

SAWBRIDGEGWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes

of the Meeting of Sawbridgeworth Town Council held at the The Council Offices, 49-51 Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth at 7.30 pm on **Monday 26 November 2012**.

Those present

Cllr Barry Hodges – The Mayor	
Cllr Jane Adams	Cllr Will Mortimer
Cllr Angela Alder	Cllr Tom Reeks
Cllr Eric Buckmaster	Cllr Brian Rochester
Cllr Derek Filler	Cllr Joyce Vincent
Cllr Peter Mitchell	Cllr Andrew Wincott

In attendance:

County Cllr Roger Beeching	PCSO Paul Lillie - Herts Police
3 members of the public	
R Bowran - Town Clerk	Jo Kenny – Admin Officer

Welcome by the Mayor, prayers were read by Cllr Jane Adams.

12/114 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Pat Coysten - unwell.

12/115 PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Nick Jones, Sawbridgeworth Group Scout Leader gave an update on the progress of the scout's new building project. The opening ceremony for the new scout hut is planned for 26 January 2013.

12/116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members.

12/117 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 24 September 2012 (M05) [prop Cllr Alder; secd Cllr Filler]

12/118 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Received and noted: The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on:

- 29 October 2012 (P09)
- 13 November 2012 (P10)

12/119 MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

To receive Mayor's appointments and communications

Events attended:

- Dedication of SMH plaques and airfield visit 10 Nov
- Remembrance Day Service Gt St Marys 11 Nov
- Hailey Centre Christmas Fayre 17 Nov
- Scouts mail service opened 21 Nov

Future events:

- Christmas Lights and Bell St Street Fayre 30 Nov
- Lights of Love 01 Dec
- Football Club prize giving 08 Dec
- Farmers Market 16 Dec
- Sawbridgeworth Civic Dinner 11 May 2013

12/106 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

To receive representatives reports from:

- **County Councillor Roger Beeching** reported:
 - David Lloyd elected as the first Police Commissioner for Hertfordshire
 - Incentive payments from the government to encourage recycling of cardboard
 - Healthy living agenda designed to save money spent by the NHS. Integrated Point of Access (IPA) for health referrals on 0300 123 4042
 - Home care is causing concern in the county. Care Quality Commission are supporting improvements
 - There is now only a 30 second wait at the Customer Service centre. 33,000 bus passes have been renewed for older people
- **District Councillor Eric Buckmaster** reported:
 - District Plan meeting on 28 November
 - Next executive meeting will consider cardboard waste, mobile ANPR development, car park fees and charges and a LGA master class in communications engineering and the social media.
- **District Councillor Will Mortimer** reported:
 - External audit fee from Grant Thornton cut
 - No criticism from external audit
 - The launch of the Corporate Strategic plan.
 - Annette Taylor commenced employment as Head of Internal Services

Cllr Wincott left the meeting to attend the AGM of the Memorial Hall at 20.00hrs

- **Hertfordshire Police PCSO Paul Lillie** reported:
 - Number of burglaries down
 - Fear of crime due to the lack of street lighting
 - Opportunist crime from outsiders
 - Thefts from motor vehicles, some arrests made
 - October and November are always difficult but no major incidents this year
 - Pubwatch re introduced
- **Footpaths Officer Brian Rochester** reported:
 - All footpaths slippery due to recent heavy rain

12/121 CIVIC CENTRE

Work continues. Although the project remains on budget, works are running about six weeks behind programme. Move date now looks to be in January 2013. New lease has been signed with Forebury Estates to allow continuing occupation of 49 Bell Street.

- 12/122 BELL STREET CAR PARK**
The new scheme has been widely praised by retailers and members of the public. The shortfall in revenue is within the budget parameters set by council. There is evidence from the increased volume of pay and display ticket issued that the car park is being used more.
- 12/123 FARMERS MARKET**
The re-launch of the Farmers Market is set for 03 November. Several new traders and attractions are in hand.
- 12/124 CLERK'S REPORT**
- **Accommodation Committee** Minutes attached elsewhere.
 - **Budget 2013/14** The budget process is in progress. Members will be asked to make important decisions about priorities for expenditure and the level of precept that they are prepared to support.
 - **Cemetery** Hedging around the new area is being planted in November. Over 1000 trees of mixed origin are being installed.
 - **Community Transport** A presentation is being made to Bishops' Stortford Minibus Trust on 20 November to claim back funding provided by Herts CC for the benefit of Sawbridgeworth area community transport. Detailed proposals will be put before the Finance and Policy Committee in December.
 - **Christmas Lights** The working party is scheduled to meet on 20 November. Plans are well advanced and the proposal to have stalls down Bell Street had met with enthusiasm – there are currently already 10 stalls booked by charities. The second fix of the lights are in place. We still await permission from East Herts Council to close the roads. Herts police are resourced to assist on the evening. Publicity banners have been commissioned and are in place.
- 12/125 DEPOSIT & CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**
- None received
- 12/126 FINANCIAL REPORT**
Noted: The current Financial Report
- 12/127 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**
Noted and approved: Accounts for payment

Meeting was closed at 20:35

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 28 January 2013 in the new Council Offices at Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth