

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 22nd MAY 2014

Present: Councillors: J Ward (Chair), V Shepherd, B Thomas, J Soni, D Smith, E Thornley, M Gaffney & L Tasker

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

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

8.1 Cllr C Pratt Personal
Cllr M Willoughby Holiday
Cllr L Smith Personal

District Cllr Crump Governors Meeting

8.2 ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGIES

Cllr C Worsh
Cllr J Smith

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr V Shepherd Personal Interest Reason HS2 Petition
Member of action group against HS2

Cllr D Smith Personal Interest Reason Town Clerk Report Item 4
Lives in Springs Crescent
Personal Interest Reason Confidential Item 2
Donated existing bench to town

Cllr B Thomas Personal Interest Reason Town Clerk's Confidential Report item 3
Neighbour – proximity to the school

Cllr J Soni Personal Interest Reason Town Clerk Report Item 4
Lives in Springs Crescent

10. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Gareth Oubridge, 42 Hillyard Road, Southam

Asked about the Holy Well

- When will the sign be installed and access permitted?
- How much of the money raised by the Friends of the Holy Well was given to the Council for maintenance?
- How much of the money remains?
- How has it been spent?
- Will the Council research what work is needed to control the water seepage?

He also asked about provision of a burial ground.

- What contact has the Council had with the Diocese, SDC and WCC about provision of a burial ground since the poll of local opinion?

Town Mayor signature _____

- What is the Council policy regarding the provision of new burial space in the town?
- What is the council's understanding of if, how and where Coventry Diocese plans to provide a new church graveyard?

11. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8th May 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to the following amendment

Item 4 M Willoughby is changed to J Ward.

12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated May 2014, totalling £5638.83 be authorised.

13. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated May 2014 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council.

ii) Planning Application decisions dated May 2014

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

14. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

14.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

Mr Oubridge was advised on the subject of the Holy Well

i) that the signs would be installed shortly but that the gates would remain locked for the time being as the stones were still slippery and dangerous.

ii) no monies had been received from the friends of the Holy Well but £11000 had been received from Stratford District Council for maintenance over a ten year period til 2018.

iii) £3375 remains

iv) the majority of the money, approximately £6000, was spent on replacing all the oak posts as the original posts were cut too short to be stable and were subject to repeated vandalism, as a result. Over the six year period, the remainder has been spent on reinstatement and general maintenance including strimming.

v) the Town Clerk met with a representative from English Heritage some weeks ago and is awaiting his report regarding the condition of the well, the retaining wall, the water seepage and recommended works and contractors.

On the subject of the Burial Ground Mr Oubridge was advised

i) that Stratford District Council has resolved not to become a Burial Authority.

ii) Southam Town Council is not a burial authority and at the time of poll it resolved that it was not minded to become one but that it would continue to investigate the alternatives for the Southam area; this it is doing, but has not yet been able identify a suitable and available site.

iii) Southam Town Council understands that the Diocese does not intend to provide land for or operate a new burial ground in Southam despite requests to do so.

Town Mayor signature _____

14.2 BANNER HOMES – MANDERS CROFT, SOUTHAM

Members were asked if they would like to meet with Banner Homes to discuss this proposal?

RESOLVED:

To invite Banner Homes to ENV on 12th June 2014

14.3 MILL HILL WARD – TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION

Members were informed that SDC has advised that an election will take place on 19th June 2014 to fill the vacant position in Mill Hill Ward and this is currently being advertised.

Noted

14.4 REQUEST FOR WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Members were informed that WCC has advised that “A Road Safety Officer has recently visited the school to raise awareness of the problems caused at school drop off and pick-up times.

Resources for investigating requests for waiting restrictions in the Stratford District have been allocated for this year, so the earliest that these areas could be considered for investigation will be 2015.

Action against dangerous and obstructive parking can be taken by the Police Authority”.

Noted

14.5. COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Noted

15. CORRESPONDENCE

15.1 SOUTHAM FIRST – BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 2014

Noted

15.2 THE SHAKESPEARE HOSPICE – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

15.3 SOUTHAM IN BLOOM – GRANT THANK YOU

Noted

21. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES

None

22. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Appleton advised:

- That WCC is revisiting its strategy on dementia
- WCC is reassessing its committees – Cllr Appleton is moving to Corporate Services

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

23.1 HS2PETITIONING THE HYBRID BILL

Members considered the petition to oppose the HS2 bill which had been prepared by the

Town Mayor signature _____

working party and the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED:

i) Southam Town Council agreed unanimously to appoint a Roll B Agent namely Mr Bransby William John Thomas of 9 St Mary's Close, Southam, CV47 1EW , to act as Agent on behalf of Southam Town Council in all matters relating to the HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL.

ii) to accept the petition as proposed

iii) to thank Cllrs B Thomas, L Tasker & V Shepherd and the Town Clerk for all their hard work in preparing the petition.

23.2 WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – EMERGENCY STOPPING PLACE

Members considered a request from Rob Leahy to host a meeting for invited interested parties to enable WCC to outline the next steps.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk, Mayor and Deputy Mayor would host such a meeting

23.3 TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Noted

24. 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

26. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated May 2014

27. MEMORIAL BENCH REQUEST

RESOLVED:

To respond to Mr Roberts explaining that the area in question is currently subject to a refurbishment project and indicating that it may be possible to have a bench dedicated but in an alternative location. The site for the new benches has not yet been finalised but the Council would hope to be able to give him further information before the end of the year.

28. TOLLGATE ROAD LEASE

Noted

29. TAYLOR WIMPEY DEVELOPMENT – DRAFT S106

RESOLVED:

i) that a working party consisting of Councillors M Gaffney, B Thomas and the Town Clerk consider the draft S106 agreement on the Councils behalf.

ii) that the Town Clerk write to Stratford District Council requesting that contributions to burial sites be included in its Planning Obligation Policy.

Meeting Closed 9.50pm

Town Mayor signature _____

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL - May 2014 Issue 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
SDC/14CC004 & 14/01249/COUNTY	Warwickshire County Council	Southam Fire Station, Coventry Street, Southam, CV47 0EL	Demolition of the existing Southam Fire Station drill tower and the construction of a new 15m high training tower in the same location	24th May 2014	No representations
SDC/14CM015	Cemex UK	Southam Quarry, Southam Works, Long Itchington CV23 8RA	Environment Act 1995 - Review of Mineral Planning Permissions for the continued operation and restoration of Southam Quarry	23rd May 2014	Southam Town Council asks that the conditions previously imposed should be strictly adhered to, particularly in regard to ground water, surface water, air quality, transport access and noise. Also, that the flow to the Holy Well should be monitored to ensure that the effects are 'negligible' as stated.
14/01281/FUL	Mr Paul Harper	24 Beech Close, Southam, CV47 1HU	Erection of a single storey extension to side/rear of dwelling	5th June 2014	No representations
14/01165/FUL	Dr D Burston	Dallas Burston Polo Grounds, Stonythorpe, Southam CV47 2DL	Change of use of grazing land for the purposes of a camping site, including touring caravans and campervans, yurts and tents and as a static holiday caravan site, together with ancillary building comprising sanitary facilities, reception office and site security overnight accommodation and associated works and landscaping.	12th June 2014	Southam Town Council would support this application if i) the construction of a roundabout, a condition attached to the previous hotel application, also applied to this application. ii) tight control applied to the siting and number of static caravans, no more than 50. iii) that the access gate was moved back into the site and a slip road provided to prevent caravans queuing to access the site on the A425 Consideration should also be given to how HS2 would affect this site. Southam Town Council is concerned that proposal did not form part of the original master plan.

Town Mayor signature _____