

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 26th APRIL 2012

Present: Councillors: M Gaffney (Chair), D Wise, J Ward, A Forster, J Soni, L Smith, M Willoughby, R Barrington, J Smith, L Tasker C Worsh & L Hewer

In attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders & Cllr J Ellard

159. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

160. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr D Wise Prejudicial Age UK Warwickshire in Confidential

161. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs J Frith, Beech Hurst, Southam

Spoke regarding the Cardall Collection, seeking the Town Council's assurance that they fully support the request that the Cardall Collection needs to have a permanent home within the Town Centre Development, pointing out that if the Cardall Collection has no permanent home, there will be no collection and no heritage.

Mrs D Smith, 20 Springs Crescent, Southam

Spoke regarding the Travel Tokens and wanted to know if the council has made any progress in the development of a new scheme

162. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 22nd March 2012, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to the following amendment:

That Cllr J Soni was not at the meeting and her apologies were given

163. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated April 2012, totalling £16006.64 be authorized.

164. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated April 2012 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council

ii) Planning Application decisions dated April 2012

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

165. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

165.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

Mrs J Frith

Town Clerk advised that the Council were very supportive of the Cardall Collection and that a permanent home should be found in the Town Centre Development. It was suggested that if the Orbit Development was not ready in time to house the collection then maybe it could be housed in the Police Station/old Magistrate Court

Mrs D Smith

Town Clerk advised that members would be considering a proposal in the confidential part of the meeting which would be made public when appropriate

165.2 KATHERINE GEDDES PRESENTATION

RESOLVED:

i) To request a copy of the accounts

ii) That Katherine Geddes is invited to attend an ENV meeting every 6 months to give an update on Southam First

165.3 NOTICE/INFORMATION BOARD/WOOD STREET CAR PARK

As a result of Southam Town Council informing Southam First that they supported their project of installing a Notice/Information Board in Wood Street Car Park, members considered a response from Katherine Geddes advising that the board intended for the car park will be a business board, highlighting the locations and services of businesses on offer in the Town and that a general noticeboard could be added if that is what the Council would like.

RESOLVED:

To respond requesting that a closed noticeboard is added

165.4 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION AND CO-OPTION

Members were advised that unfortunately, Mr David Williams has decided to resign as Councillor and that a Casual Vacancy for Merestone Ward was currently being advertised.

Members were also advised that following the resignation of Mr Ken Romero, the Council is now in a position to fill the vacancy via co-option and were asked to consider an application from Mrs C Pratt.

RESOLVED:

That Mrs C Pratt is co-opted as Councillor for Merestone Ward

165.5 PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND – DOGS ON LEADS

Members considered correspondence from a resident complaining about dogs having to be kept on a lead in the Park Lane Recreation Ground and requested that the Council considers either fencing off the play area or creating a dog park.

RESOLVED:

To respond to the resident stating the following:

- **That the Council do not consider it appropriate for dogs to be off their leads in the recreation ground**
- **That they will not fence off the play area because it will not stop people bringing their dogs into that area**
- **That due to Southam already having a deficit of amenity space they could not justify precious amenity space being utilised as a Dog park**

165.6 SOUTHAM FIRST - PARKING SIGNAGE IN SOUTHAM

Members considered correspondence from Katherine Geddes informing the Council that the Business & Economy sub-group would like to improve the signage in the Town Centre which advertises the free parking on Wood Street Car Park and were seeking views on the following:

1. Directional sign located by the railings near the junction of Park Lane and Market Hill, pointing towards Daventry St

2. Directional sign located on the corner by Market Tavern, pointing at Wood St

3. Directional sign located on the verge near Southam Carpets, pointing down High St

4. Directional sign (as in pdf1) would replace the existing worn signage on the lamp post by the crossing on the police station side.

RESOLVED:

i) That each sign should be standardised to show Free Parking, WC and Disabled with no reference to churches

ii) That there should not be a sign on the verge by Southam Carpets

iii) That the height of sign No 4 should be assessed as the Council is of the opinion that the existing sign maybe too high

iv) That Cllr Dave Wise inspects each proposed location and circulates his findings to the Council

165.7 WCC AREA COMMITTEES AND COMMUNITY FORUMS

Members considered correspondence from WCC updating the Council on what progress has been made in relation to Area Committees, Community Forums and relating issues.

In brief:

1. The County Council has resolved to dissolve its 5 Area Committees with effect from 15th May 2012.

2. A report is being considered by the Council on that date which deals with a number of issues as follows:

a) Transferring responsibility for the exercise of the Area Committee functions

b) Making some proposals concerning the allocation of community grants

c) Retaining the current practice of holding an annual seminar to make recommendations in respect of the highways maintenance budget

d) Suggesting on going consultation & engagement with a wide range of partners on various matters including the implementation of those decisions that are to be made on 15th May.

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that the Council is concerned that budgets would be given to individual Councillors and that they consider allocations should be based on a formula using current population and deprivation figures

165.8 COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

Members considered Cllr Forster's report

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Surgeries should continue to be held at the Library**
- ii) That posters are displayed around the Town advertising the surgeries**
- iii) That a Town Council Surgery sign should be placed on the table at the Library when the surgeries take place**

165.9 PERMISSION TO USE PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND

RESOLVED:

To inform Southam First that the Red Devils have permission to land in the Park Lane Recreation Ground on Saturday 30th June at 8pm

165.10 MEETINGS/TRAINING/EVENTS

None

165.11 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

ENV MEETING DATES

Thursday 26 th April 2012	Thursday 12 th April 2012
Thursday 10 th May 2012 (Annual Town Meeting & Mayormaking)	
Thursday 24 th May 2012	
Thursday 28 th June 2012	Thursday 14 th June 2012
Thursday 26 th July 2012	Thursday 12 th July 2012
August Recess	
Thursday 27 th September 2012	Thursday 13 th September 2012
Thursday 25 th October 2012	Thursday 11 th October 2012
Thursday 22 nd November 2012	Thursday 8 th November 2012
December Recess	
Thursday 10 th January 2013 (Precept)	
Thursday 24 th January 2013	
Thursday 28 th February 2013	Thursday 14 th February 2013
Thursday 28 th March 2013	Thursday 14 th March 2013
Thursday 25 th April 2013	Thursday 11 th April 2013
Thursday 9 th May 2013 (Annual Town Meeting & Mayormaking)	
Thursday 23 rd May 2013	
Thursday 27 th June 2013	Thursday 13 th June 2013
Thursday 25 th July 2013	Thursday 11 th July 2013
August Recess	
Thursday 26 th September 2013	Thursday 12 th September 2013
Thursday 24 th October 2013	Thursday 10 th October 2013
Thursday 28 th November 2013	Thursday 14 th November 2013
December Recess	

Noted

166. CORRESPONDENCE

166.1 TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER – SPEEDING

Noted

166.2 **AQUA CLASS, SOUTHAM LEISURE CENTRE – MARY LOU MILNER**
Noted

166.3 **BUS SHELTER WARWICK ROAD – MRS FELL**
Town Clerk informed members that the Bus Stop Flag Post would be repositioned on Friday 27th April 2012

166.4 **SOUTHAM/FELDON COMMUNITY FORUM SPECIAL MEETING OF PARISH COUNCILS**
Noted

166.5 **GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE - NALC**
Noted

166.6 **SURVEY OF THE PUBLIC IN STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT AREA ON HOUSING ISSUES – BLOOR HOMES**
Noted

166.7 **SOUTHAM AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB – GRANT THANK YOU**
Noted

167. **REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY ON 12th APRIL 2012**

167.1 **WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL BRIEFING SESSIONS 24TH MAY & 26TH APRIL**
RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk should invite the County representatives to attend the June Env meeting

167.2 **FLOOD GRANT** members considered the future funding of maintenance of the Flood Warning System
RESOLVED: that Southam Town Council will support the Flood Warning System financially, should the need arise, and will explore the possibilities of obtaining future funding from other sources.

167.3 **NEW MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR**
RESOLVED:
i) That Councillor Mike Gaffney should continue as Mayor for a further year supported by Councillor Dave Wise as Deputy Mayor
ii) That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2013/2014 to be discussed at the September ENV

167.4 **SOUTHAM IN BLOOM PLANTER** The Town Clerk advice in relation to this matter was as follows:

Not a straight forward process

This is a Southam in Bloom project not a Town Council project we have awarded an organisation a grant for a project they want to do and it turns out that they cannot do the project and are asking the council to do it

The longevity of these planters cannot be guaranteed because the Council has to enter into a licence that will impose conditions on the council that if there is a need for the structures to be removed at any time the council will have to organise and pay for their removal there may never be a need for them to be removed or something could happen which requires their removal in 12 months the point is there is no guarantee which is why Patch (WCC) said no in the first place for permanent structures

I think that as this is in a conservation area there is a very strong possibility that planning permission will be required which I am currently trying to ascertain

There is no guarantee what the cost of this project is going to be now and in the future and for this reason my advice to the council is that authorisation should not be given

RESOLVED: to defer this item to allow Southam in Bloom time to reconsider their position and come back to the Council with their proposals including their willingness to pay all the legal costs involved in obtaining the authority from WCC for permanent planters and to somehow indemnify the Town Council from future liabilities and produce a master plan.

