

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2014**

**Present:** Councillors: J Ward (Chair), M Gaffney, V Shepherd, M Willoughby, B Thomas, J Soni, L Smith, J Smith, L Tasker & C Pratt

**In attendance:** Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders

**119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr A Forster	Personal
Cllr C Worsh	Work Commitments
Cllr E Thornley	Work Commitments
Cllr A Crump	Planning Committee
Cllr D Wise	Personal
Cllr J Appleton	Work Commitments

**120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr C Pratt	Personal Interest Reason	Town Clerk Report – Item 12 Owns a burial plot
Cllr B Thomas	Personal Interest Reason	Town Clerk Report – Item 2 Neighbour – Proximity to school
Cllr J Ward	Personal Interest Reason	Planning Application 13/03200/FUL Planning Application 14/00004/FUL Personally knows applicant
	Prejudicial Interest Reason	Confidential – Grass cutting Tenders Submitted a tender
Cllr M Willoughby	Personal Interest Reason	Planning Application 13/03200/FUL Planning Application 14/00004/FUL Personally knows applicant

**121. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr K Currell – 4 Orchard Way, Southam

Spoke regarding the proposed fence at the Tollgate Road Open Space, stating that what was proposed was unacceptable, having met with the MP would like to propose a working party to discuss a shared use arrangement, have an enforceable ‘No Dogs’ policy, there is a shared use situation at Napton School and that works fine.

Mr Upton, 18 Drovers Way, Southam

Spoke regarding the proposed ‘Emergency Stopping Place’ on the A425, wanted to ascertain whether it was a public highway and if so then it should not have been gated off.

Town Mayor signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mr Batchelder, 16 Tollgate Road, Southam

Spoke regarding the Tollgate Road Playing Field, stating that what was being proposed was unacceptable, that Southam already has a deficit of open space and that although it is accepted that the school requires a safe area there is a difference between the schools aspirations and the requirements of the National Curriculum. The park has now been recognised as a community asset, but by enclosing the majority of the space it is contrary to the benefit and aims of the Localism Act legislation, the proposals do not take into account the current and future needs of the whole community and shared access needs to be pursued and therefore the Town Council should vote against and reject the current proposal.

Mr Rowley, 1 Drovers Way, Southam

Spoke regarding the 'Emergency Stopping Place' on the A425 stating that if this chipping store was part of the public highway, then it should never have been gated off and planning should not have been granted for a 'Gypsy Site'

Mr D Woods, 28 Tollgate Road, Southam

Spoke regarding the Tollgate Road Playing field, agreed with the other representations, that the Town Council should reject the proposal and keep the park as it is.

Mr M Houston, 24 Tollgate Road, Southam

Spoke regarding the Tollgate Road Open Space, that shared use is the best way forward, as an experienced PE Teacher it is better for Primary School pupils to work in smaller areas, a football pitch is not required, as small team games are carried out and facilities at Southam College should be utilised.

Mrs Daly, 62 Banbury Road, Southam

Spoke regarding speeding on Banbury Road, speeding traffic has been going on for years with nothing being done about it, path is very close to the road and it is terrifying, and it's extremely difficult getting in and out of driveways, please advise what can be done about it.

Mr T Cribbit, 26 Tollgate Road, Southam

Spoke regarding the Tollgate Road Playing Field, is opposed to the proposal, that the 32m is a dog run and it leaves no space for games, that the space should be shared and the whole area fenced off.

Mrs S Healey, Banbury Road, Southam

Reiterated the concerns regarding speeding traffic along Banbury Road and stated that something needed to be done about the roundabout at the shell garage it is very overgrown and you cannot see what traffic is coming.

Mrs Batchelder, 16 Tollgate Road, Southam

Residents have never denied that the school need a safe space, but members of the public use it as well as parents who stop after school, the school would only use the fenced area 32% of the year, the shared use is an option that should be investigated further, volunteers are willing to help with the logistics and the MP is willing to facilitate a meeting.

Town Mayor signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs K Woods, 28 Tollgate Road, Southam

Spoke regarding the Tollgate Road Playing Field, is opposed to the proposal, it cannot be justified that St James is given such a large space, parents knew what facilities the school had when they chose to send their children there, the community space is a vital resource and it should be recognised that the town has a deficit of public open space.

Mrs D Smith, 20 Springs Crescent, Southam

Wanted to know if someone had been out to look at the drainage problem in Tomwell Close, that the resurfacing along Welsh Road East, was it something to do with the planning conditions for that road, with regards to footpath and cycle ways.

Mr Hedge, 65 Banbury Road, Southam

Spoke concerning the speeding along Banbury Road, reiterated that something needs to be done about it.

