

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY, 24th November 2016

Present: In the Chair, Mayor, Councillor M Brooks,
Councillors M Connors, G Barratt, K Toner, J Ward, P Jenkins, S Exton & L Ellard

Apologies: Cllr K Geddes – Work
Cllr G Foster – Personal
Cllr M Gaffney – Personal
Cllr G Oubridge – Work
Cllr A Crump – Work

Absent: Cllr Bromwich

In Attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders,

Apologies: Cllr J Appleton

99. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED:

That the apologies are accepted

100. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J Ward	Non-Pecuniary Reason	Planning Application 16/02857/FUL Friend
Cllr P Jenkins	Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Report Confidential Travel Expenses

101. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

101.1 Mr P Munday, 27 Glebe Road, Southam

Advised the Council that the Rt Hon Jeremy Wright QC MP would like a meeting with the Council to discuss the Burial Ground situation

102. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

i) That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 27th October 2016, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor

103. POLICE

No report

104. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Invoices were available at the meeting for inspection

RESOLVED:

That the payment of accounts dated November 2016, totalling £6,430.59 (details attached) be authorised

105. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

105.1 i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated

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November 2016 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council. (details attached)

105.2 ii) Planning Application decisions dated November 2016

Noted

105.3 iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

106. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

106.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

i) Mr Munday was advised that the Council is meeting with the Rt Hon Jeremy Wright QC MP on 10th February 2017

106.2 REPRESENTATIVES TO WORKING PARTIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Members considered the vacancies and their appointments.

RESOLVED:

i) That Cllr Brooks and Cllr Connors to join the Play Area Development Group to survey the areas during the day and draw up an action plan.

ii) That Cllr Toner trials being the Planning Committee Member and Cllr Ward is the reserve Member

iii) That a vacancy still exists for the Southam Flower and Produce Show

iv) Members were also reminded to review their appointments and advise of any changes

106.3 COUNCIL MEETING DATES ENV DATES

Noted

107. CORRESPONDENCE

107.1 VASA

Members noted the Grant Feedback form.

Members were informed that correspondence has been received advising the Council that VASA want to stop the current system whereby the Town Council pay for the journeys made by Southam residents, due to the system not being viable. The Town Clerk has spoken to the CEO advising her how shocked we were to receive such a letter and would have expected VASA to show the Town Council some courtesy and discuss the matter before any decision is made. A meeting will be arranged with the CEO and the outcome will be reported to Council in due course.

107.2 **Southam in Bloom – Noted**

108. ENV WORKING PARTY REPORT – 10TH NOVEMBER 2016

108.1 Item 1 – HS2 ENGAGEMENT MANAGERS

Senior Engagement Manager, Matt Hadlington and Lydia Smith, Engagement Manager – HS2 attended the meeting to discuss their role. They have been appointed, as community engagement needed to be improved, they are a small team, locally focused, employing people with local knowledge. The construction of the line is split into three areas and Southam falls into the Central area, the central area is then split into 3 sub-sections and a contractor will be appointed for each sub-section. Each contractor will appoint a Community Engagement Manager but the first point of contact will be Lydia. Now, there is ground investigation work taking place, the HS2 teams are working with landowners, looking at ground conditions ahead of contractors coming in. There will be a Community Liaison Plan and Lydia Smith will be responsible for signing it off. Contract rules have already been sent and if contractors do not meet the standard they can be financially punished. The rules on engagement have been agreed and a delivery plan is being formulated. Contractors Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) will include community engagement.

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The Town Council, Roll B Agent, Mr B Thomas discussed the significant problems regarding responses (or lack of them), Mr Thomas is waiting for a response from Dr Brewer to his 17-page document regarding the serious issue of low frequency sound implications. The HS2 Community Engagement team will consider this. Another serious complaint raised was HS2 contractors going onto land without the landowner's permission, examples were given and Matt Hadlington confirmed that contractors cannot enter land without the landowner's permission and he will investigate these issues and come back to the Town Council.