167.5 STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCIL, STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT REVIEW 2012

RESOLVED: that the Councils response should be the same as to the Draft Core Strategy

167.6 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING members considered Cllr Barrington's report on the 'Are you fit for Neighbourhood Planning' event

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Town Clerk circulates to Councillors the latest version (2010) of the Town's local plan**
- ii) that the report be noted.**

167.7 TRANSPORT NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES IN WARWICKSHIRE AND SOLIHULL

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk use the previous submission 'a transport needs response' as a basis for the return to WRCC

167.8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED see attached sheet

167.9 POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT AT COVENTRY ROAD SOUTHAM

RESOLVED: that Cllr Soni liaise with the Town Clerk, Godfrey Payton & Taylor Wimpey to arrange a meeting with Councillors J Soni, A Forster, J Smith and R Barrington

168. QUESTIONS FOR COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr J Ellard advised the following:

- That she will investigate what service SDC can provide when a Parish or Town Council wants to fund additional Dog Warden Enforcement Services

- Provided an update of the current situation regarding the Orbit Town Centre Development stating that she was having a meeting with Orbit on 1st May to ascertain the financial model and where the £600k will be used, that Orbit has been asked to provide a full analysis of the consultation feedback received and that SDC has sent out an additional questionnaire seeking views on the proposed development and what people would like to see included and views about the Tuesday Market

**169. BUSINESS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE MAYOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY
Tollgate Road Play Area to be discussed in Confidential**

170. 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

171. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated April 2012

172. LIME ROAD

RESOLVED:

i)To authorise the Town Council Tree Surgeon to carry out the work as requested by Zurich Municipal at a cost of £1000.00

ii)That an article is placed in the Newsletter

Cllr D Wise left the room prior to the discussion of minute 173

173. AGE UK WARWICKSHIRE

RESOLVED:

i)That Cllr J Soni, Cllr L Tasker, Cllr J Ward and the Town Clerk meets with Age UK Warwickshire to discuss their proposals

ii)That Age UK Warwickshire invites their Southam representative to attend the meeting

Cllr D Wise returned to the meeting

174. TOLLGATE ROAD PLAYING AREA

See appendix A for Councillors Only

Meeting closed 9.40pm

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL APRIL 2012 ENV - ISSUE 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
12/00693/LBC	HSBC	Market Hill, Southam CV48 0HE	External repairs to the Bank Branch. Partial re building and rendering to the rear boundary walls plus the replacement of a casement window on the rear elevation of the property.	16th April 2012	No Representations
12/00543/FUL	Mr Matthew Clayton	9 Pine Tree Crescent, Southam	Retropective replacement of boundary fence	17th April 2012	No Representations
12/00796/TREE	Dr Kevin Moffatt	8 Banbury Road, Southam CV47 1HL	T1 Eucalyptus - Fell T2 Apple - Pollard or Fell	25th April 2012	Southam Town Council supports the felling of the Eucalyptus tree but the Apple should not be felled unless thought necessary by the A O

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL APRIL 2012 Issue 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
12/00746/LBC	HSBC Bank Plc	HSBC Market Hill, Southam CV48 0HE	External repairs to the Bank Branch. Partial rebuilding and rendering to boundary walls plus replacement of casement to rear elevation of property	3rd May 2012	No Representations
12/00801/FUL	Mr & Mrs Nigel Nason	31 Sycamore Grove, Southam, CV47 1EY	Proposed erection of a conservatory to the side elevation	9th May 2012	No Representations
12/00680/FUL	Mr Steven Webb	4 Browns Bridge Road, Southam CV47 1PA	Singe storey front extension	10th May 2012	No Representations
12/00967/TREE	Mr A Walster	Manchester House, 1 Daventry Street, Southam Cv47 1HP	T1 Yew Reduce canopy by 30% - 50%	17th May 2012	Southam Town Council has no objection subject to the AD's approval.