

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY 2015

Present: The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jason Ward - In the Chair
Councillors J Soni, M Gaffney, D Smith, L Tasker, C Pratt, B Thomas, T Bromwich & V Shepherd

Apologies: Cllr C Worsh Work
Cllr E Thornley Work
Cllr M Willoughby Work
Cllr A Crump Governors Meeting will arrive late
PC J Cramp

In Attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders, Cllr J Appleton,
Cllr A Crump (arrived 8.05pm)

150. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED:

That apologies are accepted

151. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr M Gaffney	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk report item 3.2 Treasurer SCAN
Cllr J Soni	Non Pecuniary Reason	Accounts for Payment Item 14 Volunteer Driver – VASA
	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 3.1 Christmas Lights Committee Member
Cllr D Smith	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 3.1 Christmas Lights Committee Member
	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Confidential Report Item 2
Cllr L Tasker	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 3.1 Director VASA
Cllr C Pratt	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Confidential Report Item 2
Cllr T Bromwich	Non Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 3.1 Southam Cricket Club
Cllr B Thomas	Non Pecuniary Reason	Accounts for Payment Item 3 Payment to himself

Town Mayor Signature _____

152. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs P Sheasby, 72 Banbury Road, Southam

Spoke regarding the following:

- Spoke regarding Orbit making tenants pay for maintenance items

153. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22nd January 2015, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Deputy Mayor subject to the following amendment:

Minute 141.1 to read “it would explain in as much detail as possible”

153a. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated February 2015, totalling £8443.10 (details attached) be authorised.

154. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated February 2015 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council.

ii) Planning Application decisions dated February 2015

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

155. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

155.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

i) Mrs Sheasby was advised that Cllr Bromwich would discuss the matter with Orbit

155.2 STANDING ORDERS

Notice was given at the January 2015 Council Meeting for Members to consider amending 4.4 of Standing Orders. The proposal is to add ‘Police’ to the ‘Agenda Items’, in order for the Police to update the Council on any matters and to respond to any issues raised at the meeting, when the Police are in attendance.

RESOLVED:

That Standing Orders are amended to add the Police to the agenda items

Cllr A Crump arrived at the meeting

155.3 SECTION 137 GRANT APPLICATIONS

i) Members considered S137 Grant Applications and awarded the following grants

RESOLVED:

a) Southam Carnival Committee	-	£1000.00
b) Southam First Flower and Produce Show	-	£1250.00
c) Southam First 1940s Retro Revival	-	£2000.00
d) Southam Civic Ideas Forum (SCIF) (Church Gates)	-	Nil

Town Mayor Signature _____

To write and advise that although their grant application was unsuccessful the Town Council is supportive of this project and they should write again when they are closer to fruition.

e) Southam Christmas Lights Association - £2500.00

f) Southam Lions Poetry Competition - £1000.00

To write and advise that the Town Council have supported this event on a number of occasions but they would like to see the Lions working towards this event becoming more self-supporting.

g) Southam Lions Triathlon - £1000.00

h) Southam in Bloom - £2250.00

To write and advise that there is another opportunity to apply for grants in September 2015

i) VASA - £850.00

j) Southam & Village Branches National Childbirth Trust - £500.00

To write and advise that as this project serves villages around Southam, other Councils should be approached for funding.

k) Bosphor Trading Ltd - Nil

To write and advise that their application does not meet the criteria for S137 Grants

l) Southam Cricket Club - £1000.00

To write and advise that the Town Council prefer to pay for capital items, such as equipment rather than running costs.

m) Southam Outreach Advice Service CAB - £750.00 to be funded under LGA 1972 2a, power to provide info and advice.

n) 2nd Southam (open) Scout Group - £500.00

To write and advise that money will be released if there is still a need to support families, after the outcome of alternative funding sources are known.

ii) The following grants were awarded in September 2014 but monies have not yet been released. Members were requested to resolve to reserve the following payments for the next financial year.

RESOLVED:

That the following payments are held in reserves for the next financial year if not utilised in this financial year.

Southam Produce Association - £1500.00

Southam Heritage Collection - £2000.00

iii) Members considered correspondence from SCAN requesting that grant money is released for the AED (defibrillator) that has been installed at the Fire Station. They also advised that they have further sites in mind and will apply for the remaining funds in due course.

