

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 27th MARCH 2014

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

In attendance: Mrs D Carro & Mrs D Sanders

152. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr L Tasker	Personal
Cllr C Worsh	Personal
Cllr E Thornley	Personal
Cllr M Gaffney	Personal
Cllr J Smith	Work Commitments
Cllr D Wise	Personal
Cllr A Crump	Holiday
Cllr J Appleton	Personal

153. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr C Pratt	Personal Interest Reason	St James Parish Church Owns a burial plot
Cllr J Ward	Personal Interest Reason	Christmas Lights Meeting Minutes Committee Member
Cllr D Smith	Personal Interest Reason	ENV – Land next to 10 Herdwycke Close Family member is a neighbour
	Personal Interest Reason	Christmas Lights Meeting Minutes Committee Member
Cllr J Soni	Personal Interest Reason Personal Interest Reason	Christmas Lights Meeting Minutes Committee Member Southam & District Children’s Centre Committee Member

154. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms West – 3 Warwick Street, Southam

Spoke regarding speeding in Warwick Street, referred to a serious accident recently that damaged a house, would like to see traffic calming measures as cars are driving far too fast.

Mr G Bottrell, 10 Herdwycke Close, Southam

Spoke regarding his request to purchase some Town Council owned land adjacent to his house, he has a disabled child and needs to make the boundary safer, has problems with people using the area as a short cut and regularly has to pick up litter in the area, would like to make the area more attractive and safer

155. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Town Mayor signature _____

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 27th February 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor, subject to the following amendments:

In attendance should read Cllr Appleton, Cllr Crump & Cllr Ellard

Minute 135 should read “Family member attends the Nursery School

Minute 136 should read “Broadwell”

Minute 136 should read “An Ash Tree by 1 Tomwell Close is over hanging the footpath”

Minute 141.2 should read “However, the situation was changed fundamentally with WCC switching off lights which it is responsible for and STC leaving them on”

Minute 148 should read “Agree to unitary but only 1 for Warwickshire and not a Warwickshire North and Warwickshire South”

156. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated March 2014, totalling £23,186.22 be authorised.

157. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

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

ii) Planning Application decisions dated March 2014

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

158. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

158.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

i) Ms West was advised that speeding is a Community Forum priority and that the Town Clerk was meeting with the Police in due course to discuss what action they are taking.

ii) Mr Bottrell was advised that the matter was discussed at ENV and the recommendation will be considered later in the meeting, that the council is concerned that permission could set a precedent and they could not take personal reasons into account.

158.2 CASUAL VACANCY – MILL HILL WARD

Members were advised that Mrs A Forster had resigned and a Casual Vacancy would be advertised following this meeting.

158.3 TOLLGATE ROAD PLAY AREA – HEDGE PRUNING

Noted

158.4 APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Noted

158.5 ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH – CREMATION MEMORIAL STONE

RESOLVED:

i) To write and ask the church to advertise the situation regarding ‘Cremation Memorial Stones’

Town Mayor signature _____

ii) To write and ask the church to reconsider their decision regarding 'Cremation Memorial Stones'

158.6 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Noted

159. CORRESPONDENCE

159.1 SOUTHAM & DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CENTRE – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

159.2 SEASTAR FISH & CHIPS – TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Will be considered when Members of the Town Council meet with WCC and SDC on the 9th April 2014.

159.3 VASA - GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

159.4 SOUTHAM CARNIVAL COMMITTEE – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

159.5 SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY MINUTES

Noted

159.6 THE SHAKESPEARE HOSPICE – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

159.7 CAB – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

160. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES

ENV WORKING PARTY REPORT – 13TH MARCH 2014

160.1 POLICING IN THE SOUTHAM AREA

Inspector Dav Goddard and Sergeant Richard Thomas from Warwickshire Police attended the meeting to discuss with Councillors about the staff levels within the Southam area. The officers stated that a new PSCO called Amanda Turner was going to be joining the current PSCOs in the area bringing the total to three.

Inspector Goddard made comment about the current position regarding a new beat officer. Warwickshire Police are due to hold interviews to fill the current vacancy and expect the new officer to be in post in approximately two weeks

Disappointment was expressed by councillors that there did not seem to be any plan to enhance the face to face contact between the police and the public as a result of any possible future provision of police office space in the new development.

160.2 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

Members reviewed the proposed changes to Standing Orders

RESOLVED:

i) The council welcome and support the changes to the standing orders.

ii) Cllr Tasker requested that there be an additional comment made within the supplements section (page 26) to cover the use of social media by Councillors. The final details of the entry need more clarification but the request was fully supported by all Councillors present.

Town Mayor signature _____

160.3 LAND NEXT TO 10 HERDWYCKE CLOSE

Members considered correspondence from the resident wishing to purchase a small piece of land next to his house that is owned by Southam Town Council. The Town Council Office has no record of owning this piece of land and therefore has not been maintaining it.

