

## SOUTHWOLD TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of Southwold, held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Southwold, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.**

PRESENT:	Councillor	Mrs M C Tucker (Town Mayor)
	“	Miss E A Betts (Deputy Mayor)
	“	I R Bradbury
	“	Mrs S M Doy
	“	M G C Horwood
	“	Mrs J Jeans
	“	M Ladd
	“	D J Palmer
	“	R D Temple
	“	J A Windell

Also attending: The High Steward, 2 media, 12 members of the public and the Town Clerk.

7.30pm prior to the meeting, Andy Evans Chief Executive of Great Yarmouth & Waveney CCG, and Dr Stammers Chair of Great Yarmouth & Waveney CCG provided details of the present public consultation on “The Shape of the System” with particular reference to the future closure of Southwold Hospital and the effect on residents of Southwold, Reydon, Kessingland and other local parishes.

Mr Evans and Dr Stammers took questions from councillors and members of the public.

8pm the Mayor closed this part of the meeting and thanked Mr Evans and Dr Stammers for attending. Mr Evans confirmed that he would arrange for more information about the community care teams to be publicly available so that people could understand how this part of the care would be provided. Mr Evans also advised that 2 further public meetings were being held so that people could make their views known and these are as follows – 9<sup>th</sup> July at Reydon Village Hall at 7.30pm and 13<sup>th</sup> July at Stella Peskett Millennium Hall from 6-8pm.

### **BUSINESS**

1. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr S Allen and Cllr M Rowan Robinson.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
  - a) *To receive any declarations of Personal Interest regarding the agenda.*  
Cllr Doy declared a personal interest in Planning matters.
  - b) *To receive any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.*  
Nil.
  - (c) *Town Clerk regarding requests for dispensations relating to this agenda.*  
Nil.
  - d) *Councillors to be reminded of the requirement for them to individually update their Register of Interests as appropriate.* Noted.

3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015 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 the police representative:** The police had presented apologies for the meeting. Their report was received following the meeting.
  - (b) **To receive a report from Waveney District Councillor M Ladd:** WDC Cllr Ladd updated the meeting about the PSPO for dogs on the beach and promenade. Town Council had previously met with the Environmental Health Officer Andrew Reynolds who had suggested that Southwold become a pilot for the new PSPO legislation, being aware that the dog control order needed amending/updating. Mr Reynolds has now advised that this is not likely to be in place for the summer 2015 as although the PSPO is simple to put in place, difficulties have been encountered in relation to the cessation of the existing dog control order. WDC are taking legal advice on this matter and will ensure that the Town Council are kept updated. Cllr Ladd advised that in view of this delay, he has requested that Norse ensure that there are new and sufficient signage along the beach and prom highlighting present dog control order regulations.

WDC Cllr Ladd took questions from Councillors and the public. WDC Cllr Ladd was asked about the properties on Fieldstile Road which, it was said, were being sold by WDC. Cllr Ladd was asked to confirm whether this was correct, and if so why it was happening. A resident advised that the WDC Cabinet Member for Housing had previously advised him that the previous properties that WDC had sold on Chester Road would be the last ones being sold in Southwold and the resident asked whether this policy had now changed. WDC Cllr Ladd offered to find out the details and advise the Town Clerk accordingly.

A resident asked Cllr Ladd what action WDC/STC was taking about the intended right to buy legislation. The resident was concerned that the present affordable homes being built by Hastoe Housing Association on Blyth Road would be subject to the right to buy legislation. Cllr Ladd advised the resident that there are covenants within the lease to ensure that these properties remain in local ownership and verifications would take place to ensure that this can remain the case. Further discussion took place regarding the potential implications of the right to buy legislation.

- (c) **To receive a report from Suffolk County Councillor M Ladd:** SCC Cllr Ladd advised that SCC has a large devolution agenda and suggested that SCC provide councillors with a full briefing on the details. It was agreed that SCC Cllr Ladd would arrange for a meeting to take place.
- (d) **To receive comments from Southwold electors:** There were no further comments from Southwold electors.

*The Meeting reopened*

5. **To receive reports from Committees:**
- a) *To receive the written report of the meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015.*  
Councillors received the report.
- b) *To receive the written report of the meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015. One recommendation - see agenda item 10) below.*  
Councillors received the report.
6. **To receive reports from Working Groups/ Task and Finish Groups.**
- a) *To receive a written report from the meeting with Police, SCC officer, and SCC Cllr Ladd in relation to highways/ policing matters – held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015. No recommendations to consider.*  
The report was received by all.
- b) *To receive written report from Landlords meeting of 4th June 2015 meeting with Spring. No recommendations to consider.*  
The report was received by all.
- c) *To receive written report from Accounts Best Value meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Recommendations in relation to the Risk assessment 2015/16, delegated emergency financial powers, and working group reports. See written report ACC 1/15.*

**Recommendations.**

**It is the recommendation of the working group that;**

**Policy – Risk Assessment**

**1 a) The amended wording for the Risk Assessment for 2015/16 is approved. (as circulated to councillors).**

**1 b) That the Town Council notes the action required within Controls (xii) and seeks to discuss the matter further at a date to be determined.**

**Committees – emergency delegated powers**

**The Financial Standing Orders be amended to reflect that the limit for Town Council approval of payments under sections 1.14, 4.1, 4.5, 5.9 11.ih be increased to £7500. This will enable such an emergency payments be made All other controls to remain as at present.**

**Working groups/ task and finish groups.**

**Reports from working groups/ task and finish groups that are referred to in the Town Council agenda, be made available with public copies of the Town Council agenda, and on the website. Note that this will not apply to any confidential papers that are dealt with in a confidential section of a meeting.**

**It was RESOLVED unanimously to accept all recommendations from the Accounts, Best Value Working Group as above.**

*d) To receive a report from the Neighbourhood Plan group – meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015. No recommendations to consider.*

Cllr Bradbury advised that he would do a full report under Agenda item 7 below.

