

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY, 26TH APRIL 2018

Present: In the Chair, Mayor, Councillor L Ellard,
Councillors M Connors, A Crump, S Stone, G Foster, M Brooks, A Walster, G Oubridge,
K Mullen, G Barratt & A Jamieson

Apologies: Cllr M Gaffney – Holiday
Cllr T Bromwich

Absent: Cllr K Toner

In Attendance: Mrs D Carro and Mrs D Sanders

**165. APOLOGIES
RESOLVED:**

That the apologies are accepted

166. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr A Crump	Non-Pecuniary Reason	All planning applications Will not take part in any discussion or resolution regarding any planning application in order that it doesn't compromise his position on the SDC Planning Committee
Cllr M Brooks	Non-Pecuniary Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 6 Knows the applicant
Cllr C Mullen	Non-Pecuniary Reason	Planning Application 17/03700/FUL, Southam College Neighbouring property

167. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr A Fearn, 16 Heather Close, Southam

Spoke in objection to planning application 18/00958/FUL 14 Heather Close stating that he was surprised and disappointed, that the bungalows are designed for retired people and that there are covenants in place to protect privacy and restrict extensions, to allow the application to go ahead would destroy the few retirement bungalow areas in Southam.

Mrs M Clayton, 15 Heather Close, Southam

Spoke in objection to planning application 18/00958/FUL 14 Heather Close, that building restrictions apply to Heather Close, that the side elevation would leave me looking at a wall, it will affect light, over shadow and affect the value of my property.

Mrs M Shackleton, 17 Stowe Drive, Southam

Spoke in objection to planning application 18/00958/FUL 14 Heather Close, endorsed what fellow residents said, that covenants are in place to protect the street scene, if granted would set a precedent and would affect the future of Heather Close and potentially devalue my property, also concerned about parking as there is no vehicle access to the front of the property.

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168. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22nd March 2018, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor, subject to the following amendment:

That minute 161 should read “Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy approved”

169. POLICE

The Town Clerk advised that a meeting took place on Monday 16th April 2018 with the Police Crime Commissioner, The Chief Inspector, the Sergeant, Southam College Headteacher, SDC Anti-Social Behaviour, Councillors and Town Clerk to discuss the Anti-Social Behaviour problems in the Town, it was a positive meeting, but the statistics do not show that there a big anti-social behaviour problem in the Town because residents are not reporting incidents via 101, therefore incidents are not recorded and additional resources cannot be deployed.

170. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

i) Invoices were available at the meeting for inspection

RESOLVED:

That the payment of accounts dated April 2018, totalling £41,695.62 (details attached) be authorised

Cllr Crump left the meeting

171. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

171.1 i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated April 2018 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council. (details attached)

Cllr Crump returned to the meeting

171.2 ii) Planning Application decisions dated April 2018

Noted

171.3 iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Cllr Mullen did not take part in the discussion or vote in relation to Planning Application 17/03700/FUL

172. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

172.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

i) Representations from Mr Fearn, Mrs Clayton and Mrs Shackelton were addressed under minute 167

172.2 TAYLOR WIMPEY – LILLEY MEADOW, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM – OFFER OF ADOPTION OF THE SuDs AND POS

Members were requested to consider correspondence from Taylor Wimpey and decide if they are interested in adopting the Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDs) inclusive of Pond and related headwalls on the Lilley Meadow Estate.

RESOLVED:

i) To contact Taylor Wimpey and obtain a red line drawing that identifies the area in question.

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ii)To defer the decision to the May meeting.

172.3 PARK LANE RECREATION GROUND – ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

RESOLVED:

Members considered further correspondence from the resident complaining about Anti-Social Behaviour in the Park Lane Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED:

i)That the resident needs to reporting any incident to the Police either via 101 or Crimestoppers

ii)That the wall in question is private property, as such the Town Council cannot spend public money on private property.

172.4 STAGECOACH MIDLANDS

Members considered correspondence from someone who raised questions concerning public transport with regards to cost and services available. A response from Stagecoach Midlands was also considered.

