

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2011

Present: Councillors J Soni (Chair), G Thomas, C Worsh, L Tasker
A Crump, B Thomas, P Caruana, L Hewer, P Thomas & D Smith

In attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders & Cllr J Appleton

144. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Waller – Work Commitments
Cllr D Isham – Personal
Cllr W Hawkins – Personal
Cllr T Spence – Work Commitments
Cllr D Wise – Work Commitments

RESOLVED:

That apologies are accepted

145. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr L Tasker declared a personal interest in Town Clerk Report item 6 VASA Grant Application
Cllr J Soni declared a personal interest in Town Clerk Report item 6 VASA Grant Application

146. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr G King, Grange Close, Southam

Spoke concerning Victor Hodges House stating that it was a disgrace that nothing has happened and is being allowed to stand empty. He requested the council put pressure on Stratford District Council to resolve this matter.

Mr S Ciampa, Mayflower Stables, Southam

Spoke complaining about the planning permission that Newstead Lodge has received and the impact that this development is having on his property. He stated that he was not aware of the planning application until it was too late and that no one seems to be able to do anything about the situation. He said that he was worried about what would happen in the future.

147. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 27th January 2011 having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor

148. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

- i) That payment of accounts dated February 2011, totalling £43,098.70 be authorized.**
- ii) That the Clerk investigates the charges of other telephone and broadband suppliers to ascertain whether it will be more cost effective to change suppliers**

149. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

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

Noted

ii) Planning Application decisions dated February 2011

RESOLVED:

To write to SDC Planning Department and ask who will be monitoring the times of the signage illumination in relation to the approved planning permission re: 10/02475/ADV Avonvale Veterinary Centre Ltd

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

150. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

150.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

1) Mr King

RESOLVED:

To write and request and update on the situation from SDC

2) Mr Ciampa

That Cllr J Appleton would meet with Mr Ciampa to discuss the issues he has raised

150.2 It was resolved to bring forward item 12 on the agenda

INFORMATION FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr J Appleton advised:

- That Southam Library would be affected by the forthcoming budget cuts and it is expected that there will be a reduction in opening hours
- That at WCC there will be a major re-organisation, several senior people will be leaving, 7 Directors will be reduced to 4; some will leave at the end of March others in the coming year. A total of 1800 jobs will be lost over the next 3 years
- Approximately 20% reduction in the Youth Service
- That it is envisaged that SDC queries will be handled by library staff
- That there are no plans to charge for Green Waste
- That there are no plans to introduce charges at Wood Street Car Park
- That the number of hours monitoring CCTV will be reduced
- Cllr Appleton suggested that the Town Council could ask SDC for the million pounds that was previously in the SDC budget if a viable project is on the table

150.3 MAYFIELD ROAD ESTATE

Members considered the responses from Orbit Heart of England, SDC and the Police in response to the issues raised by residents at the January meeting.

RESOLVED:

To forward the correspondence to Mr Romero and Mr Constable

150.4 MULTI AGENCY YOUTH PROVISION MEETING MINUTES

Members considered the minutes

RESOLVED:

That authorisation is given to hold the Youth Day on the 9th July 2011 in the

Park Lane Recreation Ground subject to the necessary insurance and risk assessments.

150.5 PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND

Members were advised that the Play Equipment and MUGA for the Park Lane Recreation Ground had been ordered, work is due to start on the 28th March 2011 and it will be completed in time for the Carnival. Members were also advised that a survey was carried out at Southam College asking students for their opinion regarding the proposal to replace the Skate Park with the MUGA and although there were students wanting a new Skate Park instead, the majority of students were in favour of the MUGA. Members were also advised that the S106 money had been applied for and the council were waiting receipt.

RESOLVED:

i) That a display is put up in the library

ii) That the residents in Wattons Lodge and Park Lane are written to informing them of the work that will be taking place in the Park Lane Recreation Ground

150.6 MAYFIELD ROAD PLAY AREA

Members were advised that the planning application had been submitted and the Biffa Award Application would be submitted by 11th March 2011.

