

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Sandbach Town Council held on 5 February 2004 in the Council Chamber, Westfields.

PRESENT:

Councillor:	Mrs M E Smith, Vice-Chairman in the chair
Councillors:	Mrs D E Alcock
	Mrs P M Minshull
	Mrs P E M Price
	Mrs G M Thomas
	P J Darnes
	J Iddon
	D Lloyd-Griffiths
	B E Moran
	E A Lea
	N T Price
	D Robinson
	M R Sherman
	R W Sutton

A prayer was read by the Reverend Mike Cafferata in tribute to the Chairman, Councillor John Keeling, BEM, who died on 28 January 2004 and whose funeral was earlier in the day. A one minute silence was observed in his memory. Reverend Cafferata then read the Town Council prayer.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: J J Moore
L Morris
W W Scragg

2. VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Vice-Chairman paid tribute to the late Chairman and invited members to add their thoughts. A number of members spoke highlighting Cllr's Keeling's personal qualities and acknowledging his outstanding contribution to the work of the Town Council. Formal tributes were presented on behalf of the political parties represented on the Town Council and condolences offered to his family and friends. The Clerk was asked to write to Mrs Cindy Keeling relaying condolences from the Council. Members were anxious that their appreciation of Cllr Keeling's contribution to the Town and the high esteem in which he was held was conveyed to Cllr Keeling's family.

The Vice-Chairman proposed that in respect for the late Chairman the meeting should be adjourned.

RESOLVED: that as a mark of respect for Cllr Keeling the Council meeting be adjourned. The Council unanimously approved, in these particular circumstances, delegated powers to a Special Urgency Committee comprising the Vice-Chairman with Councillors Iddon and Lloyd-Griffiths representing the Conservative and Liberal Democrat groups to take decisions upon the time sensitive items on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.30 pm.

M E Smith
Vice-Chairman

Ref: TCM050204

Notes of an open forum meeting held on 5 February 2004 in the Council Chamber

Present: -

Sandbach Town Council

Councillors Mrs M E Smith (in the chair), Mrs D E Alcock, Mrs P M Minshull, Mrs P E M Price, Mrs G M Thomas, P J Darnes, J Iddon, D Lloyd-Griffiths, B E Moran, E A Lea, N T Price, D Robinson, M R Sherman, R W Sutton.

Sandbach Partnership

Mrs Helen Beech, Mrs E J Rubidge, Mr G Chambers

Members of the Public

Presentation by Mrs Beech

The Council had given Mrs Beech a list of questions which she had grouped together for the purposes of her response.

The Partnership wished to strengthen its links with its partners, especially the Council. The Partnership with strong links was an essential legal entity to attract funding. Although no projects had reached fruition, there were a number that were well advanced. It was important to establish priorities and put resources behind the most deserving projects. The partnership requires a budget of £35,000 per year to operate. No figure of what additional funds had been applied for or secured was currently available. The partnership set up some two years ago had recently appointed a Board, which had just held its first meeting.

The following projects were highlighted.

Sandbach Literary Institution

This was an important building that could be better used by the community. A "Showcase" event was being planned for the building in March. Mr Peter Wilson, a member of the public, felt that Mrs Beech had not given sufficient credit to those who had been working for several years to rejuvenate the Institution and had previously held successful open days.

Foden's Richardson Brass Band

The Band was to be included in a musical workshop involving the local schools. There would be musical composition with young people participating.

Sandbach Festival

The Partnership was hoping to raise money for the proposed Sandbach Festival involving the Sealed Knot. The funds in this instance were likely to be raised in Sandbach rather than additional funds being imported.

In the ensuing discussion, members reiterated their desire that the Partnership and the Council work closely together and wished the Partnership every success in the projects it was tackling.