

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 27TH APRIL 2007

PRESENT

Mr. Mackin presided over Mesdames Harrison, Reddick and Clark. Messrs. Fisher, Gray, Coward and Leith. District Councillor Brown, County Councillor Younger and PC Busby.

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes, Messrs. Smith, Dear and Wren. District Councillors Chapman and Birt.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 30th March 2007 were confirmed and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. POLICE REPORT

PC Busby reported on both the Crime Statistics for Shefford in April and the recent spate of metal theft which is being experienced in the town. Anybody with information should contact him directly on either his mobile phone or by e:mail.

6. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mayor pointed out that this was the last meeting of the current Council and thanked all Councillors for their time and effort over the last term of Council. As there were only 12 applications for the office of Councillor there was now a need to fill the three vacancies. Anybody who wishes to serve on the Council should contact the Clerk and give any relevant experience.

The Mayor also stated that now was an ideal time for members to consider which committee they wanted to serve on and then inform the Clerk if they wished to change. There is an exciting period ahead and it is hoped that the Town Council will be able to have more input on the decisions affecting local issues.

The Gala committee is still looking for more volunteers, both on the day and the run-up to the event.

The Annual Town Meeting was reasonably well attended with no major concerns or problems being raised.

Nominations are still need for both men and women to be recipients of the OVPPF Cup.

The Cup is awarded to any male or female who has served the community well over the last year.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 E:mail from Shillington Parish Council enquiring if Shefford Town Council was interested in 'sharing' a PCSO by way of joint funding.

7.2 Letter from Bedfordshire County Council regarding the Southbridge Footway and Pedestrian Crossing in Bedford road.

7.3 Mid Beds District Council Forward Plan 1st May 2007 to 31st August 2007.

7.4 Letter from Technical & Development Services enquiring if the Town Council would like to adopt the Public Open Space Development at Priory Close off Ampthill Road.

7.5 Letter from the Leader of the County Council regarding the recent Town and Parish Council Briefing Sessions.

7.6 Letter from the East of England Regional Assembly regarding Regional Gypsy and Traveller Engagement Event.

7.7 Various publications : Watch Wide News – Spring 2007, Local Councils Update, Local Council Review.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following were adopted :

Planning and Environment of 4th and 18th April 2007.

Services and Maintenance of 11th April 2007.

Finance and Policy of 18th April 2007.

9. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

County Councillor Younger informed those present that the likelihood of having a pelican crossing in Bedford Road was now looking more probable.

With regard to the possibility of New Street becoming a one-way traffic flow system, Councillor Younger stated that the Highways Department viewed the request as both 'low priority' and extremely costly.

Copies of both the Town Council's letter to the Chief Constable and the petition from residents of Kingfisher Road urging the Town Council to support them in their request for more visible policing are to be forwarded to Cllr. Younger.

1502 : 4/2007

10. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Cllr. Brown updated those present on the new kitchen waste recycling scheme which has now been taken-up by several thousand residents in the Mid Beds area.

Cllr. Brown also offered to inform the members as to the description of the Planning Permission granted in respect of the three dwellings in Elm Road.

11. ACCOUNTS

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

12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Report of a light not working in Iveldale Drive.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.