150.7 SECTION 137 GRANTS AND FEEDBACK FORMS

Members noted 'Feedback Forms' from the following organisations:

Southam Lego Club

St James Church, Southam

The Friendship Project for Children

Butterfly Conservation

Members considered S137 Grant Applications from the following organisations:

Southam & District Lions

VASA

Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services (WDVSS)

Friendship Project for Children

Warwickshire Association for the Blind

Southam in Bloom

Southam Area Action Group

Secret Garden Musical Theatre School

RESOLVED:

i) To award Southam & District Lions £2000.00 and that the money will be released when the Town Council is in receipt of evidence that the remaining funds to fulfil the project has been sought.

ii) To award VASA £700.00

iii) To award WDVSS £1000.00 and that the money will be released when the Town Council is in receipt of evidence that the remaining funds to fulfil the project has been sought.

iv) To award Southam in Bloom £1500.00

v) To award Southam Area Action Group £1000.00

vi) To inform Secret Garden Musical Theatre that their business is not eligible

vii) To award WAB (Southam Branch) £250

viii) To award The Friendship Project for Children £500

150.8 PARKING IN AND AROUND THE MILL CLOSE AREA OF SOUTHAM

Members considered correspondence from a resident complaining about the lack of parking in the Mill Close area of Southam. Members were also made aware of all the correspondence that the council had received regarding this situation since 2002.

RESOLVED:

That the council will await a response from Orbit Heart of England regarding the matter

150.9 QUALITY STATUS

Members were informed that the council had now been advised that the criteria for the Electoral Mandate Test has changed and the council now qualifies, however for this council to reapply the 'Application Portfolio' needed to be submitted by the 17th March 2011.

RESOLVED: Not to apply at this time

150.10 LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE

Members considered correspondence from David Carter, Strategic Director – Customers, Workforce and Governance Directorate (WCC) regarding the future of the Library Service. Also attached was correspondence from WALC inviting the council to attend a meeting on Tuesday 21st June 2011, as well as this meeting being a liaison meeting, there would be a presentation on the future of libraries within the District.

RESOLVED:

To write to WCC to ascertain why there are so many shelves in the library not stocking books?

150.11 MAYORAL REPORT

Members were informed of the following functions that the Mayor attended on behalf of the Town Council

*Talked to a pre-school group at Napton School about 'Being the Mayor of Southam'

*Attended the Civic Service of the Mayor of Leamington

*Attended the Warwick District Council Civic Dinner

*Attended the Mayor of Leamington's Civic Dinner

Noted

150.12 MEETINGS, TRAINING AND EVENTS

- 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

150.13 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2011

Thursday 24th March

Thursday 28th April

Thursday 12th May (Town Meeting & Mayormaking)

Thursday 26th May

Thursday 23rd June

Thursday 28th July

ENV MEETING DATES 2011

Thursday 10th March

Thursday 14th April

Thursday 9th June

Thursday 14th July

August – Summer Recess
Thursday 22nd September
Thursday 27th October
Thursday 24th November
December – Christmas Recess

Thursday 8th September
Thursday 13th October
Thursday 10th November

150.14 UNRESOLVED MATTERS

MINUTE SUBJECT

1997/98

123.6 Mountfield Gardens

2000/2001

133.3 Adoption of footway below flue, Market Hill

2002/2003

305.8 SWHA - Parking Problems - Mill Crescent/Mill Close

2003/2004

110.1 Safety on the Bypass

2004/2005

113 Traffic Calming Projects

2009/2010

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

Noted

151. CORRESPONDENCE

**151.1 THE ABOLITION OF THE DEFAULT RETIREMENT AGE - NALC
EMPLOYMENT BRIEFING**

Noted

**151.2 NOMINATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE ROYAL GARDEN
PARTY ON 19 JULY 2011**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr J Soni is nominated

**151.3 SENIOR CITIZENS' ACTIN NETWORK (SOUTHAM DISTRICT) –
WARWICKSHIRE DIRECT, SOUTHAM**

RESOLVED:

To forward correspondence to Cllr J Appleton

151.4 SOPHIE PEACOCK, ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICER - SDC

RESOLVED:

To request more signs

151.5 WARWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2011

Noted

151.6 “BE INSPIRED BY 2012” WORKSHOP 10TH MARCH 2011 - VASA

Noted

**152 REPORT ON A JOINT MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL I & II
WORKING PARTY ON 10TH FEBRUARY 2011**

152.1 TESCO OPENING HOURS

Andy Brand from Tesco met with Cllr Soni and Cllr B Thomas on 31st January 2011 to discuss the opening hours of the Tesco store in Southam. They currently have permission to trade Monday – Saturday 8am – 10pm (standard hours for Sunday) but they have been trading Monday – Saturday 6am – Midnight and a resident has reported them to the Enforcement Officer. Tesco want to apply for permission to extend their hours and are seeking the council's opinion. Andy Brand advised that they currently have 90 customers 6am – 8am and 40 customers 10pm – midnight daily. Tesco representatives attended the meeting (Keith Sachson and Martina).

RESOLVED:

i)The Tesco representatives were advised that the members present disapproved of the late opening beyond the 10pm agreed in the planning, but had no real objection to morning times

152.2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

See Attached

152.3 ZURICH INSURANCE RENEWAL PREMIUM

Members were advised that the Town Council insurance is due for renewal. The cost of insurance for 2010 – 2011 was £3047 (including 5% Insurance Tax Premium). Zurich this year have introduced a Long Term Agreement

Members were requested to confirm on what basis they want to renew the insurance either:

1 Year Arrangement £3209.03 (inc 6% Tax Premium)

3 Year Long Term Agreement £3074.91 (inc 6% Tax Premium)

5 Year Long Term Agreement £2956.49 (inc 6% Tax Premium)

The Town Clerk recommends the Council takes out a 3 year agreement

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council should take out the 3 Year Long Term Agreement. The discount for the 5 year is what we should expect for a 3 yr. The Town Clerk is requested to negotiate this.

152.4 GRANGE HALL ACCOUNTS AND ADMINISTRATOR OVERTIME

RESOLVED:

i)Ask the Grange Hall Management Committee what would be the extra cost of auditing the accounts (to raise the matter at the next Stewards Meeting)

ii)The Town Council requests that the Stewards consider separating the role of Treasurer and Administrator

iii) The Grange Hall Management Committee is requested to consider the Caretaker and Administrator duties – especially putting the chairs out

iv)The Town Council requests that the Grange Hall Management Committee budget for overtime in the cost of concerts etc, to include overtime costs in costing/pricing of the event in annual budget – the Management Committee is requested to look into this as a matter of urgency.

152.5 CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACT 2006

RESOLVED:

i)That the matter is put to the Town Council in June 2011

ii)To ascertain when public what SDC puts into such a project

152.6 HS2 MEETING IN SOUTHAM

Members considered correspondence between Cllr Isham and John Lee about an HS2 meeting

RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk asks Cllr Isham to clarify as to whether he has made any commitment from the Town Council towards the proposed meeting

152.7 DAVID MORGAN (VASA RURAL OUTREACH)

Members considered correspondence regarding a Community Enterprise type of organisation for youth services/clubs

RESOLVED:

Cannot do this at the moment until the Town Council knows the WCC position, so cannot respond or meet with other councils at present

153. REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL I WORKING PARTY ON 10th FEBRUARY 2011

153.1 ARTHUR RANK TRAINING

RESOLVED:

Advertise in the Newsletter and on the Website for one month

153.2 KATHRYN WOODCOCK – DOG FOULING ISSUES

Members considered the correspondence

RESOLVED:

- i) Ask the Dog Warden for an extra visit to Southam before April**
- ii) Publicise the problem in the Newsletter asking for evidence**
- iii) To write to the resident stating that the Town Council is sympathetic and advise them of the action the Town Council is taking**

152.3 REPLACING 5 TREES IN PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND

Members may recall that 5 trees had to be removed from Park Lane Recreation Ground because they were dead and the council requested that the Tree Surgeon be asked what trees they could be replaced with and cost.

The tree surgeon recommends 5x Field Maple size 10-12 standard trees, to include compost, stakes and ties - Total Cost £240

RESOLVED:

To approve the planting of the trees at a cost of £240

153. MEMBERS ITEM

153.1 CLLR J SONI

Members were asked to consider a letter from the Woodland Trust and 2 maps. The maps showed possible planting sites in the Park Lane Recreation Ground and Merestone Park using the money the Mayor has raised for the Woodland Trust in the Mayor's Charities.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Town Council authorises planting of trees in the Merestone Park location and will take on the future maintenance of these trees.**
- ii) That Cllr J Soni provides the Town Clerk with a list stating the number of each specimen planted so the Town Council Tree Surgeon can be informed.**

153.2 CLLR L HEWER

The Town Council was asked to request that WCC look into the possibility of installing double yellow lines on the Northfield Road (site by Tesco's) as if an emergency vehicle needed to access the site it would have problems and also to request a 20 mph speed limit on this road.

RESOLVED:

To make the request as stated

154. **BUSINESS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE MAYOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**
- 154.1 **STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – INVITATION TO CORE STRATEGY WORKSHOP ON 1ST APRIL 2011**
RESOLVED:
Members are requested to inform the Town Clerk if they want to attend
- 154.2 **TRADING STANDARDS – NO ROGUE TRADERS ZONES**
Members considered correspondence from WCC requesting a meeting to discuss implementing ‘No Rogue Traders Zones’ in parts of Southam
RESOLVED:
To put to the June Meeting for consideration
- 154.3 **WATTONS LANE SIGNAGE**
The Clerk informed members that since the new sign for Wattons Lane has been installed on the Warwick Road side a van drove down the path and crashed
RESOLVED:
To inform WCC that the Council is of the opinion that the sign is misleading and additional signage needs to be installed
155. **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
156. **STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES**
RESOLVED:
i) to authorise payments of staff salaries dated February 2011
ii) to authorise payment of ‘Confidential Accounts’ dated February 2011

Meeting closed 10.24pm

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2011 Issue 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
11/00271/DEM	Mr & Mrs S Forgan	1 Abbey Lane, Southam CV47 1HR	Demolition of existing single storey rear extensions	No representations	
10/02780/FUL	Tompkins Construction Ltd	Southam Garden Centre, Welsh Road East, Southam CV47 1NE	Proposed construction of 12 live/work units and 21 industrial units for B1, B2 and B8 use, industrial estate road and combined footpath and cycleway	No representations	
11/00242/VARY	Southam College	Southam College, Welsh Road West, Southam CV47 0JW	Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 10/02081/FUL to allow the materials used to be in accordance with plans and details originally submitted.	No representations	STC made no representation to the original application.

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL FEBRUARY ENV					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
11/00152/ADV	Tool Connection Ltd	The Tool Connection, Kineton Road, Southam CV47 2DR	Erection of two non-illuminated fascia signs	Southam Town Council has no objections to free standing signs but is concerned by additions to already busy fascia signs.	
11/00142/FUL	Mr & Mrs A Bell	3 Rainsbrook Close, Southam CV47 1GL	Proposed single storey front/side extension	No representations	
11/00029/FUL	Mrs Zoe Medgett	2 High Street, Southam CV47 0HA	Change of use from offices (class B1a) to beauty therapy salon (sui generis)	Southam Town Council encourages this addition to the high street	
11/00209/TREE	Mr Jean Miguel Gimena	Russett House, 5 Masters Orchard, Wattons Lane, Southam CV47 0JD	T1 Elm - reduce canopy by 25% and remove ivy	Southam Town Council would like this application to be referred to the tree officer.	