

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 30 March 2015**.

Those present

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

In attendance:

County Cllr Roger Beeching	Michael Jarvis – H&E Observer
PCSO Paul Weston – Herts Police	
R Bowran - Town Clerk	Mrs J Kenny – Town Projects Manager

Welcome by the Mayor, prayers were read by Cllr Joyce Vincent

The Mayor reminded Members that the council was now in “Election Purdah” and should observe the guidelines that had been provided by the Clerk.

14/160 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none

14/161 PUBLIC FORUM

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

14/162 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

14/163 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 23 February 2015 (M10)
[prop Cllr Alder; Secd Cllr Vincent]

Minute 14/153. Cllr Peter Mitchell announced that he would not be standing in the forthcoming election, mainly for family reasons. He reported on the Children’s Centre meeting of the “Stort Valley and Villages Children’s Centre Network” held on 24 February.

14/164 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Received and noted: The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on:

- 23 February 2015 (P17)
- 09 March 2015 (P18)

14/165 FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

Received and noted: The minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on:

- 09 March 2015 (F04)

14/166 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

To receive the Mayor's appointments and communications

- The Civic Dinner and Dance went very well and was appreciated all. The performances by Youth Create were excellent and Paul Lillie's Glam Rock band were amazing. Thanks to Joanne for co-ordinating the arrangements and to the Town Clerk, Joanne and Lisa for their hard work on the day. With 114 people attending plus donations and the raffle we should have significant profits to add to the sums already raised.
- I also attended civic dinners in Harlow and Ware, and of course Councillor Beeching's East Herts dinner.
- I attended the scouts AGM where they announced they have paid off all the loans associated with the build of their hut.
- At the Cadets Essex Wing awards I presented Sawbridgeworth 309 squadron with the community award.
- Ruth and I attended the tripartite music event in Bry. The Leventhorpe students played really well in front of a packed theatre and the mayors of Moosburg and Bry were there.
- I attended the funeral of former mayor May Slater along with the Town Clerk, Joanne, and Councillor Alder.
- Have received two emails from sergeant Ricky Bartlett. One regarding the Heat seeking camera we funded which helped find a missing person. The other on the benefits to the town from installing cctv.

14/167 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

To receive representatives reports from:

- County Councillor Roger Beeching reported:
 - That he had 27 outstanding issues concerning Ringway that had to be resolved.
 - A motion of dissatisfaction with the performance of Ringway is to be put at the County Council.
 -
- District Councillor Eric Buckmaster reported:
 - EHDC committees are now completed for the term of this administration as we are now in Purdah. Just a reminder that the last day and time for the validation of election nomination papers is 4pm on 09 April.
 - Grants of up to £500 are available for communities to hold events in commemoration of VE day
- District Councillor Will Mortimer reported:
 - This was the last year that Grant Thornton were the council's external auditors. Next year the auditor would be PriceWaterhouseCoopers.
- Hertfordshire Police PCSO Paul Weston reported:
 - No significant events
 - Continued usage of the towns cctv system
- Rivers Heritage Site and Orchard. Cllr E Buckmaster reported:

- Owing to the Easter period the next maintenance day will be on 12 April for general clearing around young trees. Apple juice will also be on sale.
- RHSO will hold their first Annual General Meeting, still to be confirmed, but likely on Wednesday 27 May from 7pm to 8:30pm at the council office.

14/168 CLERK'S REPORT

To receive and note the Clerk's report

Staff Arrangements. Tracey Dobinson scheduled to have a knee replacement operation on Thursday 26 March at The Rivers Hospital. Personal Development Plan templates had been given to all staff as part of the mid-year review process.

Spring Newsletter. Has been printed and distribution started on 23 March. It majors on the election and on a survey about the town and its facilities. The survey is also posted on the website.

Election 2015. Nomination forms and instructions are posted in Members' trays in the office. I have undertaken to hand deliver nominations to the Acting Returning Officer on Thursday 02 April for those members who cannot get there. Notes on election "purdah" are also posted in Members' trays.

Town Green and Town Sign. No further progress has been made, pending the agreement of a funding strategy. However the sign has been delivered; an oak post has been obtained; and the installation is imminent. We have applied for and received the Town Centre Enhancement funding of £5,000 which was agreed for this project.

Local Council Award Scheme. The Finance & Policy Committee has decided that any decision on whether to undertake the work to obtain an award should be deferred for a decision to be made by the incoming council

14/169 FARMERS MARKET

To receive a report from the Clerk on matters concerning the current operation of the monthly Farmers Market and to determine a course of action for the future.

14/170 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The options presented by EHDC for the upgrading of the Bell Street conveniences were discussed. Neither option aligned with the proposals for a minimum maintenance solution originally proposed by the town council in September 2013.

14/171 DEPOSIT & CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

- None received.

14/172 FINANCIAL REPORT

Noted: The current Financial Report

14/173 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Noted and Approved: Accounts for payment

14/174 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved: 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 item because of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed which relates to a matter of anti-social behaviour.

[prop Cllr Alder; Secd Cllr Hodges]

14/175 MATTER OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The town clerk reported on a matter of anti-social behaviour and the remedies available to resolve the matter. It was agreed that Members would report all instances of contact by the individual to the town clerk by e-mail so that a pattern of instances could be made in order to determine the appropriate way that the issues could be resolved.

Meeting was closed at 21:05