

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 24th APRIL 2014

Present: Councillors: M Willoughby (Chair), V Shepherd, B Thomas, J Soni, L Smith, D Smith, E Thornley, M Gaffney & L Tasker

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

167. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr C Pratt	Personal
Cllr C Worsh	Holiday
Cllr J Smith	Holiday
Cllr J Ward	Holiday

168. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr M Gaffney	Personal Interest Reason	Accounts for Payment Item 4 Southam Carnival Committee Member
Cllr D Smith	Personal Interest Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 2 Lives in Springs Crescent
	Personal Interest Reason	ENV Minutes Item 3 Relatives are neighbours
Cllr L Tasker	Personal Interest Reason	Accounts for Payment Item 3 VASA Board Member
Cllr J Soni	Personal Interest Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 2 Lives in Springs Crescent

169. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr K Romero , 6 Ploughmans Holt, Southam

Spoke regarding the Mayfield Road Play Area, complaining that resident's privacy is being compromised because children who are using the play area are running between the flats and looking through the flat windows and as a result would like to request that a fence is put round the play area to help contain the children and improve the privacy situation

Southam Police

Sergeant Richard Thomas and PC Jamie Cramp attended the meeting so that PC Cramp could introduce himself to the Council as the new Southam Beat Officer; he is currently based at Rugby and will be based in Southam in due course.

170. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 27th March 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

Town Mayor signature _____

171. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

- i) That payment of accounts dated March 2014, totalling £18,980.25 be authorised.
- ii) That the Town Clerk submits a report to council explaining the Southam @ Play group and their finances.

172. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

- i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated April 2014 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council.
- ii) Planning Application decisions dated April 2014
Noted
- iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates
Noted

173. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

173.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

- i) Mr Romero was advised that it was an Orbit matter.
- ii) That the Town Council would speak to Orbit about the issue raised and would seek an opinion from the Town Council Play Inspection Contractors.

173.2 PETITION FOR DOUBLE YELLOW LINES IN SPRINGS CRESCENT, SOUTHAM

Members consider a petition from residents asking for double yellow lines in Springs Crescent due to inconsiderate parking.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Town Council writes to WCC requesting double yellow lines on the junction of Springs Crescent (off Welsh Road West).
- ii) That the petition is sent to WCC
- iii) That the Town Council also requests double yellow lines outside the Leisure Centre on the opposite side of the road where double yellow lines have recently been installed.

173.3 STREETLIGHTNG - WCC

Noted

173.4 REQUEST FOR UNUSED OAK POSTS

Members considered a request from a resident asking to have some of the unused oak posts for their garden.

RESOLVED:

To respond to the resident that their request has been turned down because the posts will be kept for community use

173.5 PARKING ON FOOTPATHS

Noted

173.6 RURAL SOUNDING BOARD

Noted

173.7 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Noted

Town Mayor signature _____

174. CORRESPONDENCE

174.1 ST JAMES CHURCH – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

174.2 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF STRATFORD ON AVON – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Noted

174.3 SOUTHAM FIRST – MARCH MINUTES

Noted

175. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES

ENV WORKING PARTY REPORT – 10TH APRIL 2014

175.1 AMENITY AREA SURVEY

Cllr Ward, Cllr Willoughby, Cllr Tasker & Town Clerk, visited all of the Town Council owned amenity areas and produced an action plan for members to consider.

RESOLVED:

i)Riverside Walk - To remove the wooden/wire fence on the bank of the River Stowe

ii)Riverside Walk – To get quotes to carryout necessary repairs to the footpath

iii)Park lane Recreation Ground - Aerial Zip Slide – Launch area mound needs repairing, the grass matting needs to be replaced/re-installed – to be carried out at the end of the Summer, unless the playground inspectors advise that it needs to be done sooner

iv)Tollgate Road Play Area - To get a quote for a replacement Swing Seat

v)Tollgate Road Play Area – To get a quote to repair/replace the boundary fence of No 40, as well as ad hoc panels that need replacing along the rest of the fence.

vi)That painting of equipment to be a future bigger painting project on all sites.

175.2 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

Members considered the proposed Social Media Policy

RESOLVED:

That the proposed Social Media Standing Order be adopted

175.3 LAND NEXT TO 10 HERDWYCKE CLOSE

Members considered additional correspondence from the resident wishing to purchase a small piece of land that is owned by Southam Town Council next to his house. The Town Clerk also advised that the Council must not allow others to occupy their land and acquire a possessory title against the council .Whoever is cutting this grass could make a claim. The Town Clerk advice to Council is that the Town Council should be cutting it. Please note that Cllr D Smith declared a personal interest. Council were advised that shrubs were overgrown and blocking the footway

RESOLVED:

i)That the land is not sold

ii)That the shrubs are cut back

iii)That the Town Clerk obtains a quote for maintenance of the land

175.4 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

See below

Town Mayor signature_____

175.5 PETITIONNG HS2 HYBRID BILL

Members considered a report from Cllr Shepherd advising what points SAAG will be petitioning and whether they want SAAG to petition on behalf of Southam Town Council. Members also considered information on how to petition.

RESOLVED:

i)That it is the intention of the Town Council to submit a petition , that the matter is advertised accordingly and is an agenda item for the Mayormaking meeting.

175.6 COMMUNITY FLOOD RESILIENCE WORKSHOP

Members considered an invitation for a representative of Southam Town Council to attend a workshop on community resilience, focussing on issues of flooding, but also covering wider areas of resilience. The workshop is on Thursday 29th May 7pm – 9pm at Stratford upon Avon School

RESOLVED:

i)That Cllrs J Smith and Soni represents the Council at this meeting, reporting back to Council as appropriate.

175.7 GOOD COUNCILLOR GUIDE

RESOLVED:

That a copy be purchased for each councillor

175.8 AREA LIASION GROUP

A liaison group has been formed in Harbury to discuss issues and exchange/disseminate relevant subject information surrounding Gypsy and Traveller sites. Cllr Ward attended their first meeting and Members were requested to decide if they wish Southam Town Council to be formally represented at future meetings

RESOLVED:

Cllr Ward to attend these meetings when he is available to gain information and report back to Council.

175.9) BIN – LEAMINGTON ROAD

At the last meeting the Town Council resolved to purchase a bin. SDC has advised that they would provide and install a bin for £320 and the emptying fee of £97.87 per annum would be paid for by SDC because SDC consider that this area would benefit from a bin.

RESOLVED:

- i)That a bin be purchased at a cost of £320**
- ii)To thank SDC for agreeing to empty the bin**

175.10 NEW STYLE CCTV REPORT

Members considered the new style report

RESOLVED:

- i)That the new format is accepted**
- ii)To ascertain why there are disproportionate hours for Alcester**

175.11 HOME CHOICE PLUS DRAFT ALLOCATIONS POLICY - CONSULTATION

Cllr D Smith declared a personal interest

RESOLVED:

To respond to the questionnaire

Town Mayor signature _____

175.12 ANNUAL TREE INSPECTION REPORT

Members considered the report

RESOLVED:

- i) That the recommended works are carried out at a cost of £2680.00**
- ii) That the Town Council are keen to carry out a replanting programme**

175.13 PROPOSED NEW SETTLEMENT AT DALLAS BURSTON POLO GROUNDS

(STONEYTHORPE MAGNA)

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk arranges a meeting, after changeover, with Chief/Senior planners, Mayor, Deputy Mayor & Cllr Thomas concerning the additional development sites that have come forward since the Core Strategy was published and we commented on it. Paper from Framptons on Dallas Burston development raises serious questions about the housing allocation contained in the Core Strategy and this needs to be sorted out.

175.14 QUESTIONS FOR COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Question for District Councillor

Explain why there are now 7 possible sites for major development when only 5 were included in the Core Strategy consultation.

Question for County Councillor

What progress has been made to resolve the questions relating to the Tollgate Open Space?