Noted

172.5 COVENTRY BUILDING SOCIETY

RESOLVED:

That Cllr G Foster replaces Mr J Ward as signatory on the account

172.6 SOUTHAM FIELDS WARD – COUNCILLOR VACANCY

RESOLVED:

That Mr M Ray is co-opted to fill the Councillor in the Southam Fields Ward

172.7 S137 GRANT APPLICATION – CITIZENS ADVICE SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE (CASW)

Members were requested to consider again the S137 Grant Application from Citizens Advice South Warwickshire, Cllr Ellard, Cllr Crump, Cllr Gaffney and myself met with the organisation to discuss costs and whether there are any cost saving opportunities. Unfortunately, the meeting wasn't very positive, the outcome of the meeting is that if the Town Council do not pay the full cost of the service then the service would be withdrawn. Citizens Advice South Warwickshire advised that they have not approached any other Council or organisation for funding as they do not have the resources to do that, legally the Town Council could not pay the full cost as residents from neighbouring villages are making use of the service and Citizens Advise South Warwickshire have advised that they could not limit the service in Southam just for Southam residents.

RESOLVED:

i)To write to CASW advising that the Town Council are prepared to offer financial assistance of £3377 and free room hire at The Grange Hall in order to keep the Outreach Service going.

ii)To advise that they need to contacting Parish Councils in future for funding and look at other funding opportunities such as Tesco's and Southam United Charities.

iii) That contrary to what CASW stated the Town Council has been advised that the contract WCC has with CAB includes outreach to support inclusive access to the service

172.8 COUNCIL MEETING DATES ENV DATES

Noted

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173. **CORRESPONDENCE**

i)Southam Christmas Lights Committee - Grant thank you

Noted

ii)Southam Community Minibus – Grant thank you

Noted

174 **REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES**

174.1 **Minutes of the Environmental Working Party on 12th April 2018**

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr M Brooks Personal Planning Application 18/00456/FUL
ReasonNeighbourhood Plan Working Party

Cllr S Stone Personal Planning Application 18/00456/FUL
ReasonNeighbourhood Plan Working Party

Cllr G Foster Personal Planning Application 18/00456/FUL
ReasonNeighbourhood Plan Working Party

Cllr L Ellard Personal Planning Application 17/03129/FUL
ReasonKnows the applicant

Item 1 - Phil Rafferty – Dog Enforcement Officer - SDC

Phil Rafferty attended the meeting to talk about his role as the new Dog Enforcement Officer at SDC and discuss the issues in Southam and what can be done

Item 2 – Stuart Danskin (SD) – CCTV Supervisor, Community Safety Service

A discussion took place regarding the quotation for CCTV at the Park Lane Recreation Ground

RESOLVED:

- i)That in principle the Town Council agree to fund the installation of CCTV at the Park Lane Recreation Ground**
- ii)That (SD) will provide the Council with a full installation cost within the next month.**
- iii) That (SD) will revisit the site locations of the cameras to ensure that they are positioned to provide the best coverage.**
- iv)That (SD) will investigate the cost of insurance and WIFI hacking**
- v) That SDC will be responsible for administering all the Planning, Consultation and Data Protection necessary to install the CCTV**
- vi)(SD) was advised that the Town Council do have the funds available but hope that there would be some S106 funds remaining from the CCTV at the underpass that can be used to help fund the CCTV at the Park Lane Recreation Ground**

Item 3 – Litter Complaint

Members considered a complaint from a resident regarding litter in the hedgerow along the A423.

RESOLVED:

That as CEMEX is the landowner they are responsible for tidying the area up, therefore the Town Clerk should inform CEMEX of the situation and that Cllr Oubridge should raise the issue at the next CEMEX meeting

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Item 4 – Litter and Graffiti Complaint

Members considered a complaint from a resident regarding litter and graffiti adjacent to the footpath leading to the Holy Well

RESOLVED:

The Council believes the land in question is the responsibility of Orbit and that the Town Clerk should inform Orbit accordingly.

Item 5 – Bench Market Hill

Members considered correspondence from a resident requesting that a bench is installed on Market Hill in view of the Bus Stop. The Town Clerk is currently waiting to hear back from Patch Byrne to ascertain if there are any restrictions from a Highways point of view, regarding where a bench could possibly go.

