

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2006**

**PRESENT**

Mr Mackin presided over Mesdames Harrison and Holmes, Messrs. Dear, Gray, Fisher, Leith, Steeples and Wren. District Councillors Messrs Birt and Chapman, PC Battams.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Mesdames Reddick and Clark, Mr Gray, District Councillor Mr Brown and County Councillor Mr Younger.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Amendment to Minute 1323 : 2/2006 (24<sup>th</sup> February 2006) : District Councillor Mr Brown was present at that meeting and District Councillor Mr Birt sent apologies.

The Minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February were confirmed and signed.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

None.

**5. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Mayor informed those present that the Annual Town Meeting would take place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April at the Meeting Room of the Methodist Chapel in Amphill Road at 7.30 p.m. and the proposed agenda was read out accordingly.

The Mayor also informed those present that he had attended the Town & Parish Councils Reception which had been a 'combined event' run jointly by both the County and District Councils and further expressed his enjoyment at seeing both parties working together.

Information received earlier in the week indicated that PC Battams had been seconded to the ASBO Reduction Unit and would cease to be Shefford's Beat Manager from 3<sup>rd</sup> April. The Mayor thanked PC Battams on behalf of both himself and the Town Council for his excellent work in the town and wished him all the very best for the future and further stated how sorry he was to lose an Officer of such high calibre.

Mr Wren then gave a brief resumé on the progress of the Summer Gala on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Requests for a stall were going extremely well as were the number of floats but progress towards arranging arena events was slow.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 6.1 Recorded Nuisance Incidents February 2006 : Recorded Crime Incidents February 2006.
- 6.2 Letter from a resident regarding the Town Council's Precept for year 2006/7
- 6.3 An invitation to CPRE'S AGM and a presentation on Renewable Energy.
- 6.4 Watch Wide News – Beds Police/Homewatch – Spring 2006.
- 6.5 Pamphlet from the British Schools Museum in Hitchin.
- 6.6 Mid Beds District Council Forward Plan 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2006.
- 6.7 Various Publications : Bedfordshire Matters (CPRE), Horizon, Fieldwork (CPRE), Network (BRCC), Local Councils Update – Issues 75/6, Parent Partnership News, Bedfordshire, Clerks & Councils Direct, Local Councils Update – Issue 77, Networking East, NHS Heartlands Headlines, Countryside Voice (CPRE).

## **7. POLICE REPORT**

This was given by PC Battams.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following were adopted :

Planning and Environment of 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

Services and Maintenance of 8<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

Finance & Policy of 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

## **9. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

As County Councillor Mr Younger was aware that he would be unable to attend the meeting, he had sent an e:mail to the Town Council with a view to updating those present on various situations within both the town and county which was read out by the Mayor.

## **10. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

This was given by District Councillor Mr Birt and District Councillor Mr Chapman. The Mayor read out some notes from an e:mail previously sent by District Councillor Mr Brown.

## **11. ACCOUNTS**

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

**1337 : 3/2006**

## **12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

None.

The Meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

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