

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SIMPSON CENTRE, STOTFOLD

Councillors present: B Collier (Chairman)

Mrs S Bundock	A Cooper
Mrs M Cooper	Mrs D Haslett-Saunders
S Hayes	Mrs L Lewin
B Saunders	D Savill
M Smith	L Stoter
Mrs C Turner	Mrs L Wilding

Also present: 5 members of the public, District/County Councillors Saunders and Street and the Clerk

7923. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Collier advised Members that Olympic gold medal winner Victoria Pendleton had visited the office on her return from Beijing and a last minute event has been arranged before her very heavy training season starts again. She will be present at the Memorial Hall on Sunday 14th October from 2pm until 4pm. All Councillors and residents are welcome. A small presentation will be made to Victoria. The event has been advertised on posters around the town and in the local newspapers.

The Auditors report has been received for the financial year 2007/2008 and will be presented to the October Council meeting.

Members were reminded that Chairman's Civic Service is taking place on Sunday 12th October, 3pm, St Mary's Church.

7924. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of members interests at this point.

7925. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs Hyde and Mrs Clarey, and P.C. Paul Ryan.

7926. REPORT FROM A REPRESENTATIVE OF BEDFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

In the absence of P.C. Ryan last months crime figures report was circulated to Members and this was read by the Chairman on his behalf.

The Stotfold Safer Neighbourhood Team have wished Victoria Pendleton a huge well done and congratulations on her achievement.

With regard to the young man with the ASBO, his curfew has now expired, but he is still under a supervision order and is being closely monitored by the Youth Offending Team. His ASBO remains in place until July 2009.

Another vehicle has been seized under Section 59 and will be crushed.

Ongoing problems with antisocial behaviour on The Green and Regent Street continue to be tackled and alcohol is being seized and disposed of. Problems with Fairfield Park again continue to be tackled, with nuisance motorbikes and quad bikes being targeted.

On the whole, as per the NMIS figures (circulated to Members), crime remains stable with overall crime reported at 18. Criminal damage figures remain stable with 6 damages reported. These ad-hoc offences and as per the street listings are pretty much dispersed around the town.

Telephone calls to report antisocial behaviour is very low for the month of August, with only 12 calls, compared to 60 this time last year. This is a result of many motorcycles and quad bikes being seized or having warnings placed on them.

The Community Safety Group Forum is set for Thursday 9th October, 7.30pm in the Simpson Centre and is open to residents of Stotfold. This is a constructive meeting about what we can do to improve the quality of life for residents and not what we are not doing.

A Member showed those present a photograph he had taken that morning of a Police car parked half on the road and half on the pavement in Hitchin Road. The Clerk was asked to speak to the local Police Officers/PCSOs to request that they set an example to residents.

It was requested by a Member that yellow lines are painted on the bus stop outside St Olives on Hitchin Road, although he was advised that they are not enforceable by the Police. Any complaints regarding this should go to the Chief Constable for Bedfordshire Police. It was pointed out that in the past this Council has requested white lines on every bus stop in the town in the hope that it reminds drivers not to park on the bus stop.

7927. ORAL QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS

Glen Rickwood, Wrayfields

Asked how residents' comments will be registered during the consultation event for the Land South of Stotfold Community Building taking place on Monday 8th September, and was advised that comment slips will be available. They will be collated and taken to the next Buildings Management Committee meeting.

7928. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 4TH JULY 2008

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Friday 4th July 2008 having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

7929. To approve increasing the fidelity insurance cover whilst the Community Leisure Centre project is underway, for the £3.06million grant and up to £500,000 loan (see minute 7907)

The application for the increase in fidelity insurance cover for the £3.06million grant has been cancelled as the District Council won't be releasing the actual sum to the Town Council, as invoices for payment will need to be sent direct to the District Council. The increase for the £500,000 is in place.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 7930. St John Ambulance – Evening of music, prose and poetry – Jennie Linden & Haydn Dickenson**
An invitation has been received for the above event taking place on Wednesday 15th October from 7pm to 10pm at St Paul’s Church, Bedford. Tickets are £25 each and include a three course seated buffet. Councillor Collier is unable to attend, but any Member wishing to attend on his behalf was asked to advise the Clerk.
- 7931. Army Benevolent Fund – Curry Lunch**
An invitation has been received for the above event taking place on Sunday 12th October at 1pm at the Defence Intelligence and Security Centre (DISC) at Chicksands. Professor Holmes will be giving a short talk before lunch on ‘The British Tommy’ between 11.45am and 12.45am. Tickets are £20 each. Councillor Collier is unable to attend as it coincides with our Civic Service.
- 7932. Bedfordshire Youth Cabinet – Local Democracy Week**
The attached correspondence has been received regarding the Local Democracy Week starting Monday 13th October. Activities taking place throughout the week include ‘Take your Councillor to School’, ‘Political Speed Dating’, etc. Members were previously advised of this invitation and asked that if they wish to take part they return the reply slip direct to the Admin Officer – Children’s Services at Bedfordshire County Council by Friday 5th September (the date of this meeting).
- 7933. Potton Town Council – Civic Service**
An invitation has been received for the Chairman to attend the above event taking place on Sunday 21st September 2008 at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Potton, at 3pm. The Chairman is unable to attend as he will be at the District Council Civic Service. Vice-Chairman Councillor Cooper and Mrs Cooper will attend on behalf of the Chairman.
- 7934. Flitwick Town Council – Civic Service**
An invitation has been received for the Chairman to attend the above event taking place on Sunday 19th October 2008 at the Rufus Centre, Flitwick, at 3pm. Councillor Collier is able to attend this event.
- 7935. Parish & Town Council Local Area Agreement (LAA) Reference Group**
Correspondence has been received giving details of Bedfordshire’s new Local Area Agreement, together with an invitation to attend the LAA Reference Group meeting taking place during the morning of Thursday 30th October at the Rufus Centre in Flitwick. Further details, including start time, will be provided nearer the date. Councillor Collier is unable to attend, but any Member wishing to attend on his behalf was asked to advise the Clerk.
- 7936. South Bedfordshire District Council – Central Bedfordshire Rural Conference**
An invitation has been received from South Bedfordshire District Council for two representatives of this Council to attend the above conference taking place on Saturday 11th October at Whipsnade Zoo Conference Rooms, 9am until 3pm. The aim of the conference is to have a discussion between the future Central Bedfordshire rural community and South and Mid Beds District Councils to: Consider the impact of the urban and rural Growth Agenda on our rural areas, and Central Bedfordshire: how will we engage with our communities? Councillor Collier is unable to attend, but any Member wishing to attend on his behalf was asked to advise the Clerk.

7937. The following items of correspondence can be obtained from the Clerk

- Bedfordshire Bugle – July and August 2008
- Direct Information Service – Issue number 688 & 689
Creating Central Bedfordshire Stakeholder Update August 2008 (previously circulated)
Beds-Spread – July 2008 edition (Community & Voluntary Service)
Local Council Review – Volume 60, No 3.

7938. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A DISTRICT COUNCILLOR ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO STOTFOLD

District Councillor Mrs Turner reported on the following:

- In preparation for the new Central Beds authority, leaflets have now been produced, a copy of which was circulated to Members.
- The purchasers of Hallworth House have declined to buy the building at the original price, Aragon is looking for a further offer. The housing grant for the new building has been refused, other grants can be applied for. The land is available from the County Council on a gratis basis, but they are over the limit before Central Beds shadow board approval is required.
- She is unable to attend the public consultation on the Land South of Stotfold Community Building, but reminded those present that Stotfold is scheduled to be the second largest settlement by 2012. We should be looking forward to the next 50 years and look to get the largest and best building we can.
- With regard to the Gypsy and Traveller site consultation a ‘drop in’ event is taking place during the afternoon and evening of 14th October in the Memorial Hall. The District Councillors will work with Stotfold Town Council on this matter, but need an optimum response from residents. It is suggested that one letter should be prepared stating the town’s objections to the suggested sites, and should be delivered to every property in Stotfold to sign and be forwarded to the District Council.
- In response to a query over whether the District Council have now decided to provide free swimming for over 60’s, Councillor Mrs Turner will ask Councillor Mrs Anita Lewis, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and Safer Communities and come back to the meeting with a response.

