

# SAWBRIDGECWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

## MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

of the Meeting of Sawbridgeworth Town Council held at 7:00pm in the Council Chamber, Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024**.

### Those present

Cllr Eric Buckmaster	Cllr Simon Penney
Cllr Ruth Buckmaster	Cllr Greg Rattey
Cllr Annelise Furnace	Cllr John Rider
Cllr Dawn Newell	Cllr Reece Smith
	Cllr Steve Smith

In attendance:

Town Clerk	2 x members of the public
Joanne Sargant Project Manager	

Welcome by the Town Mayor.

Thought for the day was read by Cllr Steve Smith.

### 24/60 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Salvatore Pagdades, Angus Parsad-Wyatt, Nathan Parsad-Wyatt  
*[prop Cllr Greg Rattey; sec'd Cllr Ruth Buckmaster]*

### 24/61 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations of pecuniary interest were declared.

### 24/62 MINUTES

**Resolved:** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the town council held on 22nd July 2024 (M03)  
*[prop Cllr Greg Rattey; sec'd Cllr Ruth Buckmaster]*

To attend to any matters arising from these Minutes and not dealt with elsewhere on this Agenda.

Action	Owner	Update
<i>Mayor and Cllr Salvatore Pagdades to jointly write to the police asking for reassurance and proactive patrols are completed in relation to recent crime spikes and anti-social behaviour</i>	<i>Cllr Reece Smith and Cllr Salvatore Pagdades</i>	<i>Cllr Reece Smith and Salvatore wrote to Chief Inspector Cooke on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and Cllr Reece Smith met with the local policing team 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024</i>
<i>Update from Solicitor in regard to the the application being appealed to HHC to modify the definitive map in connection with the footpath at Elmwood</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Consultation with Tees completed and advised not to appeal the matter. Email sent to all interested parties 8/8/24</i>

- 24/63 PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
*Received and noted:* the minutes of the planning committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 (P05)
- Received and noted:* the draft minutes of the planning committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (P06)
- 24/64 PUBLIC FORUM**  
 No questions were raised
- 24/65 FINANCE, POLICY and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
*Received and noted:* the draft minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (F02)
- 24/66 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**  
 To receive new Mayor's appointments and communications  
 Cllr Reece Smith advised.
- Completed a walk and talk event with Scott Walker to promote mental health awareness.
  - Attended Harlow Museum event
  - Attended Fun on the Field which I thoroughly enjoyed
  - Attend the allotment show which has been held for 120 years
  - Attended retired Cllr Angela Alder and her husband's 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.
  - Had a productive meeting with the local neighbourhood team discussing local issues
  - Delivered a speech to the air cadets and discussed career aspirations.
  - I attended democracy day at Fawbert and Barnard and Reedings Schools.
  - Attended the local police officers walk and talk event where the drone was displayed.
  - Attended the town walk event
  - Read a prayer at the Evangelical Church at the Harvest Service.
- 24/67 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS**  
*Received and noted:* Representatives reports from:
- County Councillor E Buckmaster additionally added;
    - Across the County 451 reports were received on flooded roads, footways and subways across the county and 103 property's damage by flooding over two days.
    - Recent repairs have seen the roads clear through recent heavy rainfall
    - Dealing with the station road closure, this was applied after short notice. After getting in touch with other agencies the closure was lifted and delayed for one week to allow more notice and local business and community to prepare.
    - Most of the lining has been completed on the A1184 and this has to be completed. This road was repaired with heavy engineering and top dressed.
    - Network management and affinity water have met to discuss the recent water leaks due to the frequency of issues and monthly meetings have been set up to monitor progress.
    - The double yellow lines at Bullfields are completed, the 20mph in Bullfields will be implemented soon, several footpath resurfacing repairs will be taking place this financial year across the town and resurfacing of the roads in west Road and High

Wych Lane.

- Funding is being supplied for the town sports club signs.

#### Questions.

Cllr Annelise Furnace highlighted the air quality consultation and urged Councillors and residents to respond to this.

Highlighted the 20% rise in bus use but asked if this could be broken down to show use in the town?

Has there been any further update on the resurfacing of footpath 9, can further enquiries be made with Taylor Wimpy?

Cllr Eric Buckmaster stated there may be section 106 money from the West Road developments that could possibly be moved from the planned double roundabout improvement scheme at the West Road, London Road Junction.

Cllr Simon Penney regarding the A1184 was there any updates from some of the patches still requiring repair?

Will tree cutting resume now the nesting season has finished as some trees are overhanging parts of the A1184 by up to twelve feet?