RESOLVED:

To consider it again once an assessment has been carried out by Patch Byrne

Item 6 - Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Foster reported to members a discussion that took place at the last Community Forum regarding Neighbourhood Watch and how it was pointed out by Jim Bacon (Warwickshire Co-ordinator) that Southam was not a Neighbourhood Watch Area.

RESOLVED:

- i) To advertise the scheme in the Newsletter and on Facebook to ascertain if there are any residents interested in setting up a scheme**
- ii) If there are any residents interested, Cllr Stone would be happy to assist to get a scheme started**
- iii) If there are any interested residents, to try and arrange a meeting with another successful Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in the district to assist the Town Council in getting a scheme up and running**

Item 7 - Speeding

Cllr Foster reported on a discussion that took place at the last Community Forum regarding speeding and how the Town Council can request that a speeding gizmo can be installed for 7 days on stretches of road reported to have high speeding incidence. The gizmo doesn't catch anyone, but it does collect statistics on traffic speeds in order to assess the scale of the problem and possible actions

Noted

Item 8 - General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Town Clerk requested that a Working Party is set up with a couple of councillors to work with the Town Clerk to ensure that the Town Council is complying with the new GDPR Regulations

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Jamieson and Cllr Ellard will work with the Town Clerk to ensure that the Town Council is compliant

Item 9 – Planning Applications

RECOMMENDATION:

See the attached sheet

174.2 Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party on 20th March 2018

Brief Review of Meeting with APS

- GF took the Committee through an overview of the APS meeting. After reviewing our work so far, Neil from APS has put us in Stage 2 (Plan Preparation).

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- MB spoke about Matthew Neal (Neighbourhood Plan contact from SDC) who had asked about how much community engagement we had done so far and emphasized that it was important that the Working Party kept in contact with him to advise about progress.
- GF continued to go through the APS timescale and the breakdown of different areas that could form part of the plan e.g. ‘homes’, ‘community’, ‘built environment’. MB suggested that we could look at our current Vision Statements and see how they fit with these headings.
- GF mentioned ‘call for reserve sites’. The SDC map shows all potential developments over the years. The meeting re-affirmed that we should aim to identify our own site(s) to put in the plan.
- GF ran through slides from APS on designated green spaces and community assets (some of these areas could overlap). Call for sites could also include a site that could be suitable for a burial ground for the area.

Green Space Allocation

- MB took the meeting through the Green Space map. He confirmed that the maximum area you can protect is 19 hectares, so Stowe Valley has been divided in order to meet this requirement. He believes that 4,5 and 17 probably have a good chance of becoming designated green spaces. Having a local monument in the area helps.
- HC asked for allotments other side of Daventry Rd to be added to the map.
- GF thanked HC and LC for the time they took to go around Southam taking photos and collating the areas for the map.
- HC suggested that we need to consult with the local community on these. MB commented that we could do this once they had been assessed but the meeting felt it would be OK to discuss these with the community prior to formal assessment.
- HC also suggested we run a community event where we could ask residents to contribute to the ideas for different areas relevant to the Plan such as green spaces or community assets.

Business Consultation

- MB reported that he had contacted Simon Purfield from SDC about getting a business survey done which would work in a similar way to the Housing Needs survey. The survey used by SDC has generic questions, but we can also include our own. Simon Purfield is unable to give us a quote as he needs to know how many businesses the survey would be going to. The meeting discussed how this information could be obtained.
- A subgroup has been formed to look at the questions we might wish to include in the survey. The group will consist of MB, HC, GC and PP.

Community Group Engagement

The Working Party discussed how we would go about this and MB suggested this could be done initially within the Mayor Making Day on 10 May 2018 as community groups attend this. It was decided that MB and GF would present at this event an introduction of the Neighbourhood Plan and relay ideas of the kind of feedback we will be looking from the groups such as how they see the future of their group and how this could be affected by the development of the town.

Elect an ‘Editor’ for the writing of the Plan

It had been suggested by Neil from APS that we give the rights to edit the Plan to limited members so that the style and presentation could be kept consistent. It was proposed and accepted that Gary Smith should take on this responsibility.

Lions Fete

The Working Party has been approached to see if it wants a stall at this event. It was agreed that we would take one with the possibility of discussing green spaces. SL to confirm this.

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Website

GF asked for comments on this and any ways we can look at refreshing it. It was suggested that GS (as Secretary) might be able to put some brief comments on there about what we had been up to.