175.15 BANNER HOMES PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED:

Town Clerk to send a letter to Banner homes expressing the Councils extreme disappointment that they were not informed or consulted on the proposed development at Wattons Lane and not invited to the meeting on 16th April 2014

176. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Appleton advised:

- That WCC has submitted their Electoral Review proposals but these will not affect Southam

Cllr Ellard advised:

- That the numbers for Core Strategy are robust,
- May have to pick up housing for Birmingham, but SDC would contest that situation
- Would not be considering late consultation responses
- Speculative planning applications possible even if not part of the Core Strategy
- Councillors will decide preferred site on Monday 28th April 2014
- Cllr D Wise has resigned and it is envisaged that an election will be held in June to fill that position
- That Cllr Ellard will be standing for Councillor at the May elections
- That incorrect stickers have been put on the grey wheelie bins, this matter will be rectified in due course

Town Mayor signature _____

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

177.1 TOLLGATE ROAD LEASE

The Town Clerk advised that the school has challenged the validity of the County Council's decision and has sought legal advice in response to this. The matter has been passed to the County Council's legal team and while this is being dealt with WCC are unable to progress matters any further with regards to the new lease to the Town Council or the installation of the fence. In light of this situation the Section 25 end date has been extended until the 31st January 2015

177.2 SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL – COUNCILLOR VACANCY

SDC has advised that an election will take place to fill the vacancy, as the appropriate number of requests has been received. It is envisaged that a joint election will take place, as SDC have a vacancy for a Southam Ward Councillor.

178. 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

179. SOUTHAM TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RESOLVED:

i) That WCC Officers Graham Stanley and Phil Mitton are present at the meeting for this item

ii) That Southam Town Council agree with the proposed plans

iii) That the working party consisting of Cllr Gaffney, Cllr Ward and Cllr Thomas are authorised to make decisions regarding the street furniture and railings

iv) That a member of Southam First-Events Team is invited to attend the meeting relating to the street furniture in order to have input, but the decisions rest with the Town Council

180. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated April 2014

181. ORBIT - COMMUNITY ROOM LEASE

RESOLVED:

That although Dave Webb (SDC) has emailed the Town Council indicating that SDC will pay the legal fees, it is requested that the Town Clerk instructs the Town Council Solicitor to get an undertaking from the SDC Solicitor to protect the Town Council's interest in respect of the financial aspect of the Community Lease

Meeting closed 9.58 pm

Town Mayor signature _____

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL April 2014					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
14/00694/FUL	Mr Phil Evans	4 Stowe Drive, Southam CV47 1NY	Proposed erection of 1.8m fence and construction of a covered area to side of the dwelling.	14th April 2014	No representations
14/00748/FUL	Ms Clare-Marie Ramsey	Cartref, Welsh Road East Southam CV47 1NF	Proposed two storey side extension, incorporating single storey front and rear extensions	15th April 2014	No representations
09/01928/FUL	Mater Ecclesiae	Our Ladys Convent, Wood Street, Southam CV47 1PP	Amendment to the Convent planning application concerning a Section 106 contribution which has not been paid.	24th April 2014	Southam Town Council would like the Section 106 Contributions to be persued
SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL April 2014					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
14/00888/FUL	Governors of St Mary's Catholic School	St Mary's RC School, Daventry Road, Southam, CV47 1PS	Single storey extension to north elevation	28th April 2014	No representations
14/00955/TREE	Mrs Heather Bourne	Whitehall House, 7 Warwick Road, Southam, CV47 0HN	T1:Walnut:Old remnant at about 2.5m with heavy vertical and lateral growth. 30% crown reduction, prune to good growth points to stabilise remainig crown.	25th April 2014	Please refer this application to the Arboricultural Officer
14/00503/OUT	Midland Commercial Property Ltd	Land adjacent The Service Station, Banbury Road, Southam	Proposed residential development of up to 51 dwellings	30th April 2014	Southam Town Council objects to this application. The area has not been identified in the draft core strategy as suitable for development. It is isolated from the town and its facilities, lacks suitable public open space and play facilities and 51 dwellings would be over development of the site which has difficult access and lacks adequate parking.
14/00960/FUL	Mr Nick Funnell Claydon Horse Exercisers	Green Acres, Coventry Road, Southam, CV47 1BG	Proposed machinery storage building in association with Claydon Horse Exercisers	1st May 2014	No representations

Town Mayor signature _____