Regarding the broadband roll out, was there any update on Sawbridgeworth postcodes?

Commended the soft plastic recycling scheme.

Cllr Eric Buckmaster responded, he also fully supported the soft plastic recycling scheme which is having a positive impact on reducing the need to use landfill sites. East Herts stopped collecting leaves 12 years ago now, any tree issues can be reported via the Hertfordshire County Council website. The patches will be being repaired at the same time the lining is completed. He wasn't aware regarding the broadband roll out.

**ACTION** Cllr Eric Buckmaster will enquire if this can be done.

**ACTION** The Clerk to email Taylor Wimpy to ask if they would assist in funding the resurfacing of footpath 9

- Cllr Ruth Buckmaster, regarding the 5G question, three planning applications have been received to place masts in the town and all have been refused so far.  
At DMC the Hertford, Bengoe development was discussed, being part of the Hert 4 development. The first 50 houses are built and the part 2 application for a further 118 houses, there has been a lot of objections from local residents. All three Bengoe councillors were against the development. The application was passed after a lengthy debate.
- Herts police – The report was read out which highlighted the new local policing priority to focus on motor vehicle ASB. A reduction has now been seen in issues and other local engagement activities have taken place. A request was made to promote Herts Connected the replacement system for Owl messaging.

#### Question,

Cllr Simon Penney asked if the request by the Mayor to change the police surgeries to patrols had taken place. The Clerk had requested this to PC Shelly Marshall who was willing to try this form of engagement.

Cllr Ruth Buckmaster updated on SYPRC during August had the new heat pumps installed and the centre is fully booked. A grant

has been applied for to replant a hedge.

RHSO are holding the apple day this Saturday, general maintenance is ongoing and planning is being completed for the 300 anniversary next year.

Cllr Annelise Furnace updated sustainable Sawbridgeworth held an energy Hub at the Town Walk event.

Cllr John Rider thanked Sustainable Sawbridgeworth for the vegetarian evening.

Cllr Simon Penney gave a sports association update, sports signage was discussed but is now in hand, MP Josh Dean had been contacted by David Royle regarding supporting sporting venues in Sawbridgeworth. The cricket club are looking to expand on to new grounds, sadly the large oak tree at the club required to be cut down. The tennis club is making further investments in pickle ball as it becomes more popular.

The next meeting is in November and he would like to make future updates on climbing and open water swimming which have local venues available.

**24/68 TOWN CLERK REPORT**

**Received and noted:** the clerk's report for the month of September 2024.

**24/69 TOWN PROJECTS MANAGER REPORT**

**Received and noted:** the Town Project Managers report for September 2024, a detailed explanation was given to the progress of a town market.

**ACTION** for the Clerk to enquire with EHDC to assess if the market can be situated in the Bell Street car park

**24/70 POLICY MATTERS**

To consider any matters relating to policies for the future development of Town Council services to the community.

- To debate and approve the proposal for a Mayors Cadet to attend civic functions with the Mayor.

Debate highlighted safeguarding, inviting other youth groups and a 6 month trial was agreed to assess the future of this role.

- **Resolved;** To alter the proposal to appoint a Mayors Cadet on a 6 months trial.

*[prop Cllr Greg Rattey; sec'd Cllr Ruth Buckmaster]*

- **Resolved:** to appoint a Mayors Cadet on a 6 months trial.

*[prop Cllr Dawn Newell; sec'd Cllr Steve Smith]*

*Cllr John Rider abstained*

- **Resolved;** To approve Standing Orders with the addition on Page 9 under point Y, reporting absence at council meetings protocol. Apologies are to be made to the Clerk.

*[prop Cllr Ruth Buckmaster; sec'd Cllr Annelise Furnace]*

**ACTION** for the Clerk to contact other youth groups to assess if alternative groups would want a representative to attend civic functions with the Mayor for one year.

**24/71 FINANCIAL REPORT**  
*Noted:* The current Financial Report

**24/72 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**  
*Noted and Approved:* Accounts for payment.

**24/73 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**  
 Nothing was raised.

*Meeting ended at 8:20pm*

<i>Action</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Update</i>
<i>The County Councillors report included that there has been a 20% rise in bus use in the County, can this research be broken down to show use in Sawbridgeworth</i>	<i>Cllr Eric Buckmaster</i>	
<i>Email Taylor Wimpy to ask if they would assist in funding the resurfacing of footpath 9</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	
<i>To enquire with EHDC to assess if the market can be situated in the Bell Street car park</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	
<i>To contact other youth groups to assess if alternative groups would want a representative to attend civic functions with the Mayor for one year.</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	

Signed.....

Date.....