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with minute 79.9 (September 2014), the Town Council approve the location of the defibrillator at the Fire Station and will release funding under the power to provide lifesaving appliances Public Health Act 1936 s.234 to the value of £2145.12, the remaining balance of £1354.88 will be held in ear marked reserves until such time that SCAN write to the Town Council to seek approval of another chosen site in order for the remaining funds to be released on receipt of the invoice.

Town Mayor Signature _____

iv) Grant Feedback Forms from 2028 Southam Squadron RAF Air Cadets and John Turner Festival of Arts & Crafts **Noted**

156. COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Noted

157. CORRESPONDENCE

157.1 MR L GALE – STREET NAMING

Noted

The Town Clerk advised that there was evidence in the Council Minutes that Southam Town Council has had delegated powers in relation to street naming since 1996.

157.2 MR A DENHAM – HS2 SELECT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

i) A vote of thanks was given to Cllr B Thomas, Cllr L Tasker, Town Clerk and SAAG for their representation at the HS2 Select Committee.

ii) To write to SAAG accordingly

158. REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY ON 12TH FEBRUARY 2015

158.1 EMPTY HOMES - SDC

Sheree Johansen of SDC advised the Town Council of her role within Stratford District Council in identifying empty private and council properties which could be better utilised. Grants are available to help renovations of qualifying properties subject to conditions being met. She would like to raise awareness across Southam.

RESOLVED:

To put an article in the STC newsletter to let people know how to report properties suspected of being empty for more than 6 months.

158.2 STREET NAMING

The Town Council continues to come under pressure to name roads after people in particular fallen soldiers. In light of this, the Town Clerk asked the Council to consider carrying out a public consultation, to seek views from residents. The cost of posting the questionnaire to every household will be £1500, and double that if you provided a SAE.

RESOLVED:

A proposal made by Cllr Bromwich not to fund a survey of the town was agreed, it was also reiterated by Cllr Bromwich that he did not agree with street names being named after people and it was agreed that the town policy on the issue was the correct one.

158.3 THE PARISH POUND

The Parish Pound lease is due for renewal in November 2015, the Town Clerk wanted to ascertain from Members whether they think it should be leased again for a further 3 years or whether they want to sell it. If Members are minded to sell the Clerk suggested that in order to maximise the value of the plot it would be better if it was sold with planning permission to develop.

RESOLVED:

The council would like to get a revaluation of the rental of the land as this had not changed in the past few reviews, it would also ask that the costs be

Town Mayor Signature _____

investigated as to the possible value of the land with and without potential planning permission and associated costs with seeking planning permission, legal fees, agency fees etc. should a decision be to sell.

158.4 TOLLGATE ROAD PLAY AREA

Now that the lease has been finalised, the Council needs to arrange grass cutting for the site. The Contractors who currently cut the churchyard provided a very competitive quote of £45 per cut. The Town Clerk has been pleased with this contractor; they have been doing over and above in the churchyard and would like to give them the opportunity to cut Tollgate Rd as it will be useful to assess how they manage an amenity space for when the grass cutting contract is up for renewal

RESOLVED:

To accept the quote and for the contract to be aligned with existing grass cutting contracts

158.5 REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were requested to review the list of 'Outside Bodies' and appoint members to fill the following vacancies:

Southam in Bloom

Editor of Newsletter

Resident Flood Action Group

Civic Ideas Forum

RESOLVED:

That the following representatives are appointed

Southam in Bloom – Cllr Gaffney

Newsletter Editor – Cllr Soni

RFAG – Cllr Bromwich

SCIF – Cllr Bromwich

158.6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members consider the attached planning application:

15/00089/VARY- Green Acres, Coventry Road, Southam, CV47 1BG

RESOLVED:

No representations

158.7 QUESTIONS FOR COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Questions for District Councillors

1. Why does the District Council want to move the Peace Garden away from the Grange?

2. Where are Cllr Ellard and Cllr Crump as neither has been seen for some time?

Question for County Councillor

1. Can WCC explain why Southam Children Centre provision was tendered out and awarded to an organisation that has moved it to inadequate provisioned premises and that have recently been graded by OFSTED as being inadequate in ALL areas?