Upcoming meetings

There are a lot of Wednesday dates which are difficult for some people. GF may look to change a couple of these if possible.

Discuss next steps

Not enough time at end of meeting to discuss this item and will be moved to the next meeting's Agenda.

AOB

KT mentioned that he had some comments made to him about a cycle route from Southam to Long Itchington. This would be down Coventry Road parallel to the road. GC also keen on this and will investigate it with KT.

174.3 HS2 – LOW FREQUENCY SOUND MEASUREMENTS

Cllr Foster took an action from the last Council Meeting to go back to HS2 regarding Dr Thomas's continuing requests for low frequency (infrasound) noise measurements to be done.

Cllr Foster's understanding of the HS2 position is that, if neither House of Parliament saw fit to instruct HS2 to do anything extra based on Dr Thomas's submission, then neither do they.

At the bottom of it all is a disagreement between experts that it would seem to me to be beyond the scope and ability of the Town Council to resolve.

The only thing that could unblock this would be new evidence from Dr. Thomas to support his assertions. Unfortunately, they are unmoved by Dr. Thomas's rationale.

175. QUESTIONS FOR COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr T Bromwich

Report noted

Cllr A Crump

Advised the following:

- SDC Transport Strategy approved
- Environmental Health are getting involved with regards to the unkept land at 73 Coventry Street
- Tattle Bank – That as it is a private road WCC will not resurface it
- Cllr Crump has been nominated as Parish Champion and has met with Charles Barlow and John Crossling
- Dealing with issues relating to Orbit Housing and Bromford Housing
- Community Payback Dave Adams is pleased with the work carried out at the Ash Path
- In the process of setting up an SOU3 Steering Group, there have already been a couple of issues that needed to be resolved
- Has cleared up an overgrown area in Elm Bank with the help of an amazing 80 yr old resident

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176. 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

177. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise the payment of staff salaries dated April 2018

178. DEPUTY CLERK

The Town Council considered correspondence from the Deputy Clerk advising that she is retiring at the end of June 2018, although totally understandable the Town Council agreed that she has supported the Town Clerk, served the Town Council and residents of Southam extremely well over the past nearly 11 years, that she will be a great loss to the Town, but the Town Council wish her all the very best for her retirement.

RESOLVED:

That the Personnel Working Party take the necessary action (which will include authorising any advertising costs) for her replacement.

Meeting closed at 9.11 pm

April 2018 Council Meeting Issue 2					
APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Comments
17/03700/FUL	Mrs Sue Miller	Southam College, Welsh Road West, Southam CV47 0JW	Full application for a new Sports Hall for joint school and community use involving demolition of existing sports block, a new access and car parking	3rd May 2018	Southam Town Council supports this application but would like to see a financial contribution being made by the college to assist with necessary improvements to the road layout and this may possibly include the provision of a mini roundabout. A management plan to be put in place to control coaches accessing and leaving the site. Monitoring to prevent the coach layby being used as car parking and a reduction in the speed limit on Welsh Road West.
17/00958/FUL	Hobday	14 Heather Close, Southam CV47 1ER	Extensions to the North, East & South elevations	4th May 2018	Southam Town Council strongly objects to this application it considers it to be overdevelopment of the site. The proposal is too close to, too large and out of proportion with neighbouring properties. The south facing extension would dramatically alter the street scene and be in breach of covenants on the property. Also, the drawings are inconsistent with the southfacing external showing no fenestration and the internal showing a window.
18/01166/FUL	Mrs Wincott	Brooklands Farm, Warwick Road, Southam CV47 0HW	Creation of a new access	16th May 2018	Southam Town Council objects to this application. Brooklands Farm is already served by a perfectly good access. The applicant has given no justification for the proposed new access and has not demonstrated a business need.
APPJ3720/W/18/3200274 17/01254/OUT	Rockspring Barwood Southam Ltd	Land to the South of Welsh Road West Southam	Outline application with all matters reserved except for access for up to 175 dwellings and publicly accessible riverside park	5TH June 2018	The Town Clerk to ask SDC on what grounds they will object to this appeal. Delegate to the Town Clerk the decision to employ a planning consultant should those grounds not take account of Southam objections.

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