

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held at Sevenoaks Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 2 December 2013 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Cllr R M C Hogarth – Mayor

Cllr S L Arnold (Deputy Mayor)	Cllr Mrs M A London
Cllrs C L L Baker	Cllr R J Parry
Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Cllr R L Piper
Cllr G R S Clack <i>[arrived 7:06pm]</i>	Cllr S G Raikes
Cllr Mrs M E Crabtree	Cllr P E Towell <i>[arrived 7:02pm]</i>
Cllr A Eyre	Cllr Mrs P C Walshe

(13)

Also Present

Freeman of Sevenoaks Town Council - John London
Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Committee Clerk
40 Members of the Public

Apologies for absence:

Cllrs J M Canet and A S Clayton

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public present raised any questions.

280 DISPENSATION

No requests from Members regarding any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in any items on the agenda were received [S31 &33 Localism Act 2011 refers].

281 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional Declarations of Interest were received.

282 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Council held on 18 November 2013 be received, adopted and signed as a true record.

283 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 18 November 2013 be received and adopted.

284 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 November 2013 be received and adopted.

The Chairman of the Planning Committee updated the Town Council that Sevenoaks District Council had agreed to the boundaries in respect of the Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan proposal.

285 RALEYS DEVELOPMENT

It was unanimously RESOLVED that a collective minute relating to the sale of the Raleys site be received and adopted as follows:

Since 2008 there have been a variety of Town Council Minutes recording the sale of Raleys land. For the purposes of clarity it was recommended that these were updated and the following recorded:-

1. Sevenoaks Town Council declares the Raleys Gym and bungalow site be no longer economically viable and therefore the site (including the Indoor Cricket School and Barnies) be surplus to requirements and the sale of the site be arranged at the earliest opportunity.
2. The proceeds of the sale become a Capital Receipt and can be only used in accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2009. It was reported that it was anticipated Sevenoaks Town Council could raise, for the use of leisure and sport, a sum in the region of £2million. At the same time the Town Council would urge Sevenoaks District Council to assist within planning policies, for the project in the interest of the wellbeing of the public who live and work in Sevenoaks.
3. The funds raised from the sale of Raleys be reinvested into capital projects for the benefit of sports and recreation facilities.
4. Arrangements for the disposal of the land will be mindful of the Knole covenants on the land and SP10 planning policy requirements.
5. Practical operational matters to achieve the above be delegated to Chairman of Finance and General Purposes; Chairman of Open Spaces and Chief Executive / Town Clerk.

286 MEETING SCHEDULE

It was RESOLVED that the meeting schedule for the 2014/2015 period be received and adopted.

287 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Town Clerk verbally reported that an estimated 5500/6000 people attended the Switch on Event of the Christmas Lights held on 29 November 2013 and thanked the many organisations who had worked together to help make this community event a great success especially, Specsavers, the Sevenoaks Chronicle, Tesco Metro, Blighs, Waitrose, Chamber of Commerce, Coolings and Magic Beans Productions.

Congratulations were also given to the school children from four local schools who together with Magic Beans Productions created spectacular puppet horses, which led the annual parade.

The Town Clerk advised that 2013 sees a Christmas Tree Treasure Trail, to encourage people to support independent local shops.

The Town Council thanked all staff and volunteers involved in this event.

288 CIVIC EVENTS

It was RESOLVED that the functions attended by the Mayor or his representatives from May until November 2013 and the Civic Events hosted/to be hosted by the Mayor during the period 2013 to April 2014 be received and noted.

The Mayor also thanked the Town Clerk for another new initiative with the introduction of a sticker "I met the Mayor of Sevenoaks".

287 PRESENTATION OF PAINTING

The Mayor presented the Town Council with a painting of the arch way entrance of Knole House overlooking Knole Park.

The Mayor also presented an updated photograph, commissioned by Russell Harper photography, in respect of the 25th anniversary of the Great Storm of 1987, showing the recovery of Sevenoaks Common. The Mayor thanked the Open Spaces Team for their care of the common over the years.

288 PRESS RELEASE

No item was considered worthy of a press release.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

Signed by _____
MAYOR