Mrs V Justice, 58 Banbury Road, Southam

Spoke about speeding along Banbury Road, that it is a dangerous road and something needs to be done.

**122. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:**

i) The minutes of the Christmas Recess meeting were noted, that the current procedure relating to the Street Lights Replacement Programme be discussed at the February Meeting

**ii) That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor, subject to the following amendments:**

**Minute 120. Should read Linley Road**

**123. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**RESOLVED:**

**That payment of accounts dated January 2014, totalling £6,571.25 be authorised.**

**124. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated January 2014 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council.

ii) Planning Application decisions dated January 2014

**Noted**

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

**Noted**

**125. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

**125.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS**

i) Representations relating to the Tollgate Road Playing Field were considered under agenda item 2

ii) Representations relating to speeding traffic along Banbury Road were considered under agenda item 5

iii) Mrs D Smith was advised that WCC is aware of the drainage problem in Tomwell Close, but the Town Clerk will chase, that the resurfacing work along Welsh Road East had nothing to do with the S278 works

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iv)Mr Rowly and Mr Upton were advised that the area along the A425 that is being used as a chipping store is classed as a public highway and should not have been gated off and that WCC will need to get a gating order to make changes to the use of this land  
v)Mrs Healy was advised that the overgrown vegetation on the roundabout near to the Shell Garage, will be reported to WCC

### **125.2 TOLLGATE ROAD PLAYING FIELD**

Members considered public representations relating to the latest proposal from WCC; the Town Council were advised that the Council had received a petition from St James Primary School. Members were advised that WCC had made it very clear to the Town Clerk that they were not prepared to give either the school or the Town Council any more space and that if the school refused to accept the proposal then WCC would install a fence themselves, as they had a duty as an Education Authority regarding the safeguarding of children.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That Southam Town Council agrees to the proposal and that the Town Clerk should write to WCC accordingly.**

### **125.3 LOCALISM ACT 2011**

#### **ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012**

Members were advised that the following are now on the list of assets of Community Value:

- Tollgate Road Open Space
- Park Lane Recreation Ground
- The Peace Garden adjacent to The Grange
- The Grange Hall
- Craven Lane Hall
- The Graham Adams Centre
- Merestone Park
- St James Parish Church & Churchyard
- Mayfield Road Open Space

That the following areas cannot be included on the list of assets of community value as it is used for agriculture, so does not provide community value:

- Land adjacent to the Holy Well
- Diocesan Land adjacent to Manders Croft

SDC considered the Lilley Smith Memorial and advised that the nomination is not valid, as it is considered that the Memorial and the land on which it stands is not used for community value, as the land itself cannot be occupied by the community.

SDC considered The Parish Pound and decided that the asset cannot be included on the list of assets, as it does not provide community value, as it is not accessible to the public.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**To ascertain why the land around the Holy Well area cannot be included on the register because although it is agricultural land, the land does have public rights of way and countryside views that the public enjoy.**

Town Mayor signature\_\_\_\_\_

**125.4 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION**

**RESOLVED:**

To advertise the Casual Vacancy

**125.5 SPEEDING TRAFFIC – BANBURY ROAD**

Members considered complaints from the public regarding speeding along Banbury Road

**RESOLVED:**

i) To request that Banbury Road is surveyed to ascertain if the mobile camera van can carry out enforcement in this area at a cost of £218.26

ii) To request that the Police carry out hand held speed camera checks

**125.6 LITTER – PUBLIC AREA HURST ROAD/KINETON ROAD/BERRY LANE**

Members considered correspondence regarding litter complaints in this area

**RESOLVED:**

i) Ask SDC to ensure that the area is litter picked

ii) To write to Tesco, ALKO, Laser Tools and Alumet to ask whether they would be prepared to carry out a community litter picking initiative in the area

**125.7 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

Members considered correspondence from WALC and Adderbury Parish Council. Adderbury Parish Council has written to the Prime Minister questioning the validity of Neighbourhood Development Plans and questions the weight that will be given to Local Plans. If the Town Council feels that this may reflect the situation in Southam, WALC suggests that the Town Council writes to their MP supporting the sentiments in this letter.

**RESOLVED:**

To write to the MP as suggested

**125.8 ROYAL GARDEN PARTY NOMINATIONS**

No nominations

**125.9 LOCAL COUNCIL CHARTER**

**RESOLVED:**

That Southam Town Council prefers Example 2

**125.10 INSIGHT BUSINESS PARK/LOVE BALLETT PLANNING APPLICATION**

Members considered the response from Rob Weeks (SDC)

**RESOLVED:**

To write to the Chief Planning Officer (cc District Councillors) stating that the Town Council are still not satisfied with the response from Rob Weeks and want to know why the planning conditions are still not met, as these conditions are in place to safeguard the community.

