

SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

of the Meeting of Sawbridgeworth Town Council held at 7:30pm in the Council Chamber, Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street on **Monday 29th April 2024**.

Those present

Cllr E Buckmaster	Cllr N Parsad-Wyatt
Cllr R Buckmaster (Chair)	Cllr S Penney
Cllr A Furnace	Cllr G Rattey
Cllr D Newell	Cllr J Rider
Cllr S Pagdades	Cllr R Smith
Cllr A Parsad-Wyatt	Cllr S Smith

In attendance:

Chris Carter – Press

3 x members of the public

Thought of the day delivered by Councillor S Penney.

23/152 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were None

23/153 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None were received.

23/154 PUBLIC FORUM

Q1 Does the Kebab shop on London Road have permission granted for a change of use?

Cllr N Parsad-Wyatt stated the property did not require a change of use but the application was for building works to be completed.

Q2 is it true the police took over an hour to attend the bank cash point robbery?

The Clerk stated he had reviewed the CCTV and the police attended in about ten minutes.

MINUTES

23/155 **Resolved:** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the town council held on 25th March 2024 (M09)
[prop Cllr R Smith; sec'd Cllr G Rattey]

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

None were raised.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

23/156 **Received and noted:** the minutes of the planning committee held on 25th March 2024 (P17)

Received and noted: the draft minutes of the planning committee held on 15th April 2024 (P18)

FINANCE, POLICY and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

23/157 **Received and Noted:** the draft minutes of the Finance, Policy and Economic Development Committee held on the 15th April 2024

23/158 **MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

To receive Mayor's appointments and communications
Cllr R Buckmaster.

- Has received many emails stating how nice the Mayors Civic Dinner was last Saturday.
- Attended Youth Creates AGM who came second in the recent Jack Petchey Glee Club Challenge.
- The High Sherrif visited the library.
- Sustainable Sawbridgeworth held a great cycle event at the CO-OP.
- Attended Cllr Calvin Horner's civic event.
- Attended Cllr Thownsend's civic dinner in Bishops Stortford.
- Attended the St Georges Day service.
- Attended my civic dinner
- She will continue the school visits and school council events.
- Has had a new Grandson 11 days ago,

23/159 **REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS**

Received and noted: Representatives reports from:

County Councillor E Buckmaster referred to his report additionally adding:

- Through internal and external funding an extra £9,000,000 will be spent on highways improvements and some roads are earmarked for repair in Sawbridgeworth.
- This financial year from his budget will be making improvements to footpaths in the Town.
- The A1184 should be receiving reservicing in June.
- Patching work has been completed in West Road and will be reserviced.
- Has been in contact with Essex Highways due to the potholes on their side of Sawbridgeworth.
- The consultation is currently being reviewed for the central Sawbridgeworth yellow lines. The results and options will be discussed with local businesses and councillors.
- Consultations are in progress for the double roundabout junction on the A1184 and 20mph restriction to the North West of the Town as well as reducing yellow lines in West Road.
- Public engagement in to the LCWIP should be opened in June.
- Recent drainage work on the A1184 appears to be successful after the heavy rainfall over the past weekend.
- 89 applications for primary school places were succesful with their first choice achieved.

District Councillors Reports

Cllr A Parsad-Wyatt, referred to his report

Cllr R Buckmaster attended training on financial contributions and section 106 money.

Other Reports

Councillor S Pagdades read out the police report and mentioned the recent break in to the Nationwide Bank, a Herts and Essex Operation in the town lead by local officer PC Marshall and a high value bike has been returned to its owner after it had been stolen.

He also submitted a freedom of information enquiry which revealed no 20mph reports had been submitted of drivers exceeding the limit and 381

for 30mph offences. Only Watford and Abbots Langley had enforced the 20mph speed limits in their area.

Cllr J Rider asked if response times could be a subject to enquire with the local police due to the recent bank cashpoint robbery.

Cllr S Smith asked if there was any update on the School Lane burglary series. Cllr S Pagdades responded that he had made an enquiry but had not received a response.

Councillor A Furnace referred to her written report but also mentioned the Energy Hub on Friday 7th June that Sustainable Sawbridgeworth, the Town Council and District Council were hosting in several locations in the town. The EV chargers that were to be fitted by East Herts Council have been stalled once more due to tendering complications and this will need to be restarted and delaying the chargers even longer. She asked as a Town Council should they explore other avenues to obtain EV charging points.

Councillor A Parsad-Wyatt has been making enquiries with EV charger suppliers and what is needed to establish sites in Sawbridgeworth on a private basis.

Councillor J Rider asked for all members to support Annelise in the proactive approach to get EV chargers for the town.

Councillor R Buckmaster stated she had been chasing the EV chargers with East Herts Council for the past five years.

Councillor R Buckmaster stated there was nothing to report from SYPRC and from RHSO have arranged a family picnic on the 12th May 12 – 2pm in the Orchard and plans were being made for next years 300th anniversary of the Thamas Rivers Orchard.

23/160 TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Clerk mentioned the successful events throughout the year and thanked the Mayor for her year in office.

23/161 TOWN PROJECTS MANAGER EVENTS PLANNER

Received and noted: the Project Manager's report for the month of March 2024. The Mayor reminded all Councillors to attend the awards ceremony due to the special award for Freedom of the Town.

23/162 POLICY MATTERS

Resolved: To adopt the following policies agreed at Finance, Policy and Economic Development Committee.

- Complaints policy
- Flyposting policy

[prop Cllr N Parsad-Wyatt; sec'd Cllr A Furnace]

[prop Cllr S Pagdades; sec'd Cllr A Parsad-Wyatt]

23/163 DEPOSIT AND CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Received and noted: The current deposit and consultation documents

23/164 FINANCIAL REPORT

Received and noted: The current Financial Report

23/165 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Noted and Approved: Accounts for payment.

23/166 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS
None raised.

Meeting Finished at 20:10