

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES
ON MONDAY 16TH APRIL 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.**

Meeting Commenced: 7:12 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 7:18 p.m.

Present:

Cllr M A Chakowa (Mayor), Cllr R M C Hogarth (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr N J L Busvine OBE (arrived 7:03pm), Cllr J M Canet, Cllr A S Clayton, Cllr A Eyre,
Cllr Mrs R E Parry, Cllr R J Parry, Cllr S Raikes, Cllr Schneider, Cllr E T Waite (arrived 7:16pm)
and Cllr Mrs P C Walshe [12]

Also Present:

Chief Executive/Town Clerk
Committee Clerk

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: there were no members of the public present

Prior to the commencement of the Town Council Meeting the Mayor read out a Statement in relation to the incident at the Stag and the public disturbance in Sevenoaks on Saturday 14th April 2018.

“Sevenoaks Town Council’s primary aim is to ensure that the town is a safe and pleasant town to live, work and visit. Its voluntary Town Councillors and staff are committed to this and work hard to achieve this.

We understand at the weekend an organisation deliberately booked several venues nationally including the Stag under a false name and misled them about the nature of the event. Unfortunately for Sevenoaks the Stag was the actual location chosen for the event. As soon as the deception was discovered the hire was ended. The group dispersed and some anti-social behaviour took place in the town centre which was addressed by the police in a prompt and professional manner. Sevenoaks Town Council clearly denounces any activities that result in violence in the town.

The Town Council will liaise with the Stag and all community safety organisations including the police to review the incidents and will review protocol for the future. We will take advice on how much or the review should be made public as a matter of public safety we do not want to provide ‘helpful’ information to organisations who might want to try and arrange something similar in the future.”

The Mayor thanked Police Inspector Nick Finnis and Ms Kelly Webb, Community Safety Manager for attending this meeting and asked for comments:

Police Inspector Nick Finnis confirmed that the Stag had reported this. The Metropolitan Police simultaneously reported that the Stag was the chosen venue and that such groups book several venues and use one of them at short notice to distract the police. The investigation is on-going with one arrest made.

Cllr Parry thanked the Police Inspector for his comments and the Stag’s prompt action.

Cllr Clayton, not in Sevenoaks town at the time of the event, Cllr Eyre, Cllr Parry and Cllr Schneider requested that the Town Council denounce any activities that result in violence in the town.

Ms Kelly Webb confirmed that all Town and Parish Councils are within the Community Safety Partnership with Sevenoaks District Council and that an action plan for targeted groups and preventative measures would be added to a future agenda.

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: that apologies received from Cllr S L Arnold, Cllr R L Piper, and Cllr P E Towell be noted and accepted

11. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for Dispensation.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

13. RESOLVED: To receive, adopt and sign the Minutes of the meeting of Town Council held on 22nd January 2018 and the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 26th March 2018 as being a true record of events.

14. PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

RESOLVED: to receive and adopt the Minutes of the meetings held on

- a) 29th January 2018
- b) 12th and 26th February 2018
- c) 12th and 26th March 2018
- d) 9th April 2018

as being true records of events.

15. OPEN SPACES & LEISURE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: to receive and adopt the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2018 as being a true record of events

16. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: to receive and adopt the Minutes of the meetings held on 19th February and 12th March 2018 as being a true record of events.

17. FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: to receive and adopt the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2018 as being a true record of events.

18. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: to receive and adopt the Minutes of the meetings held on 5th February and 26th March 2018 as being a true record of events.

19. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

RESOLVED: to receive and note the

- a) Functions attended by the Mayor or her representative(s) from May 2017 until April 2018
- b) forthcoming Civic Events being organised by the Mayor during 2017/2018.

The Mayor reminded all present about the Staff Fundraising Luncheon for the Mayor's Charity taking place Friday 20th April 2018 from 12 noon until 2pm in the Council Chamber.

20. PRESS RELEASE

RESOLVED: to unanimously endorse the Mayor's statement and issue as a press release relating to the unrest in Sevenoaks on Saturday 14th April 2018.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the Meeting at 7:18p.m.

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Mayor of Sevenoaks

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Dated