

**Sevenoaks Town Council
Minutes of the Community Infrastructure Committee
Held on 21st June 2021**

Meeting Commenced: 7.11 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 8.21 p.m.

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|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------|--------------------|
| Cllr C Shea, Chairman | Present | Cllr A Clayton | Remote Attendance* |
| Cllr R J Parry, Vice-Chairman | Present | Cllr S Camp | Present |
| Cllr N Busvine | Present | Cllr R Hogarth | Apologies |
| Cllr Dr M Canet, Mayor | Present | | |

| Substitute | | For |
|-----------------------|---------|----------------|
| Cllr S Raikes | Present | Cllr R Hogarth |
| Cllr Granville-Baxter | Present | Cllr A Clayton |

In Attendance

In Person: Cllr Mrs R E Parry, Cllr R Piper and Town Clerk

Remote Attendance: Cllr A Eyre and Cllr K Bonin. Cllr Waite from 7.33pm.

*Members attending via Zoom took part in discussion but were not permitted to vote on matters under consideration, legally they do not constitute as being “present” at the meeting.

Representations received from Members of the Public: None

121 Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Noted that at the Annual Council Meeting held on 4th May 2021, the following appointments were made:

- a) Chairman – Cllr Claire Shea
- b) Vice-Chairman – Cllr Richard Parry

122 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted as shown above.

123 Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

124 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Eyre declared an interest in Agenda Item 8(vii), Stag Community Arts Centre, and took no part in discussion thereon.

125 Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2021

The Minutes of the meeting of the Community Infrastructure Committee held on 1st February 2021 were received and agreed as a true record.

126 STC No.1 Priority – Addressing Climate Change Initiatives

Consideration was given to the suggestion that the Town Council’s Climate Change Initiatives be incorporated into the Terms of Reference of the Community Infrastructure Committee.

Councillors emphasised the need to drive the Initiatives forward. Following a discussion of the role of this Committee and responsibilities within other committees for key items within the Climate Change Initiatives, it was agreed to refer this matter to the full Council as part of a forthcoming general review of Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED: To RECOMMEND that the Town Council consider the incorporation of the Climate Change Initiatives into the Terms of Reference for Committees as appropriate, as part of its forthcoming general review of Terms of Reference.

127. Community Investment Projects Cash Flows

The Committee received and noted the Community Investment Projects Cash Flows Summary, as at 29th March 2021.

It was requested that the Town Clerk liaise with Cllr Streatfeild, Kent County Council member for Sevenoaks Town, with regard to the land ownership issue to create the “Otford Steps” linking the Bat & Ball Station to Otford Road.

It was noted that the total unallocated Capital Receipts Reserve was £426,123.

128 2019 Community Investment Plan Projects

128.1 Bat & Ball Centre

From January 2021 to date, KCC had been using the Centre for an Asymptomatic Testing Centre and were due to return the building to the Town Council at the end of June.

An official opening was planned for Sunday 25th July, subject to public health restrictions.

128.2 Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

Installation had been completed and The MUGA was being very well used.

128.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

The final amendments for the NDP were being considered with the intention, subject to public health guidelines, to have a referendum during 2021. A progress report would be considered at next week’s Report to the Planning Committee.

128.4 Sevenoaks Business Hub

Construction work on the Business Hub was complete, subject to some additional works to the ramp and the UKPN & BT Upgrade. It was hoped that the electrical upgrade work would take place mid-August.

128.5 Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership (DVCRP)

The partnership proposal to become a Community Interest Organisation (CIO)/Company, with Sevenoaks Town Council as the “Accountable Body,” had not yet been progressed. The Town Clerk expressed some caution in the light of the Partnership’s move to take on responsibility for assets. The Committee agreed that more detailed consideration was required.

128.6 Electric No.8 Bus

It remained a priority to obtain an electric bus: the Town Council hoped to submit a bid to the next Sevenoaks District Council CIL Board.

128.7 Stag Community Arts Centre

It was noted that The Stag had been successful in securing two significant grants to assist with finances during the pandemic closures. The Stag had now re-opened but operating within public health restrictions.

128.8 Knole Paddock 3G Pitch

The planning appeal had been lost and some of the allocated funds set aside for upgrading floodlighting and drainage to pitches at Knole Paddock.

128.9 Bat & Ball Station Building

It was noted that the building and Station Café had re-opened. An event to unveil the plaques awarded by the National Railway Heritage Awards and the Railway Heritage Trust was planned for 29th July 2021.

128.10 Town Council Offices

The improvement made to the Town Council offices over the last 18 months were noted, including: new upholstery to Chamber chairs, removal of moss from roof, replacement roof tiles, repairs to surface of car park, drainage repairs, upgrade to IT, upgrade to electrical supply and new noticeboard.

Consideration was also being given to the installation of roadside signage for the Town Council, Business Hub and long-term tenants of the Business Hub.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) Planning permission be obtained, and multi business signage installed at the entrance to the Sevenoaks Town Council offices car park, the cost of up to £3k to be funded from Capital Receipts Reserves; and
- 2) The possibility of additional roadside signage, visible to drivers from both directions, be explored with Kent County Council Highways.

129. Press Release

Agreed that a press release be issued regarding the Bat & Ball Centre opening event.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed: Dated:
Chairman