

# SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

## MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

of the Meeting of Sawbridgeworth Town Council held at the Council Offices, Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth at 7.30 pm on **Monday 01 September 2014**.

### Those present

Cllr Angela Alder	Cllr Barry Hodges
Cllr Eric Buckmaster – Town Mayor	Cllr Peter Mitchell
Cllr Ruth Buckmaster	Cllr Will Mortimer
Cllr Derek Filler	Cllr Joyce Vincent

### In attendance:

PC Russell Jones – Herts Police	2 members of the public
County Cllr Roger Beeching	
R Bowran - Town Clerk	Mrs J Kenny – Town Projects Manager

Welcome by the Mayor, prayers were read by Cllr Ruth Buckmaster

### 14/58 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:  
Cllr Reeks – holiday;

### 14/44 PUBLIC FORUM

To receive representations from members of the public on matters within the remit of the Town Council.  
There were none

### 14/45 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members  
There were none

### 14/46 MINUTES

**Resolved:** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 28 July 2014 (M03)  
*[prop Cllr Filler; secd Cllr Hodges]*

To attend to any matters arising from these Minutes and not dealt with elsewhere on this Agenda. There were none.

### 14/47 PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Received and Noted:** The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on:

- 30 June 2014 (P03)
- 07 July 2014 (P04)

**Resolved:** To appoint Cllr Ruth Buckmaster to serve on the Planning Committee to replace Cllr Tom Reeks  
*[prop Cllr Hodges; secd Cllr Filler]*

### 14/48 AMENITIES COMMITTEE

**Received and Noted:** The minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on:

- 07 July 2014 (A01)

**14/49 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

The mayor reported:

- letter of thanks from Sue Adams,
- thanks for attendance at civic service

other events attended during July:

- High Wych Pre School Nursery Teddy Toddle
- First Rivers Nursery Maintenance Day
- HCC chairman's garden party
- Cazfest
- EHDC chairman's civic service
- Bishops Stortford Music In The Garden
- The Guides 100 year birthday party

events coming up:

- 3rd Aug 6:30pm Commemoration church service at Gt St Mary's to which all councillors are invited.
- 4th Aug 8:30 am. Sawbridgeworth Mayors Civic Breakfast to launch the WW1 commemorations to which all councillors are invited.
- 5th Aug 8pm Hertford service at War Memorial event.

**14/50 VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL**

Clerk reported on the vacancy on the town council resulting from the resignation of Jane Adams.

There had been no call for an election by the due date and so Members are now free to co-opt a parishioner to the council.

Clerk advised that this would be advertised with a closing date of 31 August for interested parties to make themselves known and invited to attend the meeting of council on 28 September to make a short presentation to members.

**14/51 REPRESENTATIVES & CHAMPIONS REPORTS**

To receive representatives reports from:

- **County Councillor Roger Beeching** was not present but reported *in absentia*:
  - A busy round of events as Chairman of the District Council.
  - The summer season is being used to catch up on road maintenance work
  - Consultation on subsidised buss services in the county
- **District Councillor Eric Buckmaster** reported:
  - Officers are still collating and inputting responses to the District Plan Consultation. We were thanked for our co-operation and public engagement and Indications are that responses from Sawbridgeworth are proportionately higher than other towns.
  - Officers have been meeting with developers and other

stakeholders such as Highways Agency and Herts and Essex County Councils. David Sprunt of Essex County Council suggested that the latest published studies suggested a cost of £300-£400 million for the road between the A414 Eastwick Roundabout and a new Junction 7a. He, and Places for People believed that a northern bypass was not necessary to deliver the levels of growth being proposed in the Gilston Area and that the cost-benefit assessment of the proposal was very poor.

- East Herts Health and Wellbeing strategy for 2013-2018 has been published.
- Director of Public Health in HCC has provided £100k for each of the next two years, and I will be on a working group to consider ways of improving health outcomes in the district.
  
- **District Councillor Will Mortimer** reported:
  - He had chaired the Audit Committee
  - Recommendation for investing in property funds.
  - SIAS audits are now shared.
  