RESOLVED:

i) To defer the resident request to buy some Town Council land to the April ENV

ii) To leave the situation regarding grass cutting as it is.

iii) Ask the tree surgeon to survey the trees as part of the current schedule. In addition to this the council agrees to except the quote for the recommended tree works and proceed with the payment.

160.4 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

See below

160.5 NEXT TOWN MAYOR/ DEPUTY MAYOR – MAY 2014

Cllr Willoughby has agreed to become the next Mayor. Cllr Ward has agreed to become the next Deputy Mayor. Cllr Ward states that this may only be for the one year and at the current time has no wish to become Mayor again after the term as Deputy finishes. The council has accepted this position and supports this situation, which will give extra time to appoint a Mayor after Cllr Willoughby.

160.6 LEAMINGTON ROAD HEDGEROW

Members considered correspondence between Cllr Ward and SDC regarding litter in this vicinity, as requested by the Council, businesses were contacted to see if they would help but only Tesco responded and did agree, however this has now not been progressed as BIFFA are going to do a one off tidy up, so we will keep an eye and if needs be I am sure Tesco will get involved in the future.

SDC consider a bin may improve the situation; therefore does the Town Council want to pay for one to be installed?

RESOLVED:

The council wishes to purchase a bin and requests that the Clerk obtains a quote.

160.7 SOUTHAM 2013 – SIGN AUDIT

Members considered correspondence from Southam Civic Ideas Forum and deliberated if any action should be taken with regards to the suggested improvements identified in the report.

RESOLVED:

The council requests that the Clerk sends a copy of the Southam 2013 Sign Audit from Southam Civic Ideas Forum to Highways.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

160.8 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Cllr Soni advised Members that the planned meeting was cancelled

RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk ascertains when the rearranged meeting will take place

Town Mayor signature _____

160.9 TAYLOR WIMPEY PLANNING APPLICATION

Cllr Pratt advised Members that she had attended the planning meeting on 12th March. A discussion about the need for a burial ground and S106 monies took place. Cllr Pratt was advised that there was a need to demonstrate a requirement to enable this to happen.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Town Clerk arranges a meeting with the planners to discuss this further so as to find out the extent of the information required.

160.10 PLAY AREA WORKING PARTY MEETING**RESOLVED:**

That the meeting takes place on Friday 28th March at 10.30am

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MARCH 2014					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
14/00067/FUL	Mr Brian Hallett	Land opp Myers Bridge Farm, Daventry Road, Southam	Proposed lean-to extension to existing barn for storage purposes	18th March 2014	No representations
14/00559/TREE	Infront Innovation	The Oriel, 14 Warwick Road, Southam, CV47 0HN	T1: Broadleaf: Fell	21st March 2014	Subject to Tree Officer approval
SDC/14CM009	Severn Trent Water Ltd	Itchen Bank Sewage Pumping Station, Land off Welsh Road, Warwickshire CV47 2BH	Internal improvements with new plant and machinery within the existing site at Itchen Bank Sewage Pumping Station	21st March 2014	The Town Council supports this application if there is no increase to the noise level or light pollution during both the works and subsequent use
14/00543/FUL	Southam College	Southam College, Welsh Road West, Southam CV47 0JW	Single storey building consisting of 6no. Classrooms, 2no offices, concourse and entrance	21st March 2014	The Town Council supports the application if additional car parking is created to support the extra vehicles. The current position regarding parking within the area will only get worse without this addition. This must be demonstrated prior to the granting of permission
14/00565/LBC	Mr N Chapman	Whitehall Barn, 9 Warwick Road, Southam CV47 0HN	Proposed single storey rear extension	26th March 2014	No representations

Town Mayor signature _____

161. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

None

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

None

163. 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

164. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated March 2014

165. PENSION FUND CONTRIBUTIONS 2014/15

Southam Town Council has been advised that the employer contribution rates from 2014/15 are as follows:

2014/15 – 19.1%

2015/16 – 20.6%

2016/17 – 22.1 %

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council accepts these rates

166. ORBIT - COMMUNITY ROOM LEASE

Contrary to what the Town Council had previously been advised, SDC state only the £169k as rent payment can be used out of the S106 money and all other costs (which are basically disbursements) will have to be borne by STC or SDC.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr M Gaffney, Cllr B Thomas, Cllr J Ward & Town Clerk discusses this matter with Dave Webb on the 9th April 2014 and reports back to the Town Council

Meeting closed 8.40 pm

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL MARCH 2014 Issue 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
14/00586/FUL	Mr Ron Mellett (Rego Southam Ltd)	Holywell Business Park, Northfield Road, Kineton Road Industrial Estate, Southam	Construction of carriageway and footpaths together with associated infrastructure works to service future plots	7th April 2014	No representations
14/00574/FUL	Mr Peter Molloy	The Hovel, Welsh Road East, Southam	Construction of two houses and 1 flat with 6 parking spaces	9th April 2014	No representations

Town Mayor signature _____