lights event including additional shopping evenings.

12/155 FARMERS MARKET

Town Project Manager reported that EHDC will now grant us a monthly farmers market licence. Productive meetings with the All About Sawbridgeworth (AAS) alliance of retailers will enable interaction with the market to create a community event. Publicity will be started with Jack FM and new stalls including plant and seed swapping will be introduced.

12/156 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The Clerk reported that plans were now advanced for the revision of the Sawbobus "Guide to Timings" and the proposed Sawbobus 2 service to the local hospitals and outlying villages. Discussions had taken place with Princess Alexandra Hospital, the Rivers Hospital, the Duckling Centre and with the GP's Surgery. The services are scheduled to start at the beginning of May 2013.

12/157

12/158 MAY FAYRE

PS David Cook reported on Operation Apron 3" briefing. Acknowledged that the poor weather helped in 2012 but confirmed that significant police resources would be applied for this year's event. Some details on actions to be taken with licensed premises, refresher training for officers for public order offences, details of operation of s27 notices and visits to known trouble makers.

12/159 ALL ABOUT SAWBRIDGEWORTH

Town Project Manager reported that AAS now had 341 "likes" on Facebook and was gathering momentum to promote businesses in Sawbridgeworth. Claire Ramsbotham of Mark David Kitchens is the marketing lead, Heart radio is being used as an advertising medium and there is a proposal to hold a Conference Pear festival. Big issue on market days is a lack of parking and the introduction of a park and ride service is under consideration.

12/160 DEPOSIT & CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

None received

12/161 FINANCIAL REPORT

Noted: The current Financial Report

12/162 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Noted and approved: Accounts for payment

Meeting was closed at 20:20

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 2x March 2013 in the Council Offices at Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth.