

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 28th APRIL 2011 - ISSUE 2

Present: Councillors J Soni (Chair), G Thomas, W Hawkins, T Spence, A Crump, B Thomas, P Caruana, P Thomas, D Isham, L Tasker, L Hewer, C Worsh & D Smith

In attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders, Cllr J Appleton & Cllr D Wise (late arrival)

171. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Waller – Personal

RESOLVED:

That apologies are accepted

172. Cllr B Thomas made comments about the poor attendance of District Councillors at the Town Council meetings. He stated that Cllr J Appleton attended the majority of meetings, but Cllr Ellard had only attended a couple of meetings and Cllr Wise used to attend the meetings but had not done so recently.

173. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr A Crump declared a personal interest in Item 7 on Accounts for Payment

Cllr L Tasker declared a personal interest in Item 6 on Accounts for Payment

Cllr W Hawkins declared a personal interest in Item 8 Accounts for Payment

174. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs Sally Hunt, 12 Willes Road, Leamington Spa

Spoke concerning Wattons Lane, stating that she had attended a previous council meeting and wanted to know whether the Police had responded to the nuisance youth problems in this area. She wanted to know how people should be reporting problems to the Police and that the Police had business cards with their mobile numbers stated on them but they don't seem to advertise this information. She also asked whether Severn Trent were going to do anything about the pipe to stop youths from being able to congregate on it.

175. Cllr D Wise arrived at 7.40pm

176. Cllr B Thomas retracted the comments made about Cllr D Wise

177. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 28th April 2011 having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor, subject to the following amendment:

Minute 158 should include Cllr D Smith declared a personal interest in Planning Application 11/00488/FUL Land adjacent to 71 Mayfield Road, Southam.

178. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated April 2011, totalling £57,242.65 be authorized.

179. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated April 2011 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council

Noted

ii) Planning Application decisions dated April 2011

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

180. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

180.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

1) Mrs Hunt

Mrs Hunt was informed that Severn Trent had inspected the pipe and is giving consideration to installing a guard which would stop youths being able to sit on it. Advised that the matter should be raised at the next Community Forum, in order to get a response from the Police. It was also stated that Southam Town Council are responsible for the lighting in Wattons Lane and that the Clerk has asked WCC for a quotation, as to how much it would cost to improve the lighting in this area, but a quotation would not be received until May/June when the new contractor is in place.

RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk contacts the Police to ascertain whether their mobile numbers can be advertised in the Town Council Newsletter.

180.2 It was moved to bring forward Item 10 on the Agenda 'Information from County & District Councillors

180.3 INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr J Appleton stated the following:

- That all affected County Councillors will be meeting with MPs to discuss and formulate a response regarding HS2
- That there is a public meeting at the Fire Station in May regarding amendments to the Library Service
- Reminded members of the HS2 Roadshow in Southam on the 3rd & 4th June 2011

Cllr D Wise stated the following:

- Informed members of the Southam First event that is taking place on the 11th May 2011

Cllr Wise was asked why the Town Council had not received an invitation to the event and that only some Councillors had been invited as individuals. Also, Cllr Wise was asked what the cost of this event was, who authorized the expenditure and who controls the budget.

Cllr Wise stated that he would find the information

180.4 It was moved to bring forward Item 7 on the Town Clerk's report 'Elizabeth House refurbishment'

180.5 ELIZABETH HOUSE REFURBISHMENT

RESOLVED:

- i)To forward a copy of the email to Cllr Appleton and Cllr Wise in order for them to take the matter up with Mr P Lankester**
- ii)To respond to Mr P Lankester stating that the Town Council is not satisfied with his response and that Cllr Appleton and Cllr Wise will be discussing the matter with him on the council's behalf**
- iii)To request a copy of the Confidential Interim Report and request the Ombudsman link**

180.6 ACCOUNTS 2010/2011

The Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk were thanked for the work they had done in preparing the Accounts

RESOLVED:

- i)Southam Town Council approve the Accounts 2010/2011**
- ii)That the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement be signed by the Town Mayor and the Town Clerk and submitted to the external auditor (Clement Keys) with supporting documentation, based on the Annual Accounts 2010/2011**
- iii)That Southam Town Council is satisfied with the internal audit process and its scope and effectiveness**
- iv) That the Town Clerk is authorised to arrange insurance cover against Theft, Fire and Vandalism for the new equipment at the Park Lane Recreation Ground and that insurance is to be in place when the park is signed off.**

180.7 PARKING ISSUES IN THE VICINITY OF MILL CRESCENT, SOUTHAM

Following a complaint from a resident regarding a lack of car parking spaces in the vicinity of Mill Crescent, Orbit Heart of England had been requested to investigate whether additional car parking could be installed. Members considered the response from Orbit Heart of England advising the resident that they will not consider the provision for extra parking in this area and that they should contact WCC.

Noted

180.8 STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE 2011/2012

Members considered correspondence from Warwickshire County Council advising that the maintenance charge per street lighting point for this financial year will be £6.83 which is significantly less than the previous year.

RESOLVED:

Southam Town Council accepts the quotation

180.9 HIGHWAY VERGE CUTTING

Members considered correspondence from Stratford District Council advising that the number of 'Highway Verge Cuts' will be reduced from 9 cuts to 5 cuts and that if the Town Council wants any additional cuts or grass cuttings removed then the Town Council will have to fund this

RESOLVED:

- i)To respond stating that the Town Council were under the impression that verges needed to be cut a minimum of 6 times for legal reasons and therefore the Town Council seek clarification if this is now not the case.**
- ii)To ascertain if there is flexibility in the schedule to suit growing conditions**

- iii) To ascertain how much SDC are saving in reducing the number of cuts
- iv) To ascertain whether the reduction of cuts is the same across the district

180.10 FACING THE CHALLENGE – WARWICKSHIRE LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICE CONSULTATION

Members considered correspondence from WCC regarding public consultation on the proposed Library and Information Service changes.

RESOLVED:

- i) That members of the council respond individually and that Cllr J Soni responds on behalf of the Town Council
- ii) That through schools, parents are requested to respond

180.11 STREET CAFÉ APPLICATION – THE COFFEE CUP – 16 MARKET HILL, SOUTHAM (Part V11 Highways Act 1980)

Members considered the response from WCC

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that a 1.8m line is measured and drawn to ensure the minimum width is maintained, in order to assist the owner in complying with the regulations

180.12 NOTIFICATION OF REDUCTIONS IN LEVELS OF WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED SERVICES

Members considered correspondence from WCC in response to the comments made at the March meeting.

Noted

180.13 MAYORAL REPORT

This month the Mayor has attended the following functions on behalf of the Town Council

- * Civic Dinner for The Mayor of Atherstone
- * Tour of the Courts, Judges House and Dungeons in Warwick.
- * Charity Concert in Bedworth for the Mayor of Nuneaton
- * Civic Dinner for the Mayor of Alcester
- * Civic Dinner for the Mayor of Warwick at Warwick Castle
- * Civic Service for the Mayor of Whitnash
- * Civic Ladies Tour in Nuneaton and Arbury Hall
- * The High Sheriff's Dinner at the Judges House Warwick.
- * With the Rotary Club of Southam at a Go-Karting event for young carers

Still to come

- * Charity Concert at Stratford Town Hall
- * Beating The Retreat and Reception in Stratford
- * Civic service for the Mayor of Coleshill
- * Opening of the Southam & District Lions May Day Fete
- * Give a Talk to The Rotary Cub of Southam about 'My Year as Mayor'
- * Civic Ladies Day hosted by the WDC Chairman's Lady

Noted

180.14 MEETINGS, TRAINING AND EVENTS

Monday 13th June 2011 (11am – 1pm) at Elizabeth House, Stratford on Avon
District Council – Planning Training + Cost FOC

Saturday 18 June 2011 at Ettington, Village Hall - Being A Good Councillor and Clerk – Induction Day = Cost £50.00
Saturday 16 July 2011 at Wolston, Community & Leisure Centre - Being A Good Councillor and Clerk – Induction Day = Cost £50.00
Saturday 17 September 2011 at Fillongley, Village Hall - Being A Good Councillor and Clerk – Induction Day = Cost £50.00
Saturday 08 October 2011 at Leamington Spa, Town Hall - Being A Good Councillor and Clerk – Induction Day = Cost £50.00