7. **Southwold Town Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan**

a) *Feedback from Town Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan Event held at St Edmunds Hall held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015.*

Cllr Windell provided feedback from this event. It was felt that the event had been well received, whilst acknowledging that the Neighbourhood Plan section was technical and may need to be made less technical if a similar event is held in the future.

b) *Feedback from Neighbourhood Plan Community Engagement Event held at Stella Peskett Millennium Hall – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2015.*

Cllr Bradbury advised that the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had attended this event which had been organised by WDC.

c) *Feedback from Neighbourhood Plan Community Engagement Event held at Arts Festival Street Festival - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015.*

Cllr Bradbury advised that this event had been very well attended and was very positive in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan. Approximately 130 questionnaires were handed out on the day and these are already being returned. A questionnaire will be placed inside the Annual Report when it is produced.

8. **To receive update from Town Mayor of events attended including;**

*Charter Fair – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015*

*Civic Sunday - 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015*

*St Barnabas AGM*

*Arts Festival Opening – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015*

The Town Mayor advised that there had been much positive feedback from Civic Sunday – especially in regard to the new venue. Thanks were extended to Cllr Doy for organising the parade in and out of church and to all councillors, partners and friends who had assisted the Town Mayor on this day.

*Future Engagements;*

*Mayor of Ipswich – At Home event – 10<sup>th</sup> July 2015*

*Hadleigh Civic Service – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015*

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

a) *To receive report from Salc Waveney Area Meeting date – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015*

Cllr Doy provided a report from the Waveney Area Meeting. WDC Jack Green had been the guest speaker discussing “projects to improve quality of open spaces”.

Cllr Doy advised that the Town Council could submit a motion for the SALC AGM. Within the reports from individual parishes, Southwold Town Council was congratulated for the poppies on Ladies Walk.

b) *To receive report from representative on Allotments Association.*

Cllr Doy provided a report from the recent Allotment Association meeting. There is presently a waiting list of 12 for an allotment. The Allotment Holders had voiced concern that Hastoe may have left the site before being able to carry out the provision of the 2 new allotments (which have been held up with legal teams). Cllr Ladd advised that it had been his understanding that should Hastoe leave the site, they would pay for an independent contractor to rotavate the area needed for the new allotments.

Cllr Doy also advised that the Allotment Holders Association believed that there may be a marsh free at present. Town Clerk to liaise with Cllr Allen.

c) *To receive report from meeting regarding Sizewell C held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015.* Cllr Bradbury provided the debrief from the recent meeting that councillors had attended with EDF in relation to Sizewell C. A visit to Sizewell B has been offered to the Town Council – date to be arranged. A report of the key points discussed during the meeting was tabled to all councillors.

10. **Southwold Hospital Site recommendation**

*To receive report of Public consultation meetings re Southwold Hospital.*

***Recommendation from Planning and Development Cttee;***

***That the Town Council seeks to list the Hospital site as an Asset of Community Value.***

**After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ladd that the recommendation be altered to read “the Town Council nominates the hospital site as an asset of community value.” Proposal seconded.**

**It was unanimously RESOLVED that the Town Council nominates the hospital site as an asset of community value.**

11. **Correspondence:** to note the items as detailed in the general correspondence file together with;

a) *Southwold and Halesworth SNT- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 – Halesworth Library at 5pm.*

b) *SALC LAIS 1381 – Fly grazing. Noted.*

c) *Suffolk Local Policing Review – meeting 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at Halesworth police station. Noted.*

d) *Dementia-friendly communities – information from Kathy Ryan who is looking for support from the Town Council. Noted.*

e) *Letter from Southwold Jacks dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Noted.*

f) *Invitation to Sizewell C Community Engagement events. Noted.*

12. **Financial Matters**

a) **Accounts for Payment** - *To receive the accounts for payment for June 2015 (circulated to members).* **It was RESOLVED by all to approve the Accounts for Payment.**

b) **Town Council 2015 – 2019 Financial Strategy briefings** – *following briefing on 9<sup>th</sup> June, councillors to note that the next meeting will be held on Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> 2015. 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;*

**Recommendation - To progress staffing matters referenced in Employment working group confidential report dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Report referenced EMP 1/15.**

**It was RESOLVED by all to approve the recommendations contained within report EMP 1/15.**

**15. Date of next Town Council Meeting:**

Tuesday 28th July 2015 at 8.00pm at the Town Hall.

\_\_\_\_\_ TOWN MAYOR 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015