

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 26TH JUNE 2009

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes, Messrs. Dear, Wren and Coward.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the 29th May were confirmed and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. POLICE REPORT

PC Busby reported on incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour in the town for the month of May 2009.

6. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported that the new Morrison's store was now open and is very busy. It is hoped to put a 'Gala Notice' on their community notice board.

Planning for the Gala on 19th July is going well but more help is still needed.

During the week the Mayor had spoken to three visitors who had expressed very positive comments on how tidy the town was and how pleasant the river walks were. Further congratulations were also received regarding the Farmers Market.

The Farmers Market is now one year old next month. This was mainly due to a lot of hard work by several people but particularly Cllr. Pollard and his leadership of the Shefford Markets Group. The Mayor wished to publicly pass on both his and the Council's thanks for all his efforts.

7. GALA REPORT

This could not be given in full due to the absence of Mr. Wren. However, Mrs. Clark reported that there were now over 40 stalls booked but still more volunteers were needed.

8. FARMERS MARKET REPORT

Mr. Pollard reported that the Gala was now a year old and that on average 16 stallholders had attended.

It was hoped to have a cake made to celebrate the first anniversary. It was suggested that the Gala Queen and Princess could be asked to cut the cake by way of celebration. Miss Bedfordshire is also to be invited.

It is hoped that an article for the Farmers Market 'cookbook' will be ready for the next issue of the Newslime magazine.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Letter from Beds police informing the Council of changes and personnel of the area Safer Neighbourhoods Team.

9.2 Letter from Sgt. Denham of Beds police informing the Council that he will no longer be involved with community policing but will remain with the police as the Divisional Training co-ordinator.

9.3 Notice of Portable Signals from Central Beds Council re the Clifton Rd/Bury Rd junction on 6th July 2009.

9.4 Various publications : Local Council Review, Fieldwork, News Central, Beds-Spread, Local Councils Update, Bedfordshire Biker, Bulletin – War Memorials Trust, Camera Shy – Herts CCTV Newsletter – May 2009.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following were adopted :

Planning and Environment of 3rd and 17th June 2009

Services and Maintenance of 10th June 2009

Finance and Policy of 17th June 2009

11. CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE REPORT

Cllr. Brown reported that he now had a responsibility for Development Management and the Luton and Bedford Fire and Rescue Service.

Cllr. Birt now has a responsibility for Auditing and Licensing. The Executive post is still held by Jaki Salisbury on a temporary basis with Tricia Turner as Council Leader and Richard Stay as her Deputy.

Cllr. Brown raised concerns that not only had the cemetery road become very 'pitted' but the pathway has only been re-surfaced up to the end of the housing from Campton turn and not the whole way to the cemetery entrance.

12. ACCOUNTS

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

1777 : 06/2009

13. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident reported on an LDF (Core Strategy) meeting that on he had recently attended which was chaired by a representative from HM Planning Inspectorate.

A further meeting relating to proposed development in Shefford and surrounding areas will be held next Wednesday at 9.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.