7939. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A COUNTY COUNCILLOR ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO STOTFOLD

County Councillor Saunders reported on the following:

- He recently attended a Fire Authority meeting. Following the decision to not use the Green Goddesses for back up fire service, Group 4 has been appointed to manage fire appliances within the County. They are requesting a considerable retainer, so County are looking into other possibilities before signing up. He will provide an update on the situation as it occurs.
- He was asked at a previous meeting to find out who has priority on shared cycleways/footways – pedestrians or cyclists. He wasn’t able to provide a definitive answer, so the Clerk will approach County Highways to try and obtain an answer for the next meeting.

County Councillor Street reported on the following:

- With regard to the Community Leaders Fund set up last year by the Leader of the Council, Madeline Russell, the closing date for the 2008/09 fund is 1st December 2008. This fund is to provide financial assistance to groups within the community. Local groups should come forward if they require any assistance, or if anyone knows of a group which would benefit

from £200+ for a particular project they should speak to County Councillors Street or Saunders.

- In the autumn a Town and Parish Council Reception will be held, hosted by the County Council. The Bedford section and Central Beds section reception will be held on Thursday 27th November at the Rufus Centre, Flitwick. The County Council will be pleased to see Chairs and Clerks of local Town Councils.
- He is pleased to see that the public consultation for the Land South of Stotfold Community Building is taking place, to allow residents to have their say. The County and District Councillors have put together a letter regarding the building and was read to those present (attached for Members for information). A Member expressed the view that the District Council Planning Officer should be working for our interests and not those of the developers. A query was also raised over whether the County or District Councils could guarantee that a large sum of money would be available from them for the type of building suggested in the letter. The developers have already said that small alterations to the Section 106 agreement will cost, therefore the suggestions in the letter will cost a lot more. Councillor Street explained that there are other funding avenues to be explored, and felt that building prices should be falling and not increasing, and a builder should be found who would like to do the work at a reasonable cost. We all need to collaborate and see how much money is available.

A Member felt that although there is a lull in building work, this doesn't necessarily mean a down turn in public buildings. It should therefore be cheaper to build and take less time as there is not much housing development going on at the moment. We should ask the developers to pay out the Section 106 money now to save them having to lay off workers and cost them more money in the long run.

It was also pointed out that the Town Council's efforts so far have been made from what the District Council set out as restrictions in the S106 agreement. We should be looking at the possibilities within a reasonable timeframe. The Town Council ask for the District and County Councillors full support after the public consultation, whatever the outcome. Councillor Street advised that they would accept the outcome.

- With regard to the forthcoming Gypsy and Traveller site consultation, Stotfold and Arlesey are listed as having 11 out of the 22 District Council preferred sites. The letter suggested for circulation to all residents hasn't yet been drafted. The idea followed a meeting of the Local Development Framework Taskforce where strong representations of Stotfold's views of the suggested sites were given. Arlesey feels just as strong as Stotfold regarding their suggested site. Arlesey District Councillors Ian Delgarno and Hugh Harper will also be asked for their help on forming the letter.

7940. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Mrs Bundock gave a report as a member of the Roecroft School Governors (report appended).

7941. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE PROJECT

Minutes of the last Project Board meeting were previously circulated to Members. Information on the project is also included in the August Establishment minutes.

With regard to minute number 72 (ii) on page 2 of the Project Board meeting on 21st August, advising that an evaluation day was held to determine developers to go out to tender, Members were asked to give authorisation for the Project Board to go ahead and invite the six listed contractors to

submit tenders: Willmott Dixon Ltd, Pellikaan Construction Ltd, ISG Regions Ltd, SDC Ltd, Morgan Ashurst Ltd, ROK Construction Ltd.

Resolved that the Project Board be authorised to invite developers Willmott Dixon Ltd, Pellikaan Construction Ltd, ISG Regions Ltd, SDC Ltd, Morgan Ashurst Ltd, ROK Construction Ltd to submit tenders for the Community Leisure Centre Project.

With regard to the Press and Starkey Quantity Surveyor's report referred to in the same minute, Councillor Smith requested a copy, together with a copy of the letter to Councillor Ken Matthews at the District Council regarding the Section 106 Agreement (referred to in the Project Manager's Report). Any other Member requiring a copy of any of these documents is to speak to the Clerk.

With regard to Press and Starkey's comment that they will revisit the indices, it was suggested that this would have relatively small effect on the project, and that the longer the project goes on, the more escalation in costs there will be.

It was queried whether the rifle range drawings have now been amended to take into account the comments made at the meeting with several rifle and pistol clubs and Frank Haxton, rifle range design consultant. The comments were passed to Rima Yousif at B3 who has amended the drawings accordingly.

7942. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WORK OF THE TOWN PLAN STEERING GROUP

Copies of the minutes of the Town Plan Steering Group meetings held on 24th July and 19th August were circulated to Members. In the absence of the Chairman of the Steering Group, new Council representative on the Group Councillor Mrs Cooper gave the following report:

A brief meeting on the 24th July established that Councillor Mrs Cooper was willing to join the group after the resignation of Councillor Anthony Grant. Councillor Mrs Clarey reported that a funding application form had been forwarded to the group from Mid Beds District Council and this was almost complete. A year after the initial promise of monies it seemed that executive powers to award grants had been found. Thanks were expressed to all Focus Group members for the vast amount of work that had already taken place. Pat Clarey and Andy Grudzinski agreed to meet to discuss and produce a draft questionnaire. This was circulated to group members for discussion at the meeting.

On the 19th August a rather long but successful meeting reviewed and amended the questions that would form the final questionnaire. A second draft would be produced prior to the next meeting. Councillor Mrs Clarey was also able to report that Mid Beds District Council had awarded the group the full £1,500 grant that would assist with printing costs. This was indeed good news.

The final meeting to deal with issues regarding the questionnaire was held on the 4th September and a full report on its progress will be presented at the full Council meeting in October.

The current aim is to deliver the questionnaire to 3700 households in Stotfold in early October and then to collect completed copies one week later. Residents can also deposit their completed questionnaire at various local deposit points. Any Councillors, and indeed members of the public who would care to volunteer to 'do their road' – or more – are asked to give their name to the Clerk or Councillor Mrs Cooper.

7943. TO CONSIDER GIVING DELEGATED POWERS TO THE BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO FORWARD COMMENTS MADE AT THE LAND SOUTH OF STOTFOLD COMMUNITY BUILDING CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON 8TH SEPTEMBER TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL AND DEVELOPERS

The Buildings Management Committee will need to consider the collated comments at their meeting on 17th September and then forward the comments as soon as possible thereafter.

It was requested that all Councillors receive a copy of the comments from residents before they are forwarded to the developers and planners.

It was felt that this will be a public consultation on the feelings of residents, and is not a policy changing exercise at this point. The comments should be collated and then passed on, without decisions being made on them by any Committee.

Resolved that at this moment in time comments should only be passed on to the District Council and not the developers. After that, the matter should be referred to the Buildings Management Committee to make recommendations to Council, based on the comments received. A Council policy will then be made on the outcome.

7944. TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN BY THE CLERK TO SWITCH ELECTRICITY PROVIDER FOR THE SIMPSON CENTRE AND MEMORIAL HALL TO BRITISH GAS ON A ONE YEAR CONTRACT, FOLLOWING THE RECENT INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY UNIT PRICES, AND NOTIFICATION THAT THEY ARE DUE TO INCREASE AGAIN ON 2ND SEPTEMBER

A report on comparison prices was previously circulated to Members.

Resolved that the executive action taken by the Clerk in switching electricity providers for the Simpson Centre and Memorial Hall to British Gas be so approved.

7945. TO CONSIDER THE RESPONSE TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL'S 'TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY - CREATING CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE', WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS

No comments from Members had been received. Members were reminded that it is important that we comment on this document, and they were asked to forward their comments to the Clerk as soon as possible, so the final document can be returned to the District Council by the deadline of 19th September.

Resolved that the Clerk and Chairman complete the survey form based on comments received from Members, and return to the District Council by the 19th September.

7946. TO CONFIRM COUNCILLOR SMITH AS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BLUE LAGOON SHADOW BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR

Councillor Smith pointed out that he was not on the Board in his own right, he has always been a Council representative on the Board and was subsequently made Chairman.

Resolved that Councillor Smith be confirmed as Council representative on the Blue Lagoon Shadow Board for the remainder of the Council 2008/09 year. Confirmation of Council representation on the Board will be added to the agenda of the next Annual Town Council meeting in May 2009.

7947. TO CONSIDER THE ANNUAL GRANT UNDER SECTION 137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1976 TO STOTFOLD BOWLS CLUB IN THE SUM OF £880 FOR FERTILISER FOR THE BOWLS GREEN

Resolved that the sum of £880 be granted to Stotfold Bowls Club under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1976.

7948. TO APPROVE A PAYMENT UNDER SECTION 137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1976 TO THE HAIG FUND (POPPY WREATHS)

Councillor Smith declared an interest in this item as he is a member of the Royal British Legion.

Resolved that the sum of £110 be granted to the Haig Fund for poppy wreaths 2008/2009 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1976.

7949. TO RECEIVE THE PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS RECORDS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2008

Resolved that all monies on the payments list for July be paid, the Clerk having previously been given authorisation to make payments for August, and the receipts lists be noted.

7950. TO RECEIVE THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE RECORD FOR END AUGUST 2008, TOGETHER WITH THE BANK BALANCES AS AT END AUGUST 2008

Resolved that the income and expenditure record for end August 2008, together with the bank balances as at end August 2008 be noted.

7951. TO CONSIDER CHANGING THE DATE OF THE SEPTEMBER CEMETERY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING AND THE TOWN ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Due to the cancellation of the July Cemetery Management Committee meeting the September meeting is likely to last longer and therefore to ensure that all agenda items are considered Members were asked to consider moving the Cemetery Management Committee meeting to the 24th September, with the Town Enhancement Committee meeting moving back to the 17th September, and be held prior to the Buildings Management Committee meeting.

Resolved that the Cemetery Management Committee meeting be held on 24th September, and the Town Enhancement Committee meeting be held on 17th September.

7952. PLANNING COMMITTEE

9th July 2008

Councillor Cooper asked Members of the Planning Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2008.

The minutes were carried.

Councillor Cooper then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2008.

These were then carried.

23rd July 2008

Councillor Cooper asked Members of the Planning Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July 2008.

The minutes were carried.

Councillor Cooper then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July 2008.

These were then carried.

27th August 2008

Councillor Cooper asked Members of the Planning Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27th August 2008.

Councillor Cooper advised Members that a query had been raised over the recorded observations for two planning applications for Grange House, High Street.

The minutes were carried with the following amendments:

Observations on planning applications 08/01532/FULL - Grange House, 70 High Street, Stotfold, and 08/01426/LB - Grange House, 70 High Street, Stotfold

We have no objection to the change of use of this building. However we do object to the proposed major external changes (including signage proposals) and some of the internal changes which we believe would be potentially detrimental to the character of this Grade II Listed Building. We also request that it be noted that this area already carries a high number of vehicle and pedestrian movements to both the Co-Op and residential areas beyond. We ask that due consideration of the existing traffic conditions is taken into account and the application is amended to reflect this, particularly bearing in mind the amount of staff and parent vehicle movements that will be occurring at peak times.

