

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2014

Present: Councillors: M Willoughby (Chair), J Ward, M Gaffney, C Worsh, B Thomas, J Soni, L Tasker, C Pratt & T Bromwich

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

71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

71.1 Cllr L Smith Personal
Cllr V Shepherd Holiday
Cllr D Smith Holiday
Cllr A Crump

71.2 Apologies were not received from Cllr J Smith and Cllr E Thornley

72. STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED:

To suspend standing order 17.7

73. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J Ward	Non Pecuniary Reason	Southam Christmas Lights Grant Application Group member
Cllr J Soni	Non Pecuniary Reason	Southam Christmas Lights Grant Application Group member
Cllr C Pratt	Non Pecuniary Reason Non Pecuniary Reason Non Pecuniary Reason	ENV Item 6 Family member owns adjacent land Burial Ground Working Party Owns a plot in St James Churchyard Southam Church and Community Project Grant Application Director
Cllr M Gaffney	Non Pecuniary Reason	2028 (Southam) Squadron ATC Chairman
Cllr B Thomas	Non Pecuniary Reason Non Pecuniary Reason	SAAG HS2 Grant Application Town Council Representative Southam Church and Community Project Grant Application Spouse is a Director

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Cllr L Tasker	Non Pecuniary	Southam Church and Community Project Grant Application
	Reason	Management Committee Member
Cllr J Soni	Non Pecuniary	Southam Christmas Lights Grant Application
	Reason	Committee Member
	Non Pecuniary	Southam Church and Community Project Grant Application
	Reason	Management Committee Member

74. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Brian Bromwich, 8 Mill Crescent, Southam

Spoke in relation to the following:

- Requesting to speak for 5 minutes, as it is his right
- Following his Freedom of Information Request for Tollgate Road he stated that the Town Council had acted illegally for not having minutes of some meetings attended
- Town Council responsibilities relating to the fences and hedges at Tollgate Road
- That the Town Council have wasted money on legal fees in relation to the Tollgate Road Playing Field

75. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24th July 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to the following amendment:

That minute 58.5 states “discussion took”

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 18th August 2014 be noted with the following amendment:

That minute 69 states “that STC issue a Press Release”

76. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated August 2014, totalling £8511.34 (details attached) be authorised.

77. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

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

ii) Planning Application decisions dated September 2014

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

RESOLVED:

To write to the Chief Planning Officer regarding Planning Application

14/00503/OUT and whether legally the application should have been withdrawn and re-submitted due to a change of applicant.

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78. **Cllr C Worsh arrived at 7.50pm**

79. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

79.1 **PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS**

Mr Bromwich was advised:

- i) That Town Council meetings are managed in accordance with Standing Orders, as such, the maximum time that a member of the public can speak is 3 minutes
- ii) The Town Clerk had not been given delegated powers to make any decisions regarding the meetings in question, all decisions were made by the body of the Council, and therefore, minutes were not legally required
- iii) Residents are aware of the Town Council responsibilities in relation to the Tollgate Road Playing Field
- iv) That the Town Council is legally entitled to spend money on legal fees, if that is what the majority of the Council vote to do

79.2 **SOUTHAM ONLINE ARTICLE**

Members considered the article in light of the fact that BBC Coventry and Warwickshire wanted the Town Council to comment on its contents.

RESOLVED:

- i) **To chase Ron Ball PCC again for a response to the letters that were sent in January 2013 and March 2014.**
- ii) **In addition to write to Ron Ball regarding the Town Councils concerns in relation to the fact that Warwickshire Police have the lowest 'Crime Scene Attendance' rate.**
- iii) **To ask for a copy of the letter that was apparently sent to STC on the 6th August 2014.**
- iv) **If the radio make contact advise what is stated in the Town Clerk Report item 2**

79.3 **RON BALL – POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

As a result of a Facebook article, Ron Ball contacted the Town Council to ascertain what issues the Town Council had regarding policing in Southam.

RESOLVED:

To write to Mr Ron Ball inviting him to attend a public meeting in Southam, so residents can raise issues directly with him.

79.4 **SOUTHAM@PLAY**

Members considered the report.

Noted

79.5 **SPEEDING ON BANBURY ROAD**

As a result of on-going speeding issues along Banbury Road, Members considered a request from a resident to install flashing speed signs at a cost of £5000.

RESOLVED:

- i) **At this moment in time, Members decided not to fund the installation of such signs**
- ii) **To ask the Police to provide a report regarding speeding in the town as a whole, in order to consider at the Precept Meeting if a 'speed initiative' project is required and at what cost.**

79.6 **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**

Noted

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79.7 STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED:

i) As a result of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, Standing Order 17.7 will need to be reviewed and amended at the October Town Council Meeting.

ii) To consider at ENV any other Standing Orders that the Town Council may wish to give notice of at the October Town Council Meeting for discussion at the November meeting.

79.8 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW

Noted

79.9 SECTION 137 GRANT APPLICATIONS

That the following S137 Grants are awarded

RESOLVED:

i) John Turner Festival Committee - £270.00

ii) 2028 (Southam) Squadron ATC - £400.00

iii) SAAG HS2 - £1000.00

iv) Southam Produce Association – up to £1500.00 (payment to be released on receipt of invoice)

v) Southam Heritage Collection – up to £2000.00 (payment to be released on receipt of invoice)

vi) Southam Senior Citizen Action Network - £3500.00 (The funds will be retained by Southam Town Council in its earmarked reserve until such time as the project is ready to proceed, Southam Town Council has approved the chosen sites and all necessary permissions are in place. Then on receipt of the invoice the monies will be released under the Power to provide lifesaving appliances Public Health Act 1936 s.234).

vii) Southam Church and Community Project - £2500.00 (Money to be taken from the Southam Youth Facility Ear Marked Reserve under the power Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 s.19).

viii) Southam Christmas Lights Association - £750.00

79.10 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Noted

Cllr J Ward stated that he does not wish to be Town Mayor in May 2015 should he remain a Councillor after the election.

80. CORRESPONDENCE

i) Rural Crime Co-ordinator, Lucy Lambert SDC – **Noted**

ii) CCTV Annual Review, Tony Perks SDC – **Noted**

**81. REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY
11TH SEPTEMBER 2014**

81.1 SOUTHAM MARKET

Cllr Singh has contacted the council chasing up a query from a resident regarding the possibility of Southam Town Council paying for a few market stalls, so that they can be

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hired back to local businesses at a discounted rate. Claire of Yarnbusters wrote to the Council back in June 2013 and at that time the correspondence was noted.

RESOLVED:

- i) **Not considered to be feasible to do this at the moment.**
- ii) **Could the Clerk check that Claire at Yarnbusters received our decision last time.**
- iii) **Ask the Clerk to respond to Cllrs Singh stating that STC could not subsidise Southam businesses in this way at this time.**
- iv) **To advise Claire at Yarnbusters of this situation.**

81.2 TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – AGE UK WARWICKSHIRE

RESOLVED:

That Cllr B Thomas is the new representative

81.3 FLY THE FLAG FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

Does the Town Council want to take part in this event , the cost of the flag is £58 , but we do not have a flag pole , so if the council did want to take part they would have to raise it on someone else's flag pole or install their own

RESOLVED:

The Town Council does not want to proceed.

81.4 SDC CONSULTATION

Councillors considered correspondence from SDC relating to the Site Allocations Plan for Stratford on Avon District Consultation and the CIL Draft Charging Schedule Consultation. Please complete a comment form for each consultation should you wish to respond.

RESOLVED:

Draft charging schedule

On page 2, three ticks in the Yes boxes with no comments in the large box at the bottom. Page 3, no wish to participate in the oral examination

Site allocation plan

No objection in principle to Q1-4. As a town council we feel that at some point in the process we should be able to consult and engage in discussion at an early stage re: burial ground (S106)

For question 1 we would like to point out that the map of Southam needs updating.

Site allocation principles/ guiding principles

Although we agree with the opening questions within the first five bullet points in must be noted that these questions/ statements require further clarification in order to provide a more valued response.

Call for sites

Yes in principle, however STC believes that Southam has achieved its obligation under the Core Strategy.

81.5 PLANNING APPLICATION

14/02255/TREE

T1: Silver Birch: reduce crown to 6m in height with 2m spread of branches in all directions

4 Banbury Road, Southam

RESOLVED:

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No representations - subject to approval by the tree specialist

81.6 PROPOSED EMERGENCY STOPPING PLACE

Members considered the attached correspondence regarding issues that have occurred relating to the proposed Emergency Stopping Place

RESOLVED:

To write to WCC to advise that STC is appalled by the lack of communication between WCC and the public. STC believes that there should be a press release to reassure the public

81.7 MANDERS CROFT, PLANNING APPLICATION 14/01633/OUT

Members considered correspondence from Godfrey Payton regarding the proposed development and the Town Council representation. Members also considered correspondence from the housing developer advising that they would like to meet with the Town Council in order to discuss S106 contributions.

RESOLVED:

At the present there is no purpose achieved by a meeting to discuss any S106 contributions

81.8 QUESTIONS FOR COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Planning Application 14/00503/OUT

Land adjacent The Service Station, Banbury Rd

This application was submitted by Midland Commercial Properties. Application is now in the name of Orbit. How is this possible? Background info needed.

82. REPORT ON A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY MEETING ON 7TH AUGUST 2014

The working party met and decided that the next stage of the process is to agree an area designation and submit a Southam Designation of a Neighbourhood Area Application to SDC.

The working party agreed the application and the application was put to the recess meeting so it could be resolved and the application submitted.

Next Step

Following the meeting on the 7th August the Southam Designation of a Neighbourhood Area Application has been submitted to SDC and is currently being processed. Enquires have been made as to whether we would be in a position to claim any funding for a detailed survey, the funding for 2014 had to be claimed and spent before the end of December 2014.

SDC has advised

“As mentioned I do feel you are in no position to send out a detailed survey of residents as you are a long way from knowing what the detailed issues are to consult on. You are more likely to gain from a newsletter in the autumn that explains what a Neighbourhood Plan is for residents/businesses and to insert a four page mini survey that asks for the issues in the town based on subjects you give them, i.e. housing, recreational land use, employment land etc. At this point you can ask for volunteers who may be experts in different areas.

On the other matter, we are seeking clarification from Localities about the information being sent out by the grants people, that local authorities cannot help with the consultation process. This is obviously of concern to us. Remember though that grant

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monies in 2015 should be available again from Localities, there has been no indication that this will be stopped”

A meeting is to be arranged with the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party, in order to progress with a newsletter (as stated above). The purpose of the Newsletter is to seek volunteers who wish to be on the working party, as the Neighbourhood Plan is a community run initiative and not a Town Council run initiative and to ascertain what the issues are in order to apply for funding, to produce a detailed survey regarding the key issues identified.

Members should note that producing a Neighbourhood Plan is a slow process and it can take up to 3 years to get to a stage where you have a plan that can be submitted for independent inspection.

83. BURIAL GROUND WORKING PARTY REPORT

See appendix A

RESOLVED:

i) Southam Town Council is minded to become a Burial Authority subject to the outcome of a local referendum, which it is hoped can be held in May 2015 to coincide with the General Election.

ii) That the Town Clerk forwards the email that she sent to the diocese to the residents that Cllr Gaffney and herself met with on the 3rd September 2014.

84. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Appleton advised the following:

- WCC are currently looking into a 20 mph pilot scheme funded by central government and therefore he will pursue the request for 20 mph along Welsh Rd West
- School Admissions Policy, priority to special needs, next local and lastly siblings
- Future of the Fire Service – No change for Southam
- Pilot study regarding advertising on roundabouts to pay for maintenance
- HS2 – additional land required in the vicinity of Fields Farm
- WCC are disposing of laptop computers contact Anita Kendall 01926 456102 for more information
- That he would pursue WCC regarding issuing a Press Release in relation to the latest position of the Emergency Stopping Place

Cllr T Bromwich advised the following:

- Adoption of Core Strategy

85. 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

86. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated September 2014

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Meeting Closed 10.07pm

Southam Town Council

SEPTEMBER 2014 CHEQUE PAYMENTS

SCHEDULE "A"

Item No	Budget Line	Payee	Details	Gross amount
1	33 & 26	<u>Stratford District Council</u>	Contribution towards CCTV monitoring for 2014/15 £3852. Uncontested Election Cost £100	£3,952.00
2	23	<u>P Taylor</u>	Sign Writer: Gild and drop shadow 2014.15 Mark Willoughby on Mayoral Board	£70.00
3	18	<u>Viking</u>	Stationery	£35.23
4	34,36,ER	<u>Mr Richard Carro</u>	September Contract: 693.34, Park Lane, Stowe rubbish & Riverside Walk, branch, £10.00 Holy Well - strim £25.00 Mayfield flytipping £40 Bus Shelters £40	£808.34
5	17	<u>Express Press</u>	Printing & Delivery September Newsletter	£345.00
6	8	<u>Mr John Gwillam</u>	Mobile Loop System (Mr Gwillam kindly bought this on his account with the specialist supplier as it was considerably cheaper than could be found elsewhere)	£103.80
7	43	<u>CGD Contractors Ltd</u>	August Churchyard Mowing 2 visits	£504.00
8	43	<u>Limebridge Rural Services</u>	September Amenity Maintenance 1/12 annual cost grasscutting play areas	£1,479.00
9	8	<u>Konica Minolta</u>	Photocopier rental 14.09.2014 to 13.12.2014	£152.64
10	8	<u>Dealer Systems</u>	Support during August - Back-up failure	£6.00
11	EM & 44	<u>VASA</u>	August Volunteer Drivers Reimbursement	£631.83
12	1 & 8	<u>The Grange Hall</u>	Quarterly utilities gas,electricity, rates & biffa (10% share for office space) £331.50 PAT testing of office electrics £92.00	£423.50
13				

TOTAL

£8,511.34

Alme

Jane R. Sani
Kaulya W. Mans
Linda A. Tasker

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SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL - SEPTEMBER 2014 ISSUE 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
14/02167/FUL	Mr Peter O'Brian	42 Welsh Road West, Southam CV47 0JW	Demolition of existing house and outbuildings and construction of six houses and a new access road	25th September 2014	Southam Town Council strongly objects to this application. It considers it would be overdevelopment of this site and that there is insufficient parking proposed for an area where on street parking is already causing a considerable problem for existing local residents. Highway safety is also of major concern to the Council. The site is situated between Southam College and the Leisure Centre and the safety of those using these facilities would be severely compromised were this development to be permitted on such a busy junction. The heritage of Southam is also of concern to the Council and it believes that the historic site of the Southam Mill should be preserved for future generations. This proposal is environmentally unsustainable.
14/02225/FUL	Mrs Alison Else	Unit 4, Insight Park, Welsh Road East, Southam CV47 1NE	Proposed single storey extension to provide additional ground floor storage, workshop and living area	25th September 2014	No representations
14/02339/FUL	Mrs D Carro	St James Church, Park Lane, Southam CV47 0JA	To repair damaged steps and install drainage gully and pipe work to immediated area with egress onto footpath drains adjacent. Remove damaged gates and part of railing and install new railings and arch	29th September 2014	Southam Town Council fully supports this application
14/02443/TREE	Mr D Forster	2 Warwick Place, Southam CV47 0JL	T1: Sycamore - remove to ground level T2: Sycamore - remove three lowest branches T3: Walnut reduce branches back to rear boundary	30th September 2014	Southam Town Council would like this application to be referred to the Arboriculture Officer
14/02213/OUT	Dallas Burston Property	Dallas Burston Polo Grounds, Stonythorpe, Southam CV47 2DL	Up to 700 dwellings; 99 extra-care units,(use class 2);80 bed care home with Dementia unit (use class C2); one form entry Primary school with associated open space; local centre comprising 240sq.m floor space (Use class A1, A2, A3 and A5) 370sq.m neighbourhood stor, 240sq. m office space, use class B1) 100 bed hotel (use class C1) alteration to existing access off A425 to form roundabout; the creation of a second vehicular access off A425; the creation of a pedestrian and cycle access to provide link between the site and Southam on the A425 and Welsh Road West;the creation of landscaping and open space; new internal highways; car and cycle parking; sustainable drainage measures, including storage ponds for surface water attenuation; provision of utilities infrastructure; earthworks and all ancillary works including demolition of buildings	This application is for an adjoining Parish therefore your objections will not trigger this application being determined at a Planning Committee	Objection see attached
14/02392/FUL	UK Power Reserve Ltd - Mrs Sarah Ward	Holywell Business Park, Northfield Road, Kineton Road Industrial Estate, Southam	Erection of a small scale standby electricity generation plant	7th October 2014	No representations
14/02406/FUL	Mr Greg Neal	4 Old Road, Southam CV47 1HP	Single storey extension to front elevation . Demolition of existing ground floor bathroom and relocation to first floor. Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen/dining room.	9th October 2014	No representations
14/02238/LBC	B & M Babbage & Co Ltd	2A Warwick Street, Southam CV47 0HD	Replacement of window frame damaged by vehicle accident	8th October 2014	No representations

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Objection Application 14/02213/OUT

Southam Town Council objects to the proposed development. It supports the District Council's emerging core strategy, which is currently with the Secretary of State for approval; this land is not identified in that core strategy as being suitable for housing development. The Council believes that this development is unnecessary. It is far in excess of the approximately 500 homes proposed for the Southam and Long Itchington area under the emerging local plan and sufficient housing for the area is already approved and pending in areas identified for development in that plan. Nor is the development necessary to meet the 5 year land supply. Other more suitable areas for development have been identified by SDC in the Core Strategy; these have been supported by STC. To allow this application would undermine that Core Strategy and STC's and Long Itchington's progression of their Neighbourhood Plans.

The site is unsuitable and unsustainable. It has no access other than by car, on already busy and dangerous roads, to all the facilities necessary to supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities and it does not meet the needs of present or future generations. Local GPs surgeries and Southam College are close to capacity and already under severe pressure; neither would be able meet the demand such a development would bring; therefore this application fails to meet the government guidelines for development of green land.

It is proposed that some of the building would be over the tunnel for the proposed HS2 high speed rail and in the safeguarding zone as agreed by Parliament in the preliminary parts of the Hybrid Bill. No detailed studies have been completed to show what the effects of the vibrations and noise would be on people and buildings.

The ecological surveys tell us that parts of the site are rich in wildlife with the incidence of bats, reptiles, crested newts on site rated as medium to high and nesting birds rated as high; the Common Spotted Orchid is also to be found there. This is a valuable habitat for legally protected species and should not be built on.

The development would undermine the 15 year River Leam Catchment Area Plan. This DEFRA funded project aims to improve the environment. The Rivers Itchen and Stowe are in close proximity to the development site and the Stowe, a tributary of the Leam and has poor ecological status due to pollution from domestic sources e.g. detergents and sediment transfer through overland runoff from gardens. Development would pollute and hamper efforts to improve the water quality across the whole catchment.

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