**125.11 S106 TOWN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Members were informed that the Town Council had received a petition from the Chip Shop on Market Hill relating to this project. That work on the project was still on going and that the final project would be bought back to Council to sign off in due course.

Town Mayor signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **125.12 TOWN CHURCHYARD**

Members were informed of the latest situation regarding the Town Churchyard:

- New burial space is now full
- The original cremation area is now full, only family members of existing plots can have their ashes interred in this area
- The new cremation area is adjacent to the lime avenue , ashes can be interred in this area , but must be interred loose and no memorial stones are allowed

### **RESOLVED:**

**To write to the Coventry Diocese stating that the Town Council is of the opinion that plaques to mark cremation plots should be allowed and as such want to know the reason why this was not being allowed in the St James Churchyard**

## **125.13 COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

Noted

## **126. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **126.1 STRATFORD CAB ANNUAL REVIEW**

#### **RESOLVED:**

**To advertise the review on the Town Council website**

### **126.2 SOUTHAM & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB – GRANT THANK YOU**

Noted

### **126.3 SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ASSOCIATION – GRANT FEEDBACK**

Noted

## **127. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES**

### **TOURISM IN SOUTHAM**

Noted

## **128. MEMBERS ITEM – CLLR C PRATT**

That Members give consideration to reducing the time of the Saturday Councillor Surgery from 2 hours to 1 hour whilst the library is in the temporary building.

### **RESOLVED:**

**That in future the Councillor Surgery takes place for 1 hour from 10.30 – 11.30**

## **129. BUSINESS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE MAYOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

### **129.1 NEW HOMES BONUS GRANT SCHEME**

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the Town Council should submit a Grant Application for hall decoration and new curtains at a cost of £8198.00**

### **129.2 HOLY WELL SIGNAGE**

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the Information Board is amended to state the relevant information and that small yellow ‘Slippery Surface’ signs are installed on the gates of the Holy Well**

Town Mayor signature \_\_\_\_\_

**129.3 COMMUNITY SPACE LEASES**  
To be discussed under confidential

**130. 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

**131. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES**

**RESOLVED:**

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated January 2014

**132. MAINTENANCE CONTRACT – GRASS CUTTING TENDERS**

**RESOLVED:**

i) That in the interests of Best Value in relation to quality of work and price the contract is split

ii) Contractor E should be offered the Churchyard Contract and Contractor C should be offered the Amenity Space Contract

iii) That when the Tollgate Lease is finalized both contractors are asked to quote for the Tollgate Road Playing field

**133. COMMUNITY SPACE – PREFERRED TENANTS**

**RESOLVED:**

That the Town Council's preferred occupiers of the Community Space are VASA, MENCAP and The Cardall Collection. To write to these organisations advising that it is the intention of the Council to lease rooms in the Community Space to them (subject to terms and conditions), however the Town Council cannot proceed any further at this stage until the Town Council has finalised the lease of the whole of the Community Space with Orbit

Meeting closed 9.47pm

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<b>SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B</b>					
<b>SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL JANUARY 2014</b>					
<b>APPLICATION NO.</b>	<b>APPLICANT NAME</b>	<b>SITE</b>	<b>PROPOSAL</b>	<b>OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
13/03302/FUL	Bank Machine Ltd	Southam Service Station, Banbury Road, Southam, CV47 2BJ	Retention of automated teller machine	28th January 2014	No representations
13/03300/ADV	Bank Machine Ltd	Southam Service Station, Banbury Road, Southam, CV47 2BJ	Retention of illuminated sign	28th January 2014	No representations
13/03161/FUL	Dr Dallas Burston	Dallas Burston Polo Grounds, Stoneythorpe, Southam CV47 2DL	Formation of irrigation lake and storage of soils arising from the formation of the lake	24th January 2014	No representations
13/03200/FUL	Mr Constable	Black Dog, Market Hill, Southam CV47 0HF	Proposed glazed veranda	4th February 2014	Southam Town Council objects to this application as it is out of keeping with the conservation area and with a listed building.
13/03201/LBC	Mr Constable	Black Dog, Market Hill, Southam CV47 0HF	Proposed glazed veranda	4th February 2014	Southam Town Council objects to this application as it is out of keeping with the conservation area and with a listed building.
14/00004/FUL	Mr Ian Simpson	60 Warwick Road, Southam Cv47 0HW	Proposed single storey rear extension	4th February 2014	No representations

Town Mayor signature \_\_\_\_\_