

SOUTHWOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of Southwold, held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Southwold, at 8.00pm on Tuesday 25th March 2014.

PRESENT: Councillor S J Tobin (Town Mayor) (Chairman)
“ Mrs S Allen
“ Mrs T E Baggott
“ Miss E A Betts
“ I R Bradbury
“ Mrs S M Doy
“ Mrs K P Flodin
“ M Ladd
“ R D Temple
“ J A Windell
“ J R Winter

Also attending: High Steward, Town Clerk, one member of the Suffolk Police, one member of the public and three members of the press.

Trish Scott from the Voluntary Help Centre gave a presentation about the work of the VHC and the funding arrangements for the facilities that they provide. Thanks were provided to Trish for all the work that is carried out by the VHC.

BUSINESS

1. **Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tucker.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - a) *To receive any declarations of Personal Interest regarding the agenda.*
Cllr Doy, Cllr Flodin and Cllr Allen declared a personal interest in item 5(a) and (b) Planning.
 - b) *To receive any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.*
There were no declarations.
 - c) *To note the decision of the Town clerk regarding requests for dispensations relating to this agenda.*
Not applicable.
 - d) *Councillors to be reminded of the requirement for them to individually update their Register of Interests as appropriate.* Noted.
3. **Minutes:** There was one amendment to page 1 section 4(a) last sentence should read “£156 million instead of £456 million”. With this amendment the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 25th February 2014 were confirmed and signed.
4. **Standing Orders:** It was proposed, seconded and,

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended for the consideration of the following item.

- (a) **To receive a report from Suffolk County Councillor M Ladd:**
SCC Cllr Ladd advised that the Cabinet had approved the criteria for the 20mph zones and this criteria will be explained to the next meeting of the Highways and Footpaths Working Group.

- (b) **To receive a report from Waveney District Councillors:**
Cllr Allen advised that the application for Surfworld will go to the Committee on 24th April 2014. Cllr Allen also advised that the new harbour moorings are nearly finished. The WDC budget has been passed and there is a shortfall going forward for the next three years of £2.4m in 15/16, £3.0m in 16/17 and £4.8m in 17/18.

Questions for Cllr Allen: - It was mentioned that the lifeguard equipment on south denes had been damaged. Cllr Allen advised that on a recent walk round with WDC Norse had been asked to note such items needing attention.

- (c) **To receive a report from the police representative:**
The Police had provided a written report for the period covering 24th February – 25th March 2014.

Questions to the Police: - The Police were asked whether it was possible to have better signage along the Halesworth Road to remind motorists to reduce their speed from 60mph to 30mph. The Police advised that this was a matter for SCC. Cllr Ladd advised that speed data had been collected from the Halesworth Road and more data will be collected over the next few weeks. However the phasing of speed reduction signs does not meet SCC criteria but SCC will continue to consider other ways in which this could be managed.

The Police were asked about an incident that had taken place on Victoria Street. The meeting was advised that the Police are trying to get to see the resident.

- (d) **To receive comments from Southwold electors:** There were no comments from Southwold electors.

The Meeting reopened

5. **To receive reports from Committees:**

a) *To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held on Tuesday 25th February 2014.*

The Report was received and noted.

b) *To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held on Tuesday 11th March 2014.*

The Report was received and noted.

6. **To receive reports from Working Groups:**

a) *To receive a verbal report from the Harbour Working Group.*

Cllr Windell advised that the Working Group had had a further meeting with WDC. Concerns connected to the maintenance of the caravan site had been looked at by WDC/Norse and work in rectifying issues was continuing.

b) Update on WWI Memorial Garden.

Cllr Allen advised that herself and Cllr Windell had met Richard Hackney from Norse at Ladies Walk to consider the possibility of the memorial garden. However the area initially considered would be very expensive to create due to its significant size. An alternative area by the mine on North Parade had also been looked at and the Leisure & Environment Working Group will be asked to consider the possibility of this alternative site.

Sowing of seeds on bank at Ladies Walk – Norse had advised that the cost of seeds and topsoil would be in the region of £1500. Boston Seeds would also be able to supply the seeds required. Cllr Allen asked that the sum of £1200 maximum be allocated for this project. Cllr Ladd advised that he would be prepared to match fund the Town Council contribution for the seeds/memorial shrubs. Cllr Windell advised that the W.I. and the Beach Hut Owners would be willing to help with both projects and that the school and cadets will also be asked. Cllr Allen advised that a grant will be applied for to assist with the purchase of shrubs for the memorial garden. Cllr Winter advised that the original poppies in this area were brought home from Flanders by a parishioner and that it would be fitting for further poppies from Flanders to be sown. Cllr Betts advised that the area at the junction of North Parade/Marlborough Road could also be considered. **After full discussion it was RESOLVED to agree a budget of up to £1200 for this project.**

7. To receive update from Town Mayor of events attended/ matters to report including:

Blyth Radio. Mayors monthly update – 3rd March 2014

Blyth Radio, Mayors, Community Emergency Group volunteers talk – 5th March 2014

Mens Christian Fellowship Breakfast Mayors talk and Questions – 8th March 2014

Southwold Rotary Club Charter lunch – 8th March 2014

Mayoral Civic Charity/Organisations

Southwold Sailors Reading Room

Southwold and Reydon Corps of Drums

Other Matters

Red phone box – Defib – to be officially opened on 23rd April 2014.

Memorial Service for Mr Clegg - will take place on 4th April 2014 at 10am.

CCTV – this should be fitted within 3-4 weeks.

Boating Lake – the proprietor will be holding an official opening on Friday to which all councillors are invited.

Arts Festival – Cllr Tobin requested that the Town Hall balcony be used for a PA system. He advised that there would be no more than 2-3 people on the balcony at any one time. It was agreed that the balcony could be used for this purpose and it was suggested that the Town Council formally write to the Arts Festival and provide them with the terms and conditions for the use of the balcony.

8. To receive reports from the Town Council representatives on other bodies/organisations, of meetings attended:

a) Salc Waveney Area Meeting – 10th March 2014. No councillors attended this event.

9. **Southwold Neighbourhood Plan** – *To receive update* – Cllr Windell advised that the consultation period for the area designation had now expired. Confirmation of area designation awaited from WDC. Cllr Windell advised that a working group will be formed and the engagement strategy will be considered.
10. **Southwold Town Plan** –*To receive update* – Cllr Windell reaffirmed that the Town Plan was a very useful practical document and is being used by all of the Working groups/Town Council in relation to projects that it carries out. The meeting were advised that Reydon are now carrying out their own Parish Plan.
11. **Financial Matters**
- a) To receive the Accounts for Payment for March 2014 (*circulated to members*).
It was RESOLVED to approve the payments.
- b) To receive the Financial Report for February 2014 (*circulated to members*)
12. **Correspondence:** to note the items as detailed in the general correspondence file together with;
- a) *Suffolk Records Office consultation to 4th April 2014* – noted.
- b) *Southwold Profile – compiled by WDC from census data* – received.
- c) *Letter from Dept for Communities and Local Government re Council Tax Support Grant.*- noted.
- d) *Police and Crime Commissioner public meeting dates*- noted.
- e) *Letter from Dr T Coffey dated 28.02.14* – noted.
13. **Urgent Business:** to act upon any matter of a non-financial urgency, within the meaning of the Standing Orders, which may be brought to the attention of the Town Council with the consent of the Town Mayor previously obtained.
14. **Exclusion of Public and Press:** Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following;
- a) *To receive and approve the confidential minutes of the Southwold Town Council meeting of 25th February 2014.*
The Confidential Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 25th February 2014 were confirmed and signed.
- b) *To receive confidential verbal report from Landlords Working group regarding properties.*
There were no recommendations to approve.
- c) *To consider confidential report STC8 2014 dated 10th March 2014 from Employment Working Group with recommendations 1 – 7 inclusive.*
The resolutions relating to staffing were considered individually and each one numbered 1-7 inclusive were approved unanimous.
15. **To confirm date of next Town Council Meeting:** Tuesday 29th April 2014.

TOWN MAYOR 29th April 2014