

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 6th June 2022 Council Chambers, Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3QG

Meeting Commenced: 8.35 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 8.55 p.m.

Cllr Rachel Parry, Mayor	Present	Cllr Claire Shea, Deputy Mayor	Present
Cllr Libby Ancrum	Present	Cllr Keith Bonin	Apologies
Cllr Nicholas Busvine	Present	Cllr Sue Camp	Apologies
Cllr Dr Merilyn Canet	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 Richard Parry	Present
Cllr Robert Piper	Apologies	Cllr Simon Raikes	Present

In Attendance: Town Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer, Senior Committee Clerk

Representations received from Members of the Public:

Cllr Richard Streatfeild, Kent County Councillor for Sevenoaks, gave a brief update on the major projects for Kent County Council:

- Strategic Statement priorities:
 - Levelling Up Kent
 - Infrastructure for Communities
 - Environmental Step Change
 - New Models of Care and Support
- Re-organisation of Social Care and Health in the County

134. Apologies for Absence as shown above.

135. Requests for Dispensations: none received.

136. Declarations of Interest: none received.

137. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Sevenoaks Town Council held on 9th May 2022

RESOLVED: to accept and sign the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Sevenoaks Town Council held on 9th May 2022 as a true record.

138. Minutes of Committees

Council was asked to consider and adopt the Minutes of Committees as follows.

138.1 Planning Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 19th April, 3rd May and 16th May 2022 as true records.

138.2 Youth Services Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Services Committee held on 18th May 2022 as a true record.

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139. NALC & SLCC Civility & Respect Pledge

The Town Councillors considered the promotional material from NALC & SLCC relating to the new Civility & Respect Pledge. Whilst there was not a problem within Sevenoaks Town Council it was agreed to support the overall ethos of the Civility & Respect proposed culture change for the local council sector and Sevenoaks Town Council agreed to sign up to the following pledge.

RESOLVED:

Our Council has agreed that it will treat all Councillors, Clerk and all employees, members of the public and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respecting their roles.
Our Council has put in place a training programme for Councillors and staff
Our Council has signed up to the Code of Conduct for Councillors
Our Council has good governance arrangements in place including staff contracts, and Dignity at Work Policy
Our Council will commit to seeking professional help at early stages should Civility and Respect issues arise.
Our Council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.
Our Council will continue to learn from Best Practice in the sector and aspire to being a Role Model / Champion Council e.g., via Local Council Award Scheme.
Our Council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

140. Mayor's Engagements

RESOLVED: To note and accept the reports relating to Mayoral activities:

- a) the functions attended by the Mayor or her representative to May 2022
- b) the forthcoming Civic Events being organised by the Mayor during 2022/23.

141. Press Release

RESOLVED: That a press release be issued in relation to the NALC & SLCC Civility & Respect Pledge.

142. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED: under the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the public and press for the following item by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

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143. Bat & Ball Centre Flooring

Town Councillors considered an offer of settlement received from Kent County Council regarding the Bat and Ball Centre flooring.

RESOLVED: That the offer of settlement received from Kent County Council, dated 1st June 2022, be accepted.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting.

Signed

Mayor

Dated