

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

### **PRESENT**

Mr. Mackin presided over Mesdames Harrison, Clark and Reddick. Messrs. Fisher, Dear, Pollard, Steeples, Leith and Wren.

District Councillors Brown, Birt and Chapman. PC Busby and PCSO Keen.

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Mesdames Holmes and King, Mr. Coward. County Councillor Younger.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

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

The Minutes of the meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> August 2008 were confirmed and signed.

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

None.

### **5. POLICE REPORT**

This was given by PC Busby and PCSO Keen who reported on incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour that occurred between 1<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

### **6. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor reminded members about the Remembrance Service on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November. The assembly time is 10.30 am and any donations towards a wreath can be given to the clerk.

### **7. GALA REPORT**

Mr. Wren gave a short report on this year's gala. Three new members have joined the committee but there is always a need for more volunteers. Cheques from the Gala fund are to be sent out to groups that performed in the arena events. etc.

The next meeting of the Gala committee will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm in the Council Chamber.

### **8. FARMERS MARKET REPORT**

Mr. Pollard informed those present that the third Farmers Market on 13<sup>th</sup> September had again been very successful with 14 stalls on site. As the October market will be on the same day as the Charter fair it was decided that the stalls will be sited in North Bridge Street. All stallholders reported that they are happy with the great atmosphere that the market generates. It is hoped that the Fire Service will attend the November market and a Father Christmas will be present at the December Market. Stallholders did not have to pay for the first three markets but from October there will be a charge of £5 per stall.

**1683 : 9/2008**

### **9. CORRESPONDENCE**

9.1 Recorded Crime and Anti-social report from Beds police for the period 01/04/2008 to 31/08/2008.

9.2 Stakeholder Update 3 – Mid Beds D C.

9.4 Letter from Carillion WSP re A1 Trunk Road : Roadworks between Biggleswade North and Sandy Roundabouts – temporary closure for essential maintenance.

9.5 Invitation to LAA Reference Group – clerk to attend

9.6 Information from NHS Bedfordshire.

9.7 Various publications : Beds-Spread, Clerks & Councils Direct.

## **10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following were adopted :

Planning and Environment of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Services and Maintenance of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Finance and Policy of 17<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

## **11. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

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

## **12. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

A meeting of the Central Beds Executive is to take place next Tuesday where several issues will be discussed i.e. the roles of Directors, which sites employees will be based. The corporate base will be at Chicksands, approx 450 people at Dunstable and the rest at County Hall.

Energy from waste is also to be discussed along with how services will be delivered from Day One. A visit from John Healey is due to take place on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

The Core Strategy was approved on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

Discussions have also taken place regarding the additional site allocations but no sites have yet been approved. Information will come to Town/Parish Councils in due course.

The food waste programme is progressing well. In respect of the local BeAR project a D C representative will be visiting Sheffield to see how their system works.

The District Council's investment policy is being reviewed as a matter of course.

The concerns raised over the closing of various pharmacies is also under discussion at the D C, particularly with regard to those sited in smaller communities.

The Kingfisher Way play area is still under the control of the developer. Several applications have been made to the Land Registry but so far without success.

**1684 : 9/2008**

## **13. ACCOUNTS**

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

#### **14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Request was made for the grass to be cut at old Shefford Business Park site.

A contractor is to be requested to cut back the vegetation along the river paths.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.