Noted

180.15 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2011 ENV MEETING DATES 2011

Thursday 12 th May (Town Meeting & Mayormaking)	
Thursday 26 th May	
Thursday 23 rd June	Thursday 9 th June
Thursday 28 th July	Thursday 14 th July
August – Summer Recess	
Thursday 22 nd September	Thursday 8 th September
Thursday 27 th October	Thursday 13 th October
Thursday 24 th November	Thursday 10 th November
December – Christmas Recess	

Noted

180.16 UNRESOLVED MATTERS

<u>MINUTE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
<u>1997/98</u>	
123.6	Mountfield Gardens
<u>2000/2001</u>	
133.3	Adoption of footway below flue, Market Hill
<u>2002/2003</u>	
305.8	SWHA - Parking Problems - Mill Crescent/Mill Close
<u>2003/2004</u>	
110.1	Safety on the Bypass
<u>2004/2005</u>	
113	Traffic Calming Projects
<u>2009/2010</u>	
101.3	Planning Committee – Stratford District Council (Meeting times and Venue)

Noted

181. CORRESPONDENCE

181.1 CAB – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

181.2 SOUTHAM/FELDON COMMUNITY FORUM – MARCH MINUTES

Noted

181.3 REPORT FROM SCAN (Senior Citizen’s Action Network) IN STRATFORD DISTRICT

Noted

181.4 SOUTHAM COLLEGE OFSTED REPORT

RESOLVED:

To write to Southam College congratulating them on achieving an outstanding Ofsted report

181.5 PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND – PLAY EQUIPMENT REFURBISHMENT

RESOLVED:

That Coventry Contract Services need to inspect the park before it is signed off and opened to the public

182. REPORT ON A JOINT MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL I & II WORKING PARTY ON 10th FEBRUARY 2011

182.1 MULTI USE GAMES AREA (MUGA) DEPOSIT CHEQUE – STOPPED AND RE-ISSUED

Members were informed that after the deposit cheque was sent to Miracle, the Town Clerk was advised that the tarmac company who Miracle had appointed to do the tarmac for the MUGA had pulled out and they were struggling to find a new company, therefore the decision was taken with the approval of Cllr Crump to stop the cheque.

The cheque is now being re-issued because a new tarmac company has been appointed but unfortunately work on the MUGA cannot start until 31st May 2011.

Miracle is very aware that the council will not be happy about this situation and therefore following various discussions the Town Clerk has had with Miracle and that Miracle value the relationship they have with the Town Council it has been negotiated that the 'Play Area' will receive three additional pieces of equipment at no additional cost to the council. This equipment will be installed as part of the current project which is on schedule to be completed early May. The decision has been approved by Cllr Crump who was given authorisation by the council to manage the delivery of this project with the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED:

That the 'Out of Meeting' payment of £24,000 be ratified by council

182.2 TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (Local Development)(England) Regulations 2008 – Warwickshire Waste Core Strategy: Emerging Spatial Options

RESOLVED:

- (i) **Members agreed to complete the questionnaire individually**
- (ii) **Cllr Crump to email non attendees to remind them to do so too**

182.3 SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ASSOCIATION

At the March Town Council meeting, members requested the Town Clerk to advise how much money was left in the Credit Crunch Ear Marked Reserve in order for members to consider whether the council would meet the costs of any shortfall for this year's event. As a result members were informed that the Credit Crunch Earmarked Reserve contains £4379 and that they have the power to spend.

RESOLVED:

- (i) **That £1000 be paid to Southam Christmas Lights to purchase LED lights and that this amount is in addition to the normal grant.**
- (ii) **That Council expects a grant application from Southam Christmas Lights in September**

(iii) That the remaining £3379 is retained to fund CAB in the Library for several years

182.4 HANDBOVER TO NEW COUNCIL - TESCO S106 –TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT, TOLLGATE ROAD LEASE, HS2

At the last Town Council meeting Members requested that the following items be put on the April ENV agenda in order to make the new council aware of any important information.

