

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 27th JANUARY 2011

Present: Councillors J Soni (Chair), G Thomas, C Worsh
A Crump, B Thomas, R Waller, P Caruana (late arrival)
L Hewer, P Thomas, W Hawkins, D Smith & T Spence

In attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders

129. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr L Tasker - Personal
Cllr D Isham - Personal
Cllr D Wise – Work Commitments

RESOLVED:

That apologies are accepted

130. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr T Spence declared a personal interest in Town Clerk Report item 13 WCC Budget Cuts

131. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr K Romero, 6 Ploughmans Holt, Southam

Spoke concerning the Mayfield Road Play Area and expressed his disappointment that progress seemed to be slow. He said that there appears to be a lot of opposition to the proposed site and asked why the council wasn't looking at the Springfield Grove site. He also spoke about cars coming down the path opposite Geeta Stores stating that although Orbit started to install bollards the job hasn't been completed. He also complained about cars parking on kerbs and verges.

Mr D Constable, 42 Springfield Grove, Southam

Spoke complaining about the rubbish on the Mayfield Road Estate. He said rubbish is not being picked up behind the shop or on the verges etc that they just do the centre and it isn't good enough.

Mrs S Hunt, Leamington Spa, speaking on behalf of Major Mills

Read out a letter concerning the state of the footpath leading from Wattons Lane to Warwick Road. She said that the footpath is badly maintained with limited lighting and broken down hedging and fencing, the Severn Trent pipe is an eyesore and there is a lot of litter and graffiti because youths congregate in this area. Mrs Hunt offered the following suggestions for improvements:

- *Remove the pipe if it is no longer used
- *Make changes to pipe so youths can't sit on it i.e. fencing
- *Improve Lighting
- *Clear local signposting to encourage usage
- *Enforce dispersal zone and apply a no-alcohol zone

132. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

i) That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 13th January 2011

having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to the following amendment:
That minute 123. v. Should read “That if funds are not utilised on line 32 then the funds are to be transferred to ear marked reserves headed Mayfield Road Play Area”

133. Council resolved to bring forward item 10 on the agenda ‘Information from County and District Councillors’

Cllr J Appleton

*Advised funding has been secured from the Environmental Agency of £114k to help properties in Southam who suffer from flooding.

*Advised that he and Cllr Stevens met with the Police re: Library Grounds regarding their intensions. The Police advised that they do not want to relinquish the Magistrates Court and Police Station and they are encouraging Orbit to enter into discussions with the Police.

*Advised that there is a Community Grant of £700.00 to spend on youth related projects and that Southam Town Council will soon be receiving details of the criteria.

134. **CONFIRMATION OF PRECEPT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2011/2012**

RESOLVED:

i)The precept upon Stratford upon Avon District Council for 2011/12 was declared to be £174340. This would be paid in two equal instalments of £87170 in April and September. The Town Council’s element of Council Tax payable for D band property will be £73.72

ii)That this is a 0% increase for the 3rd year running

A discussion took place regarding whether the council should be raising any money through precept to support the HS2 Action Group

iii)That Cllr B Thomas will advise the group to apply for a grant

135. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED:

i)That payment of accounts dated January 2011, totalling £2547.80 be authorized.

ii)That the Clerk ascertains what the normal life span is for the Pirouette equipment that requires new parts

136. **APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated January 2011 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council

RESOLVED:

That Planning Application 09/00873/OUT (Dallas Burston Polo Grounds) is determined ‘Out of Meeting’ by Cllr A Crump and Cllr J Soni due to the fact that there is a lack of clarity in the planning documentation to make a decision at this meeting.

ii) Planning Application decisions dated January 2011

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

137. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

137.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

1) Mr Romero

RESOLVED:

i) To chase Orbit Heart of England regarding the Planning Application and the Biffaward for the Mayfield Road Play Area.

ii) To write to Orbit, SDC and the Police regarding parking issues on the estate.

2) Mr Constable

i) To write to Orbit and SDC regarding the litter on the estate

3) Mrs Hunt

Cllr Soni advised that Tesco is going to do a 'one off' clean up of rubbish along the Wattons Lane footpath. That the Town Clerk has advised that she has contacted WCC Highways regarding the lighting and fencing issues, Severn Trent regarding the pipe and the Police about the dispersal order and no alcohol zone

RESOLVED:

That the matter is kept on the agenda on the Town Clerk's report to await responses

137.2 MAYORAL REPORT

The Mayor, Cllr Jane Soni, informed members of the functions she had attended over the last month:

- Concert given by the Cotswold Male Voice Choir at the Grange Hall
 - Read the lesson at the Remembrance Day Service at the Parish Church
 - Graduation Ceremony for students of Warwickshire College
 - Cut the ribbon at the opening of Warwick House
 - Presented the Darts Trophies at the Club on School Street
 - Ran a raffle for the Mayor's Charities at the Xmas Craft and Food Fair at the Graham Adams Centre
 - Attended a Christmas Concert given by the Chairman of WDC
 - Attended a Christmas Concert given by the Mayor of Stratford on Avon
 - Attended the Christmas Tree Concert at Southam Parish Church
 - Joined the Rotary Club of Southam for their Christmas Supper
 - Joined with The Warwickshire Assoc. for the Blind for their Christmas Lunch.
- Concert given by the Cubbington Silver Band at the Grange Hall
- Watched the dress rehearsal of the 'Wriggly Nativity' at St. James C.E. Primary School

Deputy Mayor, Andy Crump, kindly substituted for me at the Switching on of the Southam Christmas Lights and the Rotary Club Tree of Lights

Noted

137.3 FUNDING TO SUPPORT CAB – SOUTHAM OUTREACH

As discussed at the Precept Meeting, CAB have requested funding of £750.00 to help towards the cost of retaining the CAB Southam Outreach that is currently held in the Library every Tuesday in Southam

Members were requested to authorise payment under the Local Government Act 1972 2A (to assist voluntary organisations to provide for individuals information and advice concerning those individuals rights and obligations).

RESOLVED:

To inform CAB that although the Town Council intends to pay the requested amount, they would like assurances that funding from other sources have been secured in order for the Southam Outreach to continue for the 2011/12 financial year.

137.4 WELSH ROAD EAST PROPOSED AREA COMMITTEE SCHEME 2010/2011

Members considered the proposals received from Graham Stanley (WCC)

RESOLVED:

To write to Graham Stanley and advise that Southam Town Council approve the proposals and would request that the project is completed ASAP

137.5 BUS STOP OUTSIDE 14 COVENTRY ROAD

Members considered correspondence from a resident regarding the siting of the above mentioned Bus Stop. Members were informed that the current situation is that the resident is meeting with the County's Quality Standards Inspector to re-examine the location.

Noted

137.6 SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Members considered correspondence from Cllr Waller containing his resignation from the Christmas Lights Committee and correspondence from Southam Christmas Lights requesting that the Mayor attends their next meeting to discuss the problem of funding the lights in the future. The council thanked Cllr Waller for the support that he had given to the Christmas Lights Association and Cllr Waller informed the Council that he had received an apology from Bill Pease.

RESOLVED:

- i) That Cllr J Soni attend the next Christmas Lights Association Meeting**
- ii) That the Chair and Treasurer of the Christmas Lights Association are invited to the March ENV**

137.7 TOLLGATE ROAD LEASE

Members considered correspondence from WCC regarding the situation to date. WCC requested confirmation from the Town Council regarding what they are prepared to agree to in the proposed lease in relation to increased maintenance e.g. grass cutting and litter picking.

RESOLVED:

- i) To inform WCC that Southam Town Council want the lease to remain the same as the current lease**
- ii) That they do not want to see a fence installed**
- iii) To make residents aware of the situation in the Newsletter**

137.8 POLICE

Members considered correspondence from Patrick Devereux – Stratford on Avon District Safer Neighbourhood Inspector. As part of the correspondence Inspector Devereux advised that at this stage they do not support the idea of a public open day at the station, as at this time they do not know how the SNT will look in the future and what the estate review will say about Southam Police Station.

Noted

137.9 TESCO MEETING REPORT

Noted

137.10 THE DECENTRALISATION AND LOCALISM BILL

Members considered the NALC Policy and Parliamentary Briefing regarding the Decentralisation and Localism Bill and also received correspondence from NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action) asking for the council's help in promoting NAVCA's Real Power for Communities Campaign.

RESOLVED:

That the information is put on the Town Council Website

137.11 ANDY PARKER – DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE

Noted

137.12 UPDATE ON RECYCLING FACILITIES IN SOUTHAM

Members considered correspondence from SDC regarding the current situation of possibly moving the recycling centre to the Tesco Car Park.

RESOLVED:

To inform SDC that regardless of whether the recycling centre is increased on the Tesco Car Park, the recycling centre should be removed from Wood Street Car Park immediately, apart from the 'Recycle Clothing Unit'. This is due to the fact that households in Southam can recycle at home and that the majority of people who use recycling at Wood Street Car Park are traders.

137.13 WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (WCC) BUDGET CUTS

Members considered the WCC Newsletter that clearly sets out the implications for WCC of the Local Government Finance Settlement for local authorities. The WCC must find savings of £60million by 2014. The newsletters give an indication of how the County Council intends to make the necessary savings. The final decision will be taken at the County Council's full council meeting on 15th February 2011. Members also considered correspondence from Wellesbourne Parish Council urging the council to write to Alan Farnell, Leader of WCC to oppose the proposed cuts to the Youth Service and also correspondence from The Open Spaces Society urging the council to write to WCC to oppose the proposed scrapping of the Countryside Access Team.

Noted

137.14 WCC BRIEFING NOTE REGARDING HS2

Noted

137.15 MEETINGS, TRAINING AND EVENTS

- Conflict Resolution Workshop – Friday 4th February 2011, 10am – 12 noon at Bidford-on-Avon – Cost £35pp
- WALC One Day Briefing Seminar – Saturday 5th March 2011, 0915 – 3pm at Myton High School – cost £37.00
- National Awareness Training – Gypsy and Traveller – Friday 11th March 2011 at Warwick University from midday to 4pm – Cost Free

Noted

137.16 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2011

Thursday 24th February
Thursday 24th March

ENV MEETING DATES 2011

Thursday 10th February
Thursday 10th March

Thursday 28 th April	Thursday 14 th April
Thursday 12 th May (Town Meeting & Mayormaking)	
Thursday 26 th May	
Thursday 23 rd June	Thursday 9 th June
Thursday 28 th July	Thursday 14 th July
August – Summer Recess	
Thursday 22 nd September	Thursday 8 th September
Thursday 27 th October	Thursday 13 th October
Thursday 24 th November	Thursday 10 th November
December – Christmas Recess	

137.17 UNRESOLVED MATTERS

<u>MINUTE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
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1997/98

123.6	Mountfield Gardens
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2000/2001

133.3	Adoption of footway below flue, Market Hill
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2002/2003

305.8	SWHA - Parking Problems - Mill Crescent/Mill Close
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2003/2004

110.1	Safety on the Bypass
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2004/2005

113	Traffic Calming Projects
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2009/2010

101.3	Planning Committee – Stratford District Council (Meeting times and Venue)
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Noted

138. CORRESPONDENCE

138.1 THE TOWN CHURCHYARD AT ST JAMES – FUTURE BURIAL SPACE

Members considered correspondence from St James Parochial Church Council requesting that the Town Council consider purchasing suitable land for use as a burial ground for the town and administer and maintain it accordingly.

RESOLVED:

- i) To ascertain whether anyone has to be a burial authority or has a duty to be the burial authority**
- ii) Ascertain whether Stratford Town Council receive any funding from Stratford District Council towards their costs of being a burial authority**
- iii) When information on the above is received to invite John Tresidder to an ENV meeting**

138.2 DAVE BROUGH – SOUTHAM LIONS POETRY COMPETITION

RESOLVED:

To write and thank Mr Brough for the information

138.3 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY – IMPROVED FLOOD WARNING SERVICE

RESOLVED:

- i) To pass the information to RAFT**
- ii) To put the information on the website**
- iii) To ascertain what the £114k will be spent on in Southam**

138.4 POLICE – WITHDRAWAL OF WEEKLY CRIME INFORMATION

Noted

138.5 SOUTHAM/FELDON COMMUNITY FORUM – 15TH DECEMBER 2010 MEETING NOTES

Noted

138.6 SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ASSOCIATION – THANK YOU

Noted

138.7 THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION'S 90TH BIRTHDAY – GREAT POPPY PARTY WEEKEND

RESOLVED:

To advertise in Newsletter and on Website

139. BUSINESS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE MAYOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

139.1 STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO THE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2011 – 2016

RESOLVED:

i)To advise SDC that the information that was provided to Town Council's seeking their opinion was inadequate

ii)That Southam Town Council are of the opinion that Wood Street Car Park should remain 'free of charge' without the need to purchase permits

iii)That Southam Town Council object strongly to the proposed charges for 'Green Waste'

iv)That 'Front Line Access' in Southam needs to be retained

139.2 GRANGE HALL STEWARDS

Members were advised that the Pressurisation Unit on the Grange Hall boiler needs replacing at a cost of £1800.00 and that this is a capital cost and at SDC have already authorised their 50% share. Members were also advised that the Grange Hall floor needs sanding back , removing old lacquer, dents and scratches, this work ensures the life of the floor and if this work was not done the floor would eventually need replacing. The Grange Hall Management Committee maintains the floor on a daily basis which has ensured that the floor has lasted longer than normal. A floor of this type would normally last 3 -5 years before this work would need to be done, but the Grange Hall floor has lasted 8 years and that is purely down to how it is looked after. The work required is a capital cost and the total cost is £5000

RESOLVED:

i)To authorise payment for the Pressurisation Unit at a cost to the council of £900.00

ii) That the hall floor is monitored over the next 12 months and evidence is provided to Council if it is thought the work is required sooner

iii)That the Management Committee provide the Stewards and the Town Council with an annual report showing 'capital work' requirements prior to the Precept Meeting , so budgets can be set accordingly

iv)That the Management Committee advises the council who paid for this work to be done last time

139.3 PENSION FUND CONTRIBUTIONS: 2011/12 ONWARDS

RESOLVED:

Southam Town Council confirms its acceptance of the schedule of employer contribution rates contained in WCC letter dated 20th January 2011.

139.4 GRASS CUTTING TENDERS

RESOLVED:

To be discussed in confidential

140. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING

It was moved and

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded from the meeting because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

141. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

i) to authorise payments of staff salaries dated January 2011

ii) to authorise payment of 'Confidential Accounts' dated January 2011

142. THE GRANGE HALL ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED:

i) That the Grange Hall Accounts, the vulnerability of the Grange Hall Management Committee and 'Overtime Payments' be discussed at the February ENV

ii) To send a 'Get Well Soon' card to Mrs C Gwillam and wish her well

143. GRASS CUTTING TENDERS

Members were advised that following Cllr Crump and Cllr G Thomas meeting to discuss the grass cutting tenders they were of the opinion to appoint Continental Landscapes Ltd and to include the mowing of the churchyard in the contract.

RESOLVED:

To appoint Continental Landscapes Ltd on a three year contract and advise St James Parish Church that the mowing of the churchyard has been included in this contract.

Meeting closed 10.50pm

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B

Southam Town Council November 2010

APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
SDC/10CC061	Warwickshire County Council	Southam College, Welsh Road West, Southam CV47 0JW	Following approval for a full size synthetic turf pitch we seek approval for a new changing room facility, applied learning suite and associated external works.	No Representations	
10/02206/ADV	Mr Edward Tabor	Warwick House, 10 Warwick Road, Southam CV47 0HN	Erection of an alluminium faced sign panel on metal posts	Southam Town Council would like this application to be referred to the conservation officer.	
10/02362/FUL	Mr Werren	55 Manders Croft, Southam CV47 0HZ	Erection of a conservatory to rear	No Representations	
10/02426/TREE	Dr Frank David Kings	The Abbey, Warwick Road, Southam CV47 0HN	T1 Horse Chestnut - fell	Southam Town Council would like this application to be referred to the tree officer	
10/02409/TREE	Mr B Frith	Beech Hurst, 3 Warwick Road, Southam CV47 0HN	T586 beech - fell. T588 beech - fell. T590 Leyland cypress fell. T599 ash - crown lift to 4.5m. T600 walnut - crown lift to 4.5m. T601 holly - crown lift to 3.00. T602 yew - remove lowest branches on western side. T603 - plum reduce easterly spread by cutting back level with window reveal	Southam Town Council agree with the findings in the tree officer's report.	
10/02475/ADV	Avonvale Veterinary Centre Ltd	Unit 4, The Cobalt Centre, Kineton Road, Southam	No 4 Fascia signs displaying the name and logo	No Representations	
10/02407/FUL	Dr Dallas Burston	Dallas Burston Polo Grounds, Stonythorpe, Southam CV47 2DL	The erection of a 'marquee' style events building and the retention of three existing marquees approved under ref. 02/01272/FUL	Southam Town Council objects to this application because of 'possible noise and light pollution, the proximity to ancient woodland, the disturbance to wildlife and the spoiling of the views from the public footpath'	

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B

Southam Town Council November Out of Meeting 2010

APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
10/02256/LBC	Southam & Bishops Itchington Congregational Church	Southam Congregational Church, Wood Street, Southam CV47 1PP	Installation of a new roof hatch into ceiling of main Church building.	No Representations	
10/02281/FUL	Mr Andrew Baker	59 Banbury Road, Southam CV47 1HJ	Single storey side extension	No Representations	