Finally, a discussion took place regarding the Community & Business Fund, for the central area that will be £15 million. Community & business groups will need to submit good quality bids for funding and the Community Engagement Team will support groups in this process. It is anticipated that funds will be launched immediately following Royal Assent with the first awards being made within six months of the launch.

108.2 GARETH EPPS, INTERIM INDEPENDENT HS2 CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION

Mr Epps attended the meeting to discuss his role he advised the Council that he was appointed in July and his role is to provide a fair and independent resolution of complaints, specifically around construction. The role has three main purposes, firstly complaints will contact Mr Epps as a last resort if complaints cannot be resolved with HS2 Ltd, secondly, adjudicate the small claims scheme for property damage up to £10k and lastly to hold HS2 Ltd to account. There will be an independent body set up to manage his role and he has a separate website to HS2 which is hs2-cc.org.uk. If someone has cause to complaint about HS2 Ltd, they will first contact the HS2 Helpdesk, who will put them in contact with the contractors Community Relations Rep and if the matter does not get resolved they will be advised to contact the Independent Construction Commissioner, any complaints that MPs received will be forwarded to him also. Mr Epps was advised that the helpdesk is a disaster and matters are only dealt with when an FOI is submitted. A question was again asked about noise and vibration and Mr Epps advised that when dealing with the Crossrail construction, the main complaint was noise and vibration, which included low frequency noise and so has experience in dealing with these types of complaints.

108.3. SOUTHAM CHURCH AND COMMUNITY PROJECT

Mrs G Thomas and Mrs S Forgan met with the Council to discuss their Samba Band Grant Application.

RESOLVED:

To award a £1000 grant to cover the cost of the instruments and some initial tutor fees but if the Band folds within 3 years of the 24th November 2016, any monies made from the sale of the equipment must be returned to the Council.

108.4 SOUTHAM FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Pam McConnell wanted to know if a Councillor would like to join the Southam Flower and Produce Show Committee, they are looking for someone who can offer 'hands on' assistance, particularly promoting the show, social media and engaging with school children.

RESOLVED:

Councillors to think about whether they are interested in taking on this role as no one stepped forward.

108.5 PARKING OPPOSITE THE FACTORY SHOP

Cllr Barratt has advised that at the last Councillor Surgery a complaint was raised about dangerous parking opposite the factory shop and would like the Council to consider requesting the

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double yellow lines are extended. When considering this request, Members must consider the affect this would have on residents parking outside their homes.

RESOLVED:

To ask PC Cramp about traffic enforcement, Councillor Appleton advise on Double Yellows Lines.

108.6 STREETLIGHTING MAINTENANCE

WCC have recently carried out the annual maintenance survey on the streetlights that the Town Council is responsible for, the outcome of the survey is that there are no columns that require priority replacement, however the lights in the following streets are showings signs of deterioration:

Wattons Lodge
Park Lane
Heather Close

Members will recall that the Council is progressing an adoption programme to eventually relinquish their responsibility as a streetlighting authority, therefore the cost to bring the above streets up to standard and have them adopted by WCC and thus relinquishing the Town Council responsibility is £15900, the available funds that the Town Council holds for streetlighting is £23,279.52

RESOLVED:

To update the streetlights in Wattons Lodge, Park Lane and Heather Close at a cost of £15900 and that these lights are to be adopted by WCC

108.7 Planning Applications

RESOLVED

See attached

108.8 PLAY AREA QUOTATONS

There are various maintenance issues that need to be dealt with following the play area inspection, the main issues are safety surfaces. I have sought quotes for the necessary work and attached the necessary information the quotes stated offer best value. I have had a meeting with Cllr Brooks to explain the quotes and the differences in safety surfaces. The Town Council have a remaining budget of £17463.30, in the Repairs/Inspections/Replacements so have the funds to carry out the work at a cost of £15430.90.

Members were also advised that SDC are holding £63,902.30 that is to be spent on Play Areas in Southam, and for SDC to release the money to the Town Council quotations need to be sought.

RESOLVED:

i)To accept the quote and carry out the repairs, as follows, for a total cost of £15430.90 to be taken from the repairs/inspection/replacement budget.

Park Lane Recreation Ground

Repair Multi Pondo - £45.00

Inspect & repair roundabout - £65.00

Remove Waveybridge - £415.00

Supply new upper structure to the Uniplay Billores - £2735.00

New safety surface for Aerial Runway, Basket Swing, Roundabout area including, springer and installing a new hopscotch £11193.00

Prior Meadow Swing safety surface - £977.90

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ii) That the Town Clerk (with assistance from Cllr Brooks and Cllr Connors) obtains quotes and report back to Council.

108.9 RIVERSIDE WALK PATH

The path is in a poor state of repair and it has been difficult finding companies to quote, so far, I have sought a couple of quotes and depending on what work gets done they range from £5787.50 to £23,356. There is one section of the path (approx. 252m²) that is particularly bad to the point where it is a hazard and following discussion with Cllr Brooks we are both of the opinion that work should get carried out on this section to make it safe at a cost of £5787.50 and look at more in depth work later to do the whole of the path and other paths around Southam that the Town Council is responsible for.

RESOLVED:

To accept the quote of £5787.50, monies to be taken from Ear Marked Reserve Footpath, Community Space and Traffic Calming.

109. SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ASSOCIATION

Noted

110. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

No reports

111. 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

112. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise the payment of staff salaries dated November 2016

113. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE (GRASS CUTTING) TENDERS

Members were advised that 6 tenders had been received and the Working Parking would be meeting on Wednesday 30th November 2016 to consider them.

Cllr P Jenkins left the meeting

114. CLLR P JENKINS – TRAVEL EXPENSES

RESOLVED:

That after careful consideration, no travel expenses would be paid to assist Cllr Jenkins to attend Council meetings.

Cllr P Jenkins returned to the meeting

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm

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SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 2016 ISSUE 2

APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional information and link to application	Comments
16/02091/REM	Mr Holt, Orbit Homes Ltd	Land adjacent The Service Station, Banbury Road, Southam	Reserved matters application for the erection of 45 dwellings- Layout, Scale, Appearance, Access and Landscaping in accordance with condition 2 of planning permission 14/00503/OUT Revised site plan,tenure mix plan,amended house types BCDE&F, amended flat types A&B, revised access statement, cycle shelter with lockable gate, revised boundary treatments, bin store details,materials and detail schedule, affordable housing specification, site section elevations	7th December 2016		No representations
16/02857/FUL	Mr Ben Wilkes	52 Springs Crescent, Southam, CV47 0JT	Two storey side extension amendment to set the proposal further back at first floor level and the single storey front extension now stops at the bay window	30th November 2016		Southam Town Council has no objection to the amendment provided policy boundary clearances are adhered to.
16/03634/TEL28	Shubhankar Ghosh	Corner of Lias Close and Coventry Road Southam CV47 1BG	Notice of intention to install electronic communication apparatus pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (General permitted development order) 2015 and the Electronic Communications Code (conditions and regulations 2003 (as amended)	2nd December 2016		This is a notification under a general permitted development order.
SDC/16CC015	Warwickshire County Council	Vacant building plot, Land at Holywell Business Park, Southam	Erection of a Community Fire Station and Fire and Rescue Training Centre, including garaging for fire appliances, a 'Fire House' simulator , training tower, incident control room and road traffic collision training area. Works to include the provision of a new substation,a new access off Northfield Road and associated parking, drainage, plant and landscaping.	7th December 2016		Southam Town Council supports this application provided traffic measures to aid access and egress are included:possibly warning lights, no stopping zone
16/03779/FUL	Mrs Joanne McCarthy	8 Marston Croft, Southam CV47 1PX	Full application for a ground floor rear extension, first floor alterations and a balcony.	14th December 2016		No representations

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