**Tesco S106 – Town Centre Development
Tollgate Road Lease
HS2**

The last response the council made regarding the Tollgate Road Lease is as follows:

“At the Southam Town Council meeting on the 27th January 2011, members considered all the correspondence and were asked to confirm what they were prepared to agree to in the proposed lease, in relation to increased maintenance e.g grass cutting and litter picking, as a result Southam Town Council have instructed me to inform you that they want the lease to remain the same as the current lease and they do not want to see a fence installed. The matter was discussed in public and the Town Council will be putting an article in their next Newsletter informing residents of the situation”

The last response the council has made regarding HS2 is as follows:

"Southam Town Council objects to HS2 in its current form and urges neighbouring councils to join with it and local and national working groups in opposing the proposed high speed railway"

The last response the council made regarding the Town Centre Development is as follows:

COMMUNITY HUB

At the last Town Council meeting the Town Centre development was discussed. WCC had drawn up designs for a Community Hub on the library site and members resolved that these designs would be considered at the next ENV. Members were also advised that decisions regarding the Tesco S106 and the Banner Homes S106 would be dealt with at the East Area Committee meeting on 21st September and that members need to meet with Trevor Askew prior to this meeting.

RESOLVED:

i) Members believe that this is NOT good value for money or what is needed/meets the criteria set out by the Town Council and reiterated at the last meeting. A great disappointment/insult to Southam

RESOLVED:

- (i) Noted and agreed that Tesco S106 Town Centre Development & Tollgate Road Lease information should be passed onto the new council**
- (ii) HS2- Cllr Tasker to produce a report for the new Council**

182.5 QUOTATION FOR REPAIRS TO CARPET AREAS UNDERNEATH SWINGS

On the last playground inspection report it was stated that the 'Carpet Safety Surface' was loose and needed repairing under a set of the flat swings in Park Lane Rec . Durasport is the company who deal with the carpets and they were asked to come out and inspect this area and also Tollgate Road because a problem was noticed with the carpet at the bottom of the slide.

Durasport have advised that the carpet under both set of swings in **Park Lane** need the centre strip carpet (3m x 6m carpet) replacing as they are nearly worn through. They will do both carpets for the price of one = Total Cost £1500.00

At **Tollgate Road** the carpet at the bottom of the slide needs repairing and the carpet under the swings needs the centre strip carpet (3m x 6m) replacing Total Cost £1400.00

Durasport have advised that if we have the work done at both sites at the same time they will do all the work for £2200.00 which give the council a saving of £700.00

RESOLVED

- (i) Cllr Crump to speak to the Clerk to clarify
- (ii) Use Miracle to put the carpet down if possible

182.6 REQUEST TO CARRY OUT LITTER PICKING ALONG THE HOLY WELL ROUTE

Members considered the request

RESOLVED

STC agrees but does not accept liability and asks if Wattons Lane can be included

1.82.7 ROYAL WEDDING PARTY ON SYCAMORE GROVE OPEN SPACE

Members considered the request

RECOMMENDATION

STC agrees but does not accept liability or responsibility and suggests that the organisers should consider the risks

183. BUSINESS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE MAYOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

None

184. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING

It was moved and

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded from the meeting because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

185. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

- i) to authorise payments of staff salaries dated April 2011
- ii) to authorise payment of 'Confidential Accounts' dated April 2011

186. VICTOR HODGES HOUSE

Noted

187. ZURICH MUNICIPAL

Noted

Meeting closed 10.26pm

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL April A					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
11/00576/FUL	Mr W Pease	St James Church, Park Lane, Southam Cv47 OJA	To repair damaged steps and install drainage gulley and pipe work to immediate area with egress onto footpath drains adjacent. Remove damaged gates and part of railing and install new railings and arch.	Subject to the approval of the Conservation Officer	
11/00731/LBC	Stratford on Avon District Council	Stratford on Avon District Council, Southam Area Office, The Grange, Coventry Road, Southam	Replace four existing internal corridor doors with new fire doors	No representations	
11/00559/FUL	Mr Robert Tedds	14 Merestone Close, Southam CV47 1GU	First floor side extension over existing garage/dayroom	No representations	