

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Sandbach Town Council held on 17 October 2002 in the Council Chamber, Westfields.

PRESENT

Councillors: Mrs D E Alcock, Chairman
M J Wood, Vice-Chairman
Councillors: B Brindley
Mrs D Flint
Mrs R D Frost
J M Goode
E A Lea
D Lloyd Griffiths
Mrs P M Minshull
J J Moore
D Robinson
R W Sutton
A J Walker

The Opening Prayer was read by the Rev Nick Blundell.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: Mrs E J Rubidge
N T Price
L Morris
J Iddon

2. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman stated that with the agreement of Members she would allow member's emergency agenda item 12.1.

RESOLVED: that the agenda item is allowed.

Her appointments since the last meeting were: -

14 Sept NW Infantry Band Concert
15 Sept Middlewich Civic Parade and Service
15 Sept RAFA Battle of Britain Air Force Parade
27 Sept Lions Youth Brass Band Concert
28 Sept Opening ceremony Salt Line Way
28 Sept Closing ceremony Sandbach Today
4 Oct CBC Mayor's Ball
6 Oct Astbury Harvest Thanksgiving Service
9 Oct Sandbach School Commemoration Service
12 Oct Sandbach RUFC cheque presentation
15 Oct Sandbach Park Development Meeting

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2002

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAYS, 19 SEPTEMBER AND 10 OCTOBER 2002

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2002

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. MATTERS REFERRED FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2002

6.1 Sandbach School All-weather Pitch Appeal

That a donation of £5,000 is made now and it is recommended that when preparing the budget for 2003/4 the Council should include a further £5,000 donation.

RESOLVED: that the payment is confirmed.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL DELEGATES / SUB-COMMITTEES

7.1 Best Kept Village / Civic Pride Competition

The results of the 2002 competition were presented by Cllr Sutton, Chairman of the Sandbach in Bloom Committee. The performance was very disappointing and the negative areas were mainly the responsibility of CBC. A Borough Councillor felt the report was a terrible indictment of the performance of some sections of CBC but attempts by councillors to have the problems addressed met evasion. One member found that promised corrective work in his ward was not done. Another felt that the criticism of the station was unfair.

RESOLVED: that a copy of the report is sent to Joint Highways with regard to car parks and CBC Environment with regard to waste issues. Copies should also be sent to each of the six members of the Borough Executive.

It was noted that the new manager at Kwik Save Store had improved the service area dramatically.

RESOLVED: that he is sent a letter of thanks.

7.2 Police Forum

Cllr Sutton reported that the area has a new Inspector, Superintendent Jackson. There is a significant, noticeable increase in policing. The Community Action Team has increased in strength from 1 Sergeant and three Officers to 1 Sergeant and six Officers. Logging on is now done at Sandbach. Crime rate is down. Cllr Sutton urged everyone to co-operate with the Team.

RESOLVED: that a letter is sent welcoming Superintendent Jackson.

8. SANDBACH MAY DAY MARKET

The May Day Festival Committee had reconsidered their position but still felt that they were unable to take on the job again in 2003.

RESOLVED: that CBC are informed that Sandbach Town Council are not able to take responsibility for any Market to be held on May Day next year.

9. SANDBACH YOUTH PROJECT

RESOLVED: that the Council representatives are Cllr Mrs D Flint and Cllr N Price.

10. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME

Under the above Act the Council is obliged to adopt a Publication Scheme and submit it to the Information Commissioner by 31 December 2002.

RESOLVED: that the Model Publication Scheme for Local Councils (Core Classes Only) is approved for adoption by Sandbach Town Council.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 Cheshire County Council Bus Shelter Scheme

Before the opening of the bypass the Sandbach bound bus shelter had been damaged by vehicle impact several times and hence should have been replaced as part of the bypass project. A new shelter near Forge Fields would be useful.

RESOLVED: that the County Council are told that the bus shelter on the wrong side of the road was replaced as part of the bypass project. In addition the County should be asked the size of the budget for Sandbach bus shelters and how it compares with towns of similar size.

11.2 Cranage Parish Council – minutes of meeting

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the combined Councils meeting on 17 September are received.

11.3 Cheshire County Council Group Librarian

The request that the Town Council notice board at the Library is relocated was discussed without any agreement that the move would be of benefit to the Library.

It was noted that if the Council had an office in the Town, perhaps combined with an Information Office, the notice board should be located at the office.

RESOLVED: that a letter is written asking what is the extent of the new scheme for the library and stating that the existing location for the notice board is preferred to the suggested new location on the left of the entrance to the library.

11.4 CBC Chapel Street Car Park

CBC stated that provision has been made for the inclusion of a replacement public car park within the design for the Chapel Street development.

RESOLVED: that a letter is written asking what are the detailed plans and when will they be implemented. The Council hopes that it will be in the near future.

11.5 Joint Highways - Junction of Old Mill Road and Newcastle Road

It was decided that the Council's concern should be re-emphasised.

RESOLVED: that a letter is written to Mr Chiverton emphasising the great danger and pointing out the increase in traffic due to the transportation study changes. He should also be asked about when the ridiculous parking arrangements on Newcastle Road will be put right.

11.6 CBC– Joint Meetings with Cheshire County Council

The recent Area 2 Forum had been well attended and was useful.

RESOLVED: that the report is received, that the initiative is welcomed and that the views expressed in the report are supported.

12. EMERGENCY MEMBER'S ITEM

12.1 317 Cllr J J Moore - Congleton twinning visit to Trappes

The group of people on an exchange visit to Trappes this coming weekend included a number from Sandbach. At the last minute accommodation at some of the French homes was not available and hotels would be used. This would affect the Sandbach contingent. A sum of £500 was requested to allow the trip to continue.

RESOLVED: that the Council meeting is adjourned and an emergency meeting of the Finance Committee is convened.

Emergency Meeting of Sandbach Town Council Finance Committee to discuss Item 12.1 of the Town Council Meeting above.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council will make up the Twinning Committee short fall resulting from the last minute change in accommodation to a maximum of £500.

The Finance Committee Meeting was closed and the Town Council Meeting reconvened.

RESOLVED: that the Finance Committee resolution is confirmed.

13. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: that the next meeting of the Sandbach Town Council be held on Thursday 28 November 2002 in the Council Chamber at Westfields.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

D E Alcock
Chairman

Ref: TCM1002