

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2011

Present: Councillors: M Gaffney (Chair), D Wise, L Hewer, J Ward, C Worsh, A Forster, J Soni, M Willoughby & D Williams

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

51. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr L Smith – Holiday

Cllr P Thomas – Work

Cllr J Smith – Work

Cllr L Tasker – Personal

Cllr J Ellard - Holiday

RESOLVED:

That apologies are accepted

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr D Williams declared a personal interest in his Members Item

53. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr T Bromwich, 8 Mill Crescent, Southam

Spoke regarding his request for a 'Heroes Wall' as per his correspondence to the Council that will be considered later in the meeting. He hoped that the Council would see fit to support his idea to recognise in some way the wonderful things some people do.

54. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 28th July 2011, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor, subject to the following amendment:

42.9 Should read "Do not want it to affect operations of The Grange Hall"

55. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

i) That the payment made during the Summer Recess dated August 2011, totalling £2698.32 be ratified

ii) That payment of accounts dated September 2011, totalling £3599.29 be authorized.

56. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

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

ii) Planning Application decisions dated September 2011

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

57. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

57.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

Mr Bromwich

To be dealt with under 'Correspondence'

57.2 MEMORIAL TREES FOR PAST MAYORS

Members' considered a request from Cllr Gaffney seeking the Council's permission to plant two trees in the grounds of the Grange Hall in memory of Mr Ken Graham and Rev Trevor Rogers.

RESOLVED:

That the Council gives authorisation for the planting of trees in memory of Mr Ken Graham and Rev Trevor Rogers in consultation with their respective families

57.3 MEETING WITH SOUTHAM COLLEGE STUDENTS

Members considered correspondence from Southam College in relation to organising a meeting with their students

RESOLVED:

That a meeting takes place on Tuesday 11th October from 1.20pm and that the following Councillors will attend:

Cllr M Gaffney

Cllr D Wise

Cllr J Soni

Cllr L Hewer

Cllr D Williams

Cllr A Forster

57.4 2nd SOUTHAM BEAVER SCOUTS

Members considered correspondence from the above organisation seeking permission to erect a wooden seat in the vicinity of Warwick Road and Leamington Road to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Members also considered correspondence from WCC who advised the following:

- The exact location would need to be agreed
- The Town Council would need to take over all responsibility and liability for it
- That a pot of flowers next to the bench would not be authorised unless it is a properly constructed planter and the site could accommodate it

RESOLVED:

That Southam Town Council agrees to the bench in principle, but would request that it is a metal bench, painted green in keeping with the other benches in the town

57.5 ELIZABETH HOUSE REFURBISHMENT

Members considered the Elizabeth House Refurbishment Report and were informed that the previous Council wrote to SDC in January 2008 regarding the costs involved with the Elizabeth House Refurbishment, as the refurbishment ended up costing a lot more money than had been budgeted. The Council had requested a copy of the report relating to this matter and were considering taking the matter to the Ombudsman.

RESOLVED:

That previous Councillors are made aware of the report

57.6 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Members considered two applications for the vacant councillor position in Merestone Ward from a Mr Ken Romero and Mr Jeff Smith. The Town Clerk informed members that Mr Smith and Cllr Lesley Smith had both written to the Town Clerk informing her that they were married to each other (as per Standing Orders)

RESOLVED:

That following a vote Mr K Romero was appointed to fill the Councillor vacancy for Merestone Ward

57.7 SOUTHAM LEISURE CENTRE

Members considered correspondence from SDC following a complaint that the Town Council had received in relation to congestion along Welsh Road West in the vicinity of Southam Leisure Centre, due to a lack of car parking spaces.

RESOLVED:

To forward the response onto the complainant

57.8 ATTENDANCE AT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members considered correspondence from SDC relating to the lack of attendance of Parish and Town Councils at Planning Committee Meetings and the considerable waste of resources as a result.

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that Southam Town Council now has a procedure to ensure that when the Council objects to an application there is representation from the Town Council at the Committee Meeting. To point out to SDC that contrary to what is stated in their correspondence, the Council do not know the officer's recommendation at the time of considering the application

57.9 SHARING OF BESPOKE PLANNING TRAINING TO ASSIST WITH COMPLICATED APPLICATIONS

Members considered correspondence from Napton on the Hill Parish Council who have written to ascertain whether Southam Town Council would be interested in participating in the above-mentioned training session and contributing to the cost.

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that it is unlikely that the Town Council would participate, but would be interested to know the cost

57.10 REVIEW OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

As a result of Southam Town Council indicating that they would be willing to take part in the review of Public Conveniences, members considered correspondence that included the following key questions:

1. Do you have any direct staff who you would consider asking to take on the opening, closing and cleaning of your local Public Convenience? If you do, would you anticipate this would result in extra costs to you and, if so, roughly how much per year do you think this would be?

2. Are you aware of any local companies or individuals that may be interested in taking on this function? If so could you provide me with some contact details for them so that I can get an estimate of their likely costs?

RESOLVED:

i)To respond advising that the Town Council do not have any direct staff

ii)To put an advertisement in the next Town Council Newsletter

57.11 STRATFORD UPON AVON TOWN COUNCIL - CCTV

Members considered correspondence from the above Town Council inviting the Council to attend a meeting to discuss the reduction in manned CCTV coverage for the District and contributing financially towards funding two full-time CCTV operatives.

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that the Town Council will not be attending the meeting

57.12 S137 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Members' considered S137 Grant Applications from the following organisations:

Southam Community Education Centre

Southam Area Action Group – HS2

Southam Community Minibus Committee

2nd Southam (Open) Scout Group

RESOLVED:

i)To respond to Southam Community Education Centre advising that their organisation did not meet the Town Council's S137 Grant Criteria

ii)To award Southam Area Action Group – HS2 £350.50

iii)To award Southam Community Minibus Committee £1050.00 and state that the money will not be released until the rest of the money needed has been secured

iv)To award 2nd Southam (Open) Scout Group £1050.00 (£900 to be taken from the Youth Initiatives Budget Line) and state that the money will not be released until the rest of the money needed has been secured

57.13 MEETINGS/TRAINING/EVENTS

Saturday 8th October 2011 at Leamington Spa, Town Hall - Being A Good Councillor and Clerk – Induction Day = Cost £50.00

RESOLVED:

Noted

57.14 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Thursday 27th October 2011

Thursday 24th November 2011

December – Christmas Recess

Thursday 12th January 2012 – Precept

Thursday 26th January 2012

Thursday 23rd February 2012

Thursday 22nd March 2012

Thursday 26th April 2012

Thursday 10th May 2012 (Annual Town Meeting & Mayormaking)

Thursday 24th May 2012

Noted

ENV MEETING DATES

Thursday 13th October 2011

Thursday 10th November 2011

Thursday 9th February 2012

Thursday 8th March 2012

Thursday 12th April 2012

58. **CORRESPONDENCE**

58.1 **SOUTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ASSOCIATION – GRANT THANK YOU**

Noted

58.2 **STOWE DRIVE/BROWNS BRIDGE JUNCTION – WCC**

Noted

58.3 **HEROES WALL – MR BROMWICH**

Cllr M Gaffney requested a recorded vote

The following Councillors voted ‘Yes’ to the proposal

Cllr D Wise

Cllr A Forster

Cllr L Hewer

Cllr J Ward

The following Councillors voted ‘No’ to the proposal

Cllr M Gaffney

Cllr C Worsh

Cllr M Willoughby

Cllr J Soni

The following Councillor ‘Abstained’

Cllr D Williams

RESOLVED:

i) In accordance with Standing Orders, Cllr M Gaffney had the casting vote and voted ‘No’ to Mr Bromwich’s proposal

ii) To advise Mr Bromwich accordingly

58.4 **VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENTS ON THE SDC WEBSITE**

Members considered SDC’s request to waive their copyright to the Town Council’s Village Design Statement in order for the document to be placed on the SDC Website.

RESOLVED:

To inform SDC that the Town Council gives authorisation for the Town Council’s Design Statement to be placed on the SDC Website

59. **REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY ON 8th SEPTEMBER 2011**

59.1 **TOLLGATE ROAD PLAYING FIELD LEASE**

Members considered correspondence from WCC that set out proposals for the new lease

RESOLVED:

i) To advise WCC that Southam Town Council want the status quo to continue – renew lease as at present with a 20yr minimum

ii) That the Town Council is happy to alter the time of access for school from 1300 – 1600 hrs at present to 1000 – 1600 hrs

59.2 **GYPSEY & TRAVELLER AND SHOWMAN NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Members considered the survey

RESOLVED:

To complete the questionnaire accordingly

59.3 TESCO S106 – BUS SHELTER PROVISION

Members considered correspondence from WCC

RESOLVED:

To advise WCC that Southam Town Council do not want to proceed regarding taking on the maintenance of the two new Bus Shelters that will be installed as part of the Tesco S106 agreement

59.4 POLICE – SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM MEETING

Members considered an invitation to attend a meeting at Long Itchington Community Centre to discuss any issues and explain the Police structure.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr D Williams will attend the meeting and represent the Council

59.5 TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE COMPUTER SYSTEMS

Members considered the quotations to replace the Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk computers as well as the server

RESOLVED:

i) That Members' authorise the replacements as quoted by Dealer Systems, subject to a member's overview to a maximum cost of £5000

ii) That a line is added in next year's budget of £1000 a year towards future replacements

59.6 PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT CHANGES

RESOLVED:

i) To advise WCC that Southam Town Council support the proposed Speed Limit Changes in the vicinity of Bascote Heath

59.7 MAINTENANCE WORK AT VARIOUS PLAY AREAS

RESOLVED:

i) To accept the quote from Durasport for repairs at Park Lane Recreation Ground, Tollgate Road, The Furrows, Shepherds Hill, and Ascote Way

59.8 THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY FORUM

Members considered an invitation from Bishops Itchington PC

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that Southam Town Council will not be represented at the meeting

59.9 SDC GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Members considered correspondence from SDC seeking views on the services provided and what the council would like to see as part of future provision

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that the Town Council would like an enhanced service in all areas and to state that the present service is not always to a good standard e.g. litter not picked up and do not always achieve their stated level of service

59.10 THE DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION BEACONS

Members considered correspondence regarding whether they wish to participate in a nationwide co-ordinated lighting of Jubilee Beacons

RESOLVED:

That Southam Town Council are not in a position to erect a beacon

59.11 PROPOSAL FOR STONETON WIND FARM BY EDF ENERGY RENEWABLES

Members were made aware of a public exhibition
Noted

59.12 STREET CLOSURE FOR RETRO REVIVAL EVENT ON SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

Members considered correspondence regarding a road closure for the above event
RESOLVED:
Members voted and rejected the proposal on safety grounds. If the Road Closure plan is amended to allow flow of traffic from Warwick Road around to Oxford Street then the Town Council would have no objection.

59.13 ISSUES FOR DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

i)When are bus shelters to be erected by WCC on Warwick Road?
ii)Roundabout at Kineton Road- When is this roundabout going to be replanted as part of the Tesco S106 Agreement?. Also other roundabouts were going to be improved as per a recommendation by Southam First to Cllr Appleton

60. MEMBERS' ITEM – CLLR D WILLIAMS

Members considered Cllr William's request to run a music event for the local youth at the Park Lane Recreation Ground on Friday 23rd September 2011
RESOLVED:
That Southam Town Council gives permission for this one-off event, subject to the normal letting conditions

61. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Appleton advised the following:

- That the Bus Shelters will be installed before Christmas
- That as a result of the recent fatalities along the A426 Rugby Road, he has requested that the speed limit be reduced

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

62.1 MAYFIELD ROAD OPEN SPACE - LEASE

The Town Clerk advised that the current lease comes to an end in September 2011 and that the Coventry Diocese would like to grant the Town Council a new agreement for 12 months based on the same financial agreement. However, because it is a new agreement and not an extension to the old agreement, the Town Council would have to pay for the legal fees

RESOLVED:

To respond stating that the Town Council do wish to continue to lease the land, but consider an extension to the existing lease as sufficient, as it is just for a 12 month period. If a new agreement is drawn up and the council has to pay the legal fees, they could be left with paying as much in legal fees as they do to lease the land

63. 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

64. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

i)To ratify the payment of staff salaries made during the Summer Recess dated August 2011

ii)To authorise payments of staff salaries dated September 2011

65. MR B BURNS

Noted

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2011					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
11/01918/TREE	Mrs Janet Evans	1-18 Willow Gardens, Southam CV47 1HG	G1 - group of willow, elder, sycamore, ash: pollard G2 group of cypress : reduce height	22nd September 2011	No representations
11/01792/TEL56	BT Openreach	1 Willow Gardens, Southam, Cv47 1HG	Installation of 1 x BT DSLAM cabinet (1200mm w x 450mm D x 1600mm H)	26th September 2011	No representations
11/01788/TEL56	BT Openreach	Southam Library, High Street, Southam CV47 0HB	Installation of 1 x BT DSLAM cabinet (1200mm W x 450mm D x 1600mm H)	26th September 2011	No representations
11/01829/TEL56	BT Openreach	2 Welsh Road West, Southam CV47 0JN	Installation of 1 x BTDSLAM cabinet (1200mm w 450mm D x 1600mm H)	26th September 2011	No representations
SDC/11CM021	Severn Trent Water Ltd	Itchen Bank Sewage Treatment Works, Welsh Road East, Southam CV47 2BH	A new Motor Control Centre Kiosk	27th September 2011	No representations
11/01887/FUL	Mr J Thompson	73 Banbury Road, Southam CV47 1HJ	Demolition of existing single storey rear utility room to be replaced with enlarged kitchen/family room	3rd October 2011	No representations

Meeting closed 9.00pm