

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 18th January 2021

Following Finance & General Purposes Committee

Livestreamed on You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tv2wGzOlon0>

Meeting Commenced: 8.10 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 8.23 p.m.

Cllr Keith Bonin		Cllr Nicholas Busvine, Mayor	Present
Cllr Sue Camp	Apologies	Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet, Dep Mayor	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Present	Cllr Andrew Eyre	Present
Cllr Victoria Granville-Baxter	Present	Cllr Roderick Hogarth	Present
Cllr Lise Michaelides	Present	Cllr Tom Morris Brown	Absent
Cllr Rachel Parry	Present	Cllr Richard Parry	Present
Cllr Robert Piper	Present	Cllr Simon Raikes	Present
Cllr Claire Shea	Present	Cllr Edward Waite	Present

In Attendance: Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

385. Apologies for Absence as indicated above

386. Requests for Dispensations none received

387. Declarations of Interest none received

388. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 23rd November 2020

RESOLVED: to accept and sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

389. Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 16th November, 30th November, 14th December and 21st December 2020

RESOLVED: to accept and sign the Minutes as true records of the meetings.

390. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 23rd November 2020

RESOLVED: to accept and sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

391. Precept 2021 / 2022

The precept requirements had been debated at the prior meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed for the Precept for 2021 / 2022, being a 2% increase in total on the previous year to be set at £1,239,898, this equates to a Band D equivalent of £128.50 per annum, which is approximately £2.47 per week an increase of 6p per week.

392. Meeting Schedule 2021 / 2022

It was noted that the Meeting Schedule had been deferred to discuss at a later date.

393. Conclusion of Complaints Panel Hearing 8th January 2021

A copy of the document containing details of the Complaints Panel Hearing held on 8th January 2021 relating to the Town Council's decisions at Planning Committees in relation to the Planning Application Pinehurst Nursing Home was circulated to all Town Councillors prior to the meeting. Town Councillors discussed the following conclusions and the process.

Complaint Panel Conclusion:

Sevenoaks Town Council followed its normal and consistent procedure in the consultation process for Planning Applications and Amended Planning Applications, therefore the complaint is not upheld.

The Complaint Panel wanted the following informative to be noted.

1. Sevenoaks Town Council will request from Sevenoaks District Council clarity to what constitutes an 'Amended Planning Application'.
2. Sevenoaks Town Council to review its current planning process for Amended Planning Applications and potential conflict with Standing Orders.
3. Residents are reminded that Sevenoaks Town Council are consultees with the planning process and encourage residents to make their views known to the Sevenoaks District Council's Development Control meeting where a planning decision will be made.

RESOLVED: To note the outcome of the Complaint Panel Hearing on 8th January 2021.

394. Review of Code of Practice for handling complaints

It was noted that Sevenoaks Town Council's Code of Practice procedure was to involve three Town Councillors including the Mayor and Chairman or Vice Chairman of Committees. The document needed to be updated to include Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Community Infrastructure Committee and Youth Services Committee.

It was also requested that the document change references from Town Mayor to Mayor.

RESOLVED: to update the Code of Practice to take into amendments agreed above.

395. Press Release

RESOLVED: it was noted that the Mayor would produce a public letter relating to the first use of the Bat & Ball Centre as a COVID-19 Symptom Free Testing Centre.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting.

Signed
Mayor

Dated