

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2008**

**PRESENT**

Mr. Mackin presided over Mesdames Clark, King, Reddick and Holmes. Messrs. Coward, Fisher, Dear and Leith.  
District Councillors Brown and Chapman. PC Busby and PCSO Richardson.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Mrs. Harrison, Messrs. Gray, Pollard and Wren. County Councillor Younger.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008 were confirmed and signed subject to one amendment :

1615 : 2/2008 – Mr. Leith was present at the full Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

**4. MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

None.

**5. POLICE REPORT**

PC Busby reported on the recent incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour that had occurred in the town.

**6. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor gave out details of a missing person named Bill Dove. A photograph of Mr Dove is to be displayed in the Town Meeting Room window.

The Annual Town Meeting will take place at the Methodist Church meeting room on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 p.m.

Following a meeting with the County Council's Youth Service representative and Beds police we have received considerable funding from the County Council to be used for youth related projects, primarily for providing premises that can be used by youth groups.

Enquiries are currently being made with the agents regarding an empty industrial estate unit in Old Bridge Way. There is still a lot of work to be done but the project is looking positive.

The police have increased their presence in the town mainly with PC Busby and the two PCSO's working overtime and additional patrols by the 'Section Van' and other mobiles.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 Shefford safer Neighbourhood Team report – Recorded Crime/Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents.

7.2 Notification of temporary road closures – various road – Beds C C.

7.3 Site Approval-portable signals – Ampthill Road/New Street – Beds Highways.

7.4 Two letters and photographs from residents regarding concerns about the possible erection of a bus shelter outside their residences. At this point the Mayor responded to the concerns of both residents who were present at the meeting.

7.5 Invitation to *Arts Aloud* - 29<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 p.m. Priory House.

7.6 Mid Beds Forward Plan – 1 April to 31 July 2008.

7.7 Various publications : The Bulletin – Standards Board for England issue 37, Fieldwork – CPRE, Shuttleworth College prospectus, Local Councils Update, Beds-Spread, Hurricane, Town & Parish standard – March 2008, Clerk & Councils Direct, Bedfordshire Parent Partnership News – Spring 2008.

7.8 Bedfordshire & Luton Combined fire Authority Budget 2008/9.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following were adopted :

Planning and Environment of 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

Services and Maintenance of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

Finance and Policy of 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

## **9. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

This could not be given as Cllr. Younger was unable to attend the meeting.

## **10. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

It was reported that the new Unitary Authority is almost certain to be Central Beds despite the current judicial review.

There is to be a meeting of the Shadow Executive on 10<sup>th</sup> April and the new unitary will take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.

Cllr. Chapman reported that he had not received an update on the proposed Tesco retail store for nearly three months.

Meetings are to take place between the District Council, Postwatch and Royal Mail regarding the impending Post Office closures.

**1628 : 3/2008**

## **11. ACCOUNTS**

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

## **12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Concerns were raised that since the dropped kerb had been installed at the bottom of Ivel Road there was a greater frequency of flooding in the area thus causing a problem for pedestrians. It was also reported that buses were cutting off the corner when navigating the bend. Beds Highways are to be contacted to see if the regular kerbing can be re-instated and are also to enquire if a yellow junction box to be painted on the road with a view to avoiding congestion at the Ivel Road/Clifton Road junction.

The meeting finished at 9.20 p.m.

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