

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2003**

**1. PRESENT**

Mrs Harrison presided over Mesdames Collins, Holmes, Warwick and Reddick, Messrs. Leith, Fisher, Steeples, Blake and Wren. District Councillors Messrs Brown and Chapman, P C Battams.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Mr. Mackin, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Gray, Mr. Fisher, District Councillor Mr. Birt and County Councillor Mr. Younger.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed. Mr. Fisher noted that he had attended the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May but had been omitted from the list of those present.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

None.

**5. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This report could not be given due to the absence of Town Mayor Mr. Mackin.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from Mid Beds D C regarding Community Preparedness for Flooding. A reminder to Town and Parish Councils of the offer from MBDC to provide sandbags to Councils at risk of flooding to enable the public to access sandbags locally. Also for such Councils to identify possible locations to make sand available locally for the filling of empty sandbags.

An invitation has been received from the Shefford Craft and Produce Show for a member of the Council to attend and present prizes.

A further request has been received by e-mail for volunteer drivers to help with the running of the Wanderbus scheme. A MIDAS Certificate is not required but potential drivers will be assessed by Mr. Alan Dean as to their skill and competence.

Bedfordshire Police Authority have invited a member of the Council to attend the Official Launch of the Annual Policing Plan 2003 on July 9<sup>th</sup>. The event will be hosted by the Chairman of Bedfordshire Police Authority Adrian Heffernan and the Chief Constable Paul Hancock.

A letter has been received by District Councillor Mr. Brown from MBDC enclosing a letter from Bedfordshire County Council re Landscape Buffer Planting to rear of Barratt development A507, Shefford. The Highway Authority would not consider providing additional landscaping for the purpose of screening a recently completed development. If the Town or District Council wanted to undertake some additional planting on the verge at this location then a licence would need to be obtained from the County Council.

Documentation received from B R C C regarding a meeting to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> July. A copy of the documentation was given to Mrs. Collins who said she would like to attend.

A donation of £355 was sought from the Shefford Town Memorial Association for grass cutting. It was agreed that this should be paid.

An invitation was received from the Countryside Agency regarding a Seminar on Parish Transport Grant Funding. Mrs. Collins said she would attend the seminar on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following reports were adopted :

Planning and Environment	4.6.2003 and 18.6.2003 Subject to the amendment 936:6/2003 AOB 'area of Powells Road' should read 'off Old Station Way' and an omission of a discussion on the nuisance of mosquitoes In the area.
Services and Maintenance	11.6.2003
Finance and Policy	18.6.2003

## **8. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

The report could not be given due to the absence of County Councillor Mr. Younger.

## **9. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

This was given by District Councillors Messrs. Brown and Chapman

## **10. ACCOUNTS**

Accounts as listed in the Minute Book were approved for payment.

## **11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A letter to be written to the organisers of the Summer Fayre to thank them for their efforts.

A cherry tree in Southbridge Street is to be planted to replace a previous tree

A strongly worded letter is to be written demanding clearance of the debris and associated matter in the river at Southbridge.

Progress has been made on the Bedford Road sports field and a small established charity has been formed for the football ground which will be managed by trustees. There will probably have to be a re-siting of the 30 mph speed limit sign at the site of the proposed football ground.

A request was made for a local swimming pool but it was thought that there are sufficient pools in the area such as Biggleswade, Flitwick, Bedford, Hitchin and Henlow.

## **12. TO CO-OPT TO FILL TWO VACANCIES**

Mr. Michael R Coward and Mr. Robert Dear were co-opted on to the council and agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*