158.8 THE PEACE GARDEN

Members considered correspondence in relation to the Peace Garden.

Town Mayor Signature _____

RESOLVED:

To advise SDC that the Town Council strongly objects to the peace garden being moved away from the peaceful surroundings of the Grange/Grange Hall area.

159. BURIAL WORKING PARTY

Cllr M Gaffney advised that work was continuing and hoped to bring a report to the March 2015 meeting.

160. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr J Appleton advised the following:

- Discussed the commissioning of the Parenting Project, the new contract was cheaper and administration was simpler. The Town Council advised that they had concerns regarding the quality of the service. Cllr Appleton advised that he would be visiting the new venue.
- That the road at Little Park was dangerous, he had discussed the matter with Orbit and the road has been patched but it is still in a very poor condition.

Cllr A Crump advised the following:

- Also raised the matter regarding Little Park
- Discussed Southam Cricket Club
- Advised that the SDC Council Tax remained the same, broke down the percentages and advised that there were no proposals to cut services
- That public examination of the Core Strategy had taken place and an interim report was due out 20th March
- Housing Applications had been approved in Stockton and Harbury that will put additional pressure regarding places on Southam College

161. 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

162. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated February 2015

163. ALLEGED BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Noted

The meeting closed at 8 40 pm

Town Mayor Signature _____

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B					
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL - FEBRUARY 2015 ISSUE 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
14/03150/FUL	Mr Paul Harper	24 Beech Close, Southam, CV47 1HU	Single storey rear extension and dormer window to rear	4th March 2015	Southam Town Council objects most strongly to this application. It would like the application to be refused and the former already constructed removed. The Council considers it to be over development and out of keeping with the existing building. It has also caused a severe loss of privacy to the neighbouring property.
15/00328/FUL	Mr T Mulkerins & Ms J McNally	9 Lime Road Southam CV47 1EQ	Two storey side and single storey rear extensions	9th March 2015	No representations
15/00253/FUL	Mr Jon- pall Bonnett	Tesco, Northfield Road, Kinetonb Road Industrial Estate Southam CV47 0FG	Change of use of 9no parking spaces in customer car park to hand car wash and valeting operation erection of office and canopy and associated signage	9th March 2015	Southam Town Council objects to this application as it contravenes the conditions regarding numbers of parking spaces required which were imposed when the store was built.
15/00254/ADV	Mr Jon- pall Bonnett	Tesco, Northfield Road, Kinetonb Road Industrial Estate Southam CV47 0FG	Proposed signage consisting of 5no fascia signs and 12 no dibond panel screen/free standing signs	9th March 2015	Southam Town Council objects to this application as it contravenes the conditions regarding numbers of parking spaces required which were imposed when the store was built.
15/00255/FUL	Mr David Hewer	Site adjacent 47 The Furrows, Southam Warwickshire cv47 1TA	Demolition of existing garage and erection of a single bedroom one and a half storey dwellinghouse	11th March 2015	Southam Town Council objects to this application on the grounds of the loss of green space, it is out of keeping with the street scene and over development of the site.
15/00324/FUL	Mr Paul Brown	52 Barkus Close, Southam CV47 1GB	Garage extension to rear	10th March 2015	No representations
15/00439/TPO	Mr Robert Wigley-Smith	Cedar House, 19A Warwick Road, Southam, CV47 0HW	T1: Ash : 15% crown reduction T2: Corsican Pine : 8% crown lift	11th March 2015	Please refer this application to the Arboricultural Officer
15/00260/LBC	Mr Julian Humphreys	The Grange, Coventry Road, Southam CV47 1QB	Alteration to a lightweight partition. The proposal is to remove the boarding on one side, provide insulation. Replace lightweight interlinking door with new solid core fire door. Supply and fix manual remote window opener to 1no. existing top opening light. Redecoration and re carpeting throughout both rooms. Replace 1 no. panel in existing timber panelled door with a pane of Georgian wired glazing. Introduction of swipe card reader against the entrance door to control access into the room.	18th March 2014	No representations

Town Mayor Signature _____