

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held at Sevenoaks Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 26 July 2010 at 7pm.

PRESENT

Cllr S Raikes –Town Mayor
Cllr J F London – Deputy Town Mayor

Cllr J M Canet
Cllr Mrs M E Crabtree
Cllr A S Clayton
Cllr Mrs A E Dawson
Cllr A Eyre

Cllr R Hogarth
Cllr R J Parry
Cllr R L Piper
Cllr M G Short
Cllr Mrs P C Walshe

(12)

In Attendance

Chief Executive/Town Clerk
Committee Clerk

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Brigden and Towell

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

87. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following disclosures of interest from Members in respect of items of business included on the agenda were received:-

Cllrs London and Parry, being Members of Kent County Council, stated they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at County level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Kent County Council.

Cllrs London and Parry, being members of Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue, stated that they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at the Authority, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority.

Cllrs Dawson and Piper, being Members of Sevenoaks District Council, stated they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at district level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Sevenoaks District Council

Cllrs Raikes declared a personal interest in any items relating to the Stag Community Arts Theatre from involvement as a hirer.

Cllr Mrs Walshe declared a personal interest in any items relating to the Stag Community Arts Theatre from involvement as a hirer and from a relative being a Sevenoaks District Councillor.

Cllrs Mrs Dawson being a Member of Sevenoaks District Council, stated they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at district level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Sevenoaks District Council.

Cllr Clayton declared a personal interest in any matters concerning Bayham Road as a member of the Residents Association.

Cllr London declared a personal interest relating to the Sevenoaks Rugby Football Club Pavilion Lease.

Cllr Mrs Crabtree declared a personal and prejudicial interest relating to the Sevenoaks Rugby Football Club.

88 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was **RESOLVED that** the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Council held on 17 May 2010 be received, adopted and signed as a true record.

89 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 28 June 2010 be received and adopted.

90 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED that** the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committees held on 24 May, 7th June, 21st June, and 5th July 2010 be received and adopted. The amended Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee 19th July 2010 be received and adopted noting the following amendments:

- a. Minute Item No 79 read "*Highway Matters*"
- b. Minute Item No 80 read "*it was **RESOLVED that** Sevenoaks Town Council supports the residents and their concerns and recommends that*"

91 OPEN SPACES & LEISURE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces & Leisure Committee held on 12 July 2010 be received and adopted.

92 STAG COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

It was **RESOLVED that** the minutes of the Shadow Charitable Trustees for the Stag Community Arts Centre held on 19 May and 16 June 2010 be received and adopted.

93 POWER OF WELL BEING

The Council had met the prescribed statutory criteria required to qualify as an eligible town council:

- i) 2/3rd elected Members
- ii) 80% of Councillors trained in Power of Wellbeing
- iii) A qualified clerk who has passed 57 of CILCA
- iv) A published community Engagement Statement
- v) Mindful of the Community Statement of Principle Authorities

It was **RESOLVED that** the Council adopt the Power of Well Being and publishes the Council's Community Strategy renamed as the Council's Engagement Community Strategy with a paragraph inserted about the tasks performed by the Council.

94 BLUE SKY DAY REPORT

The Council received and considered the Blue Sky Day Report held on 20 February 2010.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED that** a Saturday meeting date be arranged by the Town Clerk to discuss items raised as priorities for 2010/2011 prior to adoption into the structure of Council management.

95 CASUAL VACANCY

A Casual Vacancy occurred on the Town Council following the death of Paul Allen a former Town Councillor. The Public Notice was displayed as required and Sevenoaks District Council had confirmed that they had received requests from ten electors for a poll. Presuming that there was more than one candidate for the casual vacancy, an election would take place on 2nd September 2010.

Following a discussion on election costs and procedures it was **RESOLVED to** note the information.

96 STANDING ORDERS

The Council considered that a Working Party be formed to update and regularise the Standing Orders of the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED that**

- o The Standing Order Working Party comprise Cllrs Piper, Clayton, London, Short and Mrs Walshe
- o The Town Clerk organise the inaugural meeting to be held on a Monday afternoon prior to a Planning meeting.

97 BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN

The Council considered the draft Business Continuity Plan.

It was **RESOLVED that** the draft be expanded upon to include:

- o the duration the Council may be closed before the risk escalates
- o variable office locations be included in the flow chart
- o the time scales for the Council's response to variable situations
- o a projection of how long is required before the Council will be back in action
- o identification of the key danger points.

98 LEASE OF INDOOR CRICKET SCHOOL

It was **RESOLVED that** the Town Council authorised the Town Mayor and the Town Clerk giving them permission to sign and seal a three year lease with a break clause whereby the Council may break the lease on 3 month's written notice.

99 SEVENOAKS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB PAVILION LEASE

Cllr Mrs Crabtree left the room and Cllr London re-declared his personal interest. Cllr London remained in the room but did not cast a vote.

The Rugby Football Club requested an extension to its lease to enable them to redevelop the venue. The Town Council had resolved to agree to a new lease for 42 years subject to some conditions. Additional information and requests had subsequently been received from the club.

It was **RESOLVED that** the Chairman of Open Spaces and Leisure Committee, Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee, Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk meet as soon as possible to discuss these matters and report back to a specially arranged Town Council Meeting – date to be confirmed.

Cllr Mrs Crabtree returned to the room.

100 NHS HEALTH PROFILE 2010

The Council considered the report which indicated that Sevenoaks achieved the worst GCSE results in state schools in the UK.

It was **RESOLVED that** the Council write to the Schools Minister, Nick Gibb , MP (Secretary for State Education strongly supporting the creation of the Knole academy in Sevenoaks to combat the statistics within the NHS Profile 2010, which indicated the worst GCSE results in state schools in the UK. The Town Council urges the Government not to withdraw funding for the planned Academy.

101 PRESS RELEASE

The Town Council considered the support for the local Knole Academy to be suitable for press release and the adoption of the Power of Well Being.

The Meeting closed at 8:20pm

TOWN MAYOR