

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2004**

### **PRESENT**

Mr. Mackin presided over Mesdames Harrison, Collins, Warwick and Holmes, Messrs. Gray, Fisher, Leith and Coward, County Councillor Mr. Younger, District Councillors Messrs. Birt, Brown and Chapman, PC N. Battams and guest PCSO L. Iddon.

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Mrs. Reddick, Messrs. Steeples, Wren, Blake, Fletcher and Dear.

### **2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Mrs. Harrison and Mr. Mackin declared an interest in Item 11 on the Agenda - To Appoint a School Governor to Shefford Lower School.

### **3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the Previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

None.

### **5. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Before the Town Mayor's announcements were made, PCSO Leigh Iddon gave an informative talk on the powers awarded to Police Community Support Officers and their role within the community.

Mr. Mackin drew the member's attention to the forthcoming volunteers meeting on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Hall. He further explained that it was hoped to introduce a Volunteers Register to list possible helpers and a range of groups who need volunteers to help them function.

Mr. Mackin announced that there would be a Flood Team Meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup> and various groups who are thought to be able to provide assistance have been invited to attend. It is hoped to form a group that would respond during a flood event to give assistance to residents who are affected by floodwater.

Finally, Mr. Mackin stated that there is to be a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> February at which Mr. Adrian Heffernan, Chairman of the Bedfordshire Police Authority, will answer any questions put to him about the Police Authority in general. Mr. Mackin urged all members who have an interest in policing policy to attend.

### **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 A letter from Mid Beds D C offering a further opportunity for training in respect of the Members' Code of Conduct and a reminder that Members should review their Declarations of Interest Forms on a regular basis in order to ensure they are accurate and up to date.

- 6.2 Crime records for Shefford between 1<sup>st</sup> December 2003 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003
- 6.3 Information from Beds C C re notice of a road closure in Stanford – the UC155 The Crescent. The expected closure will be for one week commencing Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February. The document included an alternative route.
- 6.4 Notification from Bedfordshire Police as to the number of people that were dealt with for exceeding the speed limit between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2003 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 – 6 motorists in Bedford Road, 2 motorists in Churchill Way and 10 motorists in Amphill Road.
- 6.5 Several journals received :- Funding Times, Mid Beds Voluntary News, Mid Beds Community Plan, Clerks & Councils Direct, Local Councils Update, Mid Bedfordshire – A Time for Discovery, New Offices Update.
- 6.6 Mid Beds D C Forward Plan – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2004 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2004.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following were adopted:

Planning and Environment of 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2004.

Services and Maintenance of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2004.

Finance and Policy of 21<sup>st</sup> January 2004.

## **8. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

This was given by Mr. Younger.

## **9. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

This was given by Mr. Brown, Mr. Birt and Mr. Chapman.

## **10. ACCOUNTS**

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

## **11. TO APPOINT A SCHOOL GOVERNOR TO SHEFFORD LOWER SCHOOL**

Mr. Mackin was proposed. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Gray and agreed unanimously that Mr. Mackin be appointed.

## **12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

It was noted that the post box adjacent to the 'Woolpack' public house has been sealed off.

Mrs. Collins asked if the members had any objection to her having sight of an Ivel & Ouse Countryside Project Report in order to pass on relevant information to her team of members working on the Town Plan. There were no objections.

A question was asked regarding the possibility of Shefford having a swimming pool. It was thought that building and maintenance costs would be vast and not practicable.. Mr. Birt said that swimming pools are never self sufficient and the pools in both Biggleswade and Flitwick are subsidised by other on site facilities. A suggestion was made as to whether or not a smaller pool would be more viable.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

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