The resolution in minute number 2703 should read:

Resolved that the heading of the draft template be approved, with points on the current Terms of Reference to be added, and the suggested Terms on the draft template to be removed. An amendment to the original Terms to read: responding to applications from District/County Councils and their successors. An updated Terms of Reference sheet is to be presented to the next meeting of this Committee for approval.

Councillor Cooper then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th August 2008.

The amended minutes were carried.

7953. RECREATION GROUNDS, PUBLIC LANDS AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Cooper asked Members of the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands and Lighting Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2008.

The minutes were carried.

Councillor Mrs Cooper then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands and Lighting Committee meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2008.

These were then carried.

7954. BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Bundock asked Members of the Buildings Management Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16th July 2008.

The minutes were carried.

Councillor Mrs Bundock then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Buildings Management Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16th July 2008.

These were then carried.

7955. CEMETERY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting of this Committee scheduled for Wednesday 16th July was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Standing Orders require that this fact is minuted, and in the absence of the Chairman and there being no Vice-Chairman of the Committee at this time, Councillor Collier asked Members of the Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Cemetery Management Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday 16th July 2008.

These were carried.

7956. TOWN ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Collier asked Members of the Town Enhancement Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July 2008.

The minutes were carried.

Councillor Collier then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Town Enhancement Committee meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July 2008.

These were carried.

7957. ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Collier asked Members of the Establishment Committee to receive, confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th August 2008.

The minutes were carried.

Councillor Collier then asked Members of the Town Council to receive and adopt the minutes of the Establishment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 13th August 2008.

These were carried.

The Clerk was asked to provide an update on the situation with the insurance claim following the break in at the Simpson Centre. The insurance claim has been accepted, the replacement computer is due in the next week, a safe has been ordered and delivered and will be installed.

With regard to the urgent matter of arranging a meeting with the mobile phone companies with masts at Roker Park, the representative we have contact details for is away on holiday so the meeting has not yet been arranged.

7958. QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS ON ITEMS ARISING FROM THIS EVENING'S MEETING

Judy Dear – Arlesey Road

Pointed out that with regard to Grange House, Councillors had previously expressed concern that items such as the stair case had been removed from this listed building; however the skip sited within the grounds currently only contains plasterboard and bricks.

7959. THE CHAIRMAN THEN PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING

That it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public are temporarily excluded whilst matters pertaining to financial issues are discussed and that they be instructed to withdraw from the meeting

This was passed by Members.

7960. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE 7960 – CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13TH AUGUST 2008

Confidential minute 7960 is appended for Members only.

7961. ANY OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Councillor Mrs Turner requested that on the occasions where District Councillors are asked to call in planning applications to be considered at the District Council Development Control meeting, Members of the Town Council should also try to attend. This is because the District Councillors don't always agree with the Town Council's comments, and they lose their opportunity to use their District Council voice if they voice the Town Council's comments.

A Member advised that Pendleton Way running alongside Arlesey Road is covered in litter, and was advised that this would be under the District Council's schedule for street cleaning. The Clerk will advise the District Council accordingly.

A query was raised over how the situation with the presentation event for Victoria Pendleton came about, as Councillors hadn't been informed prior to this evening's meeting. Whilst Victoria Pendleton was in Beijing tentative enquiries were made of her parents as to whether they thought Victoria would be willing to take part in some sort of event upon her return from the Olympics. We were unable to get hold of her parents for some time and even then they were unable to provide an answer. Victoria then came into the Council offices two days prior to this meeting, and the Clerk and Chairman were only able to obtain a date with very short notice for an event on the 14th of this month. Any costs involved, such as item for presentation, will come from the Chairman's allowance.

There being no further relevant business the meeting was declared closed at 9.45pm

CHAIRMAN

DATED