- **Hertfordshire Police PCSO Weston** reported:
  - Thanked council for sharing the Fun on the Field event
  - Had been giving safety awareness talks in primary schools
  - Caution about NO<sub>2</sub> canisters being used for legal highs
  - Liaison with the Youth Club
  - Yellow lines on Station Road had been completed.
  - Caravan has been cleared from Sheering Mill Lane.
    - Members asked:
    - Q Where NO<sub>2</sub> came from – A Amazon
    - Q Danger swimming in cold lakes – A Awareness
    - Q Air guns at Bullfields - A Rural ops team found no real evidence
    - Q West Road Park noise including mopeds – A Will investigate
  
- **Rivers Heritage Site and Orchard Cllr E Buckmaster** reported:
  - Maintenance Day had taken place
  - Now preparing for the next session
  - Tools purchase with the grant from the town council were greatly appreciated
  
- **Duckling Centre Cllr Mitchell** advised:
  - Despite £1.9m cuts, 82 centres will remain grouped around Duckling Centre and Windhill
  - There is a high level of children at risk in Bishops Stortford.
  
- **Farmers Market Cllr Ruth Buckmaster** advised:
  - Members had been circulated with an attendance rota

14/52

#### GRANT APPLICATIONS

**Resolved:** To make a grant of £500 to St Clare Hospice to assist with their Bereavement Counselling service  
*[prop Cllr Filler; secd Cllr Mitchell]*

**Resolved:** Not to make a grant to Herts Air Ambulance as their proposed Fun Day in 2015 was a duplication of the Fun on the Field event organised by Herts Police and the town council  
*[prop Cllr Mitchell; secd Cllr R Buckmaster]*

**14/53 CLERK'S REPORT**

Received and noted the Clerks Report:

- **Farmer's Market** The July market was attended by 550 visitors despite extremely wet weather. We had one new trader. One trader advised that she would no longer attend – however this is the second time she has done this when trade has been slow.  
We are considering transferring the market to Town Green. We considered not holding an August market but Members of the Amenities Committee have decided that it should go ahead.
- **Sawbobus** The “new” green bus is now in service, and is generally liked by passengers. The second one is being collected this week in exchange for the original Sawbobus which is being disposed of in part exchange. We have received grants totalling £6,000 from Essex to support the service to Lower Sheering.
- **Mark Prisk MP** There has been no further interaction with EHDC over the approach made by Mark to EHDC on the nature of the plight of many (sic) retailers in the town.
- **Bell Street CCTV** The installation is taking place as this report is being written.
- **Bell Street Parking** The Parking Manager at EHDC has advised that following the Town Council's submission in January of this year, the “five minute grace” period is replacing the “zero tolerance” approach to parking in Bell Street.  
Members should be aware that despite some traders claiming that parking is now permitted for 5 minutes in Bell Street, this is NOT the case and parking there is still an illegal act. The situation is being reviewed by EHDC in a year's time. Members may wish to review the “one hour free parking” scheme as a result of this decision.
- **Bell Street Conveniences** We still await the promised SLA from EHDC which is the precursor to further progress by them to release funds for the project. It is now three months since this was promised.
- **Town Green** There has been no further interaction with EHDC on this project since last month.

**14/54 HOSPITAL DIAL-A-RIDE**

The mayor referred to last month's proposal at which the town clerk asked to research further. “This councils will do what other bodies won't. HCC is currently consulting on ways of reducing subsidies for transport.”

Debate around whether demand should be proved before any further steps taken. Question of how that could be determined.

- Should Quantitative or Qualitative analysis be provided.
- Grant offered was for supply led service.
- Does CVS car service fill this need?
- Is this a duplication of the Hailey Centre shopping service?
- Should HCC give money to another council whose need was greater than STC?
- Suggested that Members should talk to passengers and interested parties in order to take a view.

**Proposal:** To accept report, provide service which was fully funded and determine demand. Defeated

**Resolved:** That the Clerk should carry out more research and wait for feedback before progressing.

*[prop Cllr Filler; secd Cllr R Buckmaster]*

**14/55 DEPOSIT AND CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

- HAPTC Annual Report

**14/56 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Noted:** The current Financial Report

**14/57 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**Noted and Approved:** Accounts for payment

Meeting was closed at 21:15

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 01 September 2014 in the Council Offices at Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth