

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2019 AT 7.00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GREENACRE CENTRE, STOTFOLD**

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Councillors present: A Cooper (Chairman)

Mrs S Bundock	B Collier
Mrs M Cooper	S Dhaliwal
S Hayes	Mrs J Hyde
D Matthews	C Phelps
H Pickering	B Saunders (& CBC Cllr)
Ms B Sowinska	J Talbot

Also present: Ms Caroline Jenkins, Assistant Clerk, 1 member of public

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**22/19 UPDATE ON WORK BY THE YOUTH TEAM**

Members received an update from Nicola King and Graeme Endersby, Grand Union Housing Group Ltd.

Nicola Explained that in January, the youth team delivered 46 hours of youth work in Stotfold, averaging 11.5 hours a week. These comprised of:

17 hours of School Mentoring  
10 Hours of Community Mentoring  
5 hours of CORE / Strategy meeting re: Child in Need  
4 Hours of targets youth work  
10 hours of Detached Youth work

Community and School Mentoring

The team currently have a case load of 72 children and young people that they are mentoring either through school/community or in the family home. Out of that, 22 are Stotfold cases and this figure is rising.

The team returned to work on 7<sup>th</sup> January and have attended meetings, examples are Strategy, Child Protection Conference and Team around the Child to give youth reports and support Safeguarding Actions

Mentoring referrals are still coming in and on this basis project work and mentoring hours are being reviewed to make sure systems are streamlined to make efficient use of time.

- Social Media is continued to be monitored and links with GUHG housing officers.
- Concerns continue around criminal Exploitation
- County Lines, Gangs documents have been sent to councillors

Alto Ego Workshop

This is a workshop that is being rolled out to young people in schools across Bedfordshire to highlight and address issues around Gangs, Drugs and County Lines. There is a workshop at the academy of Central Bedfordshire at 10am on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

### Project Mackenzie

Recruiting is now taking place for the Employment Skills and training programme for young adults 16-24 years. The programme starts on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March and will take place each Monday and finish on 25<sup>th</sup> March. The programme looks at motivation, aspirations and breaking down barriers to employment or training.

### Youth Provision

- Half term sessions and Consultation results
- Detached work will continue weekly where Youth workers are out on the streets/parks etc interacting with the Young people.

### Other Information

- Currently still waiting for funding updates from Central Bedfordshire Council
- The Intensive Mentoring Service has been shortlisted for a National Award at TPAS 2019 in the Community Action Category. These awards are open to social housing providers, tenants and contractors to give recognition to their excellent work and vitally to share best practice amongst the sector.

It was then explained that relationships between the young people and the team were vitally important. The team are engaging with school years 5-11 and providing mentoring. They ask the young people what they want and need and recently carried out a paper consultation at Etonbury Academy. From this they are now organising a steering group of around 37 young people.

Nicola and Graeme were both thanked for their attendance and the work their team is providing for the community. Members looked forward to receiving more updates in the future.

## **23/19 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CIVIC ATTENDANCE**

### **Attendances**

25<sup>th</sup> January Houghton Regis Town Mayors Charity Quiz Night – Mayor attended

### **Future events**

8 <sup>th</sup> February	Mayor of Leighton-Linslade Quiz Night – declined
8 <sup>th</sup> February	NHDC Civic Dinner and Award Ceremony – accepted
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Houghton Regis Valentines Bingo – declined
17 <sup>th</sup> February	Stotfold Civic Service – St Mary’s Church
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Leighton-Linslade Civic Service – accepted

## **24/19 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA**

Councillor Mrs J Hyde declared an interest regarding land ownership in relation to item 4/19 of the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands and Lighting Committee minutes from 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

## **25/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs A Clarey and Central Beds Ward Member, Councillor Steve Dixon.

## **26/19 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS**

There were none.

**27/19 TO NOTE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD – MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2019**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 be taken as read and confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**28/19 CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION**

Nothing to report at present

**29/19 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION**

Nothing to report at present

**30/19 DRAFT 1 YEAR ACTION PLAN – APRIL 2019 TO MARCH 2020**

Members were asked to consider adopting the draft 1 Year Action Plan for period April 2019 to March 2020, any additions or amendments were to be put forward at the meeting. Members also noted the review of the previous Action Plan period.

**RESOLVED** to adopt the draft 1 Year Action Plan for period April 2019 to March 2020.

**31/19 ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL DINNER**

Councillors were asked to choose a date, time and venue for the 2019 Annual Town Council Dinner. It was also noted that costs for the Town Council dinner are to be met by individual Councillors and not from Town Council funds.

**RESOLVED** that the Annual Town Council Dinner is to be held on 26th April 2019, 7pm for 7.30pm at the 3 Horseshoes, Norton.

**32/19 2019 COUNCILLOR SURGERY DATES**

Councillors were asked to confirm the 2019 Councillor surgery dates, as per sheet circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the 2019 Councillor surgery dates were approved.

**33/19 REPORT FROM A CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO STOTFOLD**

Ward Member Brian Saunders gave the following report:

Central Bedfordshire Council reports an increase in the Council Tax of 1%, making a Band D Property now £1564.00.

Central Bedfordshire Council are also to reduce costs by 14million this year, services will not be affected.

Councillors discussed that following a recent consultation that was carried out by Central Bedfordshire Council, Council tax could have been increased by 2%. After consultation, the decision was made to ask for 1% only and to put aside the £2M as laid out below.

Community Safety - Funding for Neighbourhood Officers who would provide safety response, dealing with additional fly tipping and crime prevention. Officers would patrol towns and report back to police. These would be paid council officers and not police funded.

Sustainable Transport - providing better connectivity by foot and cycle to reduce the need for car journeys through addition of foot and cycle paths.

Town Centre Ranger - supporting towns and groups of villages to take on additional cleaning and minor repairs.

Community Councillor fund - funding to enhance the community team and provision of a modest capital budget to support the role of councillors.

Central Bedfordshire Council establishing a council owned housing company – the creation and where appropriate retention by the company of housing stock with a range of tenures that address gaps in the market not met by either the private sector or through development within the HRA.

Voluntary and Community sector infrastructure funding review – review of all voluntary sectors, including those who CBC give grants to, with a view to helping those charities that need help in Kind or Financial

Foster Care loan scheme – to provide interest free loans over 5 years, to enable extensions to increase size of houses to take care of young people. 1 bed extension could cost £30,000

There is no increase in social care from National Government as Central Bedfordshire Council took 3% in 2017/18 and 2018/19 instead of 2% over 3 years.

Great British spring Clean is from 22 March – 23 April 2019. Gloves and rubbish bags are available free of charge from Central Bedfordshire Council for any litter picks during this period.

The “Cheering Volunteering” awards will be running again this year for groups or individuals. Councillors were reminded that if they knew of anyone who could be put forward to any of the following categories, to inform Councillor Saunders:

Young Volunteer

Adult Volunteer

Group Volunteers

Outstanding Achievement

Lifetime Achievement

Sport and wellbeing Volunteer

### **34/19 REPORT FROM MEMBER AND NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

As Community Governor for Etonbury Academy, Councillor Phelps gave the following report:

- I attended a Full Governors meeting. Items discussed included information about restructuring of the Senior Leadership team, an update on Pix Brook Academy and further Governor links to monitor the School Development Plan.
- I will be chairing a Finance Meeting later in February, where the future direction of Etonbury Farm will be a key item.
- In my role as Performing Arts Link Governor I visited to discuss Etonbury’s ArtsMark Gold provision.
- Year 5 are taking part in a residential visit to Conover Hall Activity Centre in two weeks time.
- Year 6 are involved in SATs preparation, including Homework Club, which takes place four days a week until May.

- Year 11 are involved in Mock GCSEs in Core Subjects and Preparation Days in Art, Photography and Dance.

As Community Governor for Roecroft Lower School, Councillor Mrs Bundock gave the following report:

At a recent meeting we had updates from two staff members: in Maths a greater emphasis on the times tables, not quite as I remember it from my schooldays, but a useful tool that will last them all their lives: and in Reading the emphasis is on comprehension, understanding and being able to discuss what they have been reading about.

We also heard how the Pupil Premium funding, which is based on the number of disadvantaged children in the school, is used for such as Breakfast Club, Homework Club, Uniform Grants and provides social and emotional support for those children who needs it.

The Sports Premium is being spent to improve equipment inside and outside and provide extra activities such as Bikeability.

We have been reviewing policies, an annual requirement, a duty shared by staff and governors, and I have attended the safeguarding meeting held each term.

### **35/19 REPORT, COPIES OF MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TOWN PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

- Copies of minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 have been provided to Members.
- A new car park is to be constructed to replace the area where the Pixbrook Academy will be temporarily located. This will eventually be returned for use by Etonbury.
- It is thought that there will be approximately 90 places offered / required in September for the new Pixbrook Academy.
- This will be a three-form entry.
- There is still no evidence on the ground of any new buildings opposite Etonbury.
- All other local schools seem to be functioning well.
- However, there is a problem with nursery places, numbers available are inadequate.
- The next meeting of the Group will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **36/19 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF THE ARLESEY ROAD PROJECT & RELOCATION OF FOOTBALL CLUB**

The large wagons that were placed to prevent access to the site have now been removed. On site office blocks, a temporary roadway and Heras fencing have now been put in place for the start of works. The council owned toilet facilities have now been included inside the Heras fencing, therefore for both boys and girls teams there are no toilet facilities. The Town Council stated to the developers from the start of the development that toilet use was needed and has asked for access to be changed to allow use of the toilets on site, to which the developer, Boras have refused. Prices to re-site new temporary toilets are between £15,000 -£50,000 the cost of which should be absorbed by Boras. Councillors made it clear that toilet facilities for the site must continue.

The gateway to the site has now been boarded up. The kissing gates to be installed in the perimeter fencing are now on a 3 week delivery delay.

The Town Council expressed their thanks to Councillor Cooper, Councillor Collier and Councillor Hayes for all their time effort in ensuring the project progresses.

**37/19 MONTHLY ACCOUNTS**

- i) Members considered the Expenditure Report giving details of payments to be authorised at this February 2019 meeting and the income received during January 2019 in the Income Report.

**RESOLVED** that all payments on the Expenditure Report be paid, and the Income Report be noted.

- ii) Members reviewed the Committee Budget Report and bank balances as at month end January 2019.

**RESOLVED** that the Committee Budget Report and bank balances as at end January 2019 be noted.

**38/19 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillor Cooper asked Members of the Planning Committee to receive the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and confirm as a correct record. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

There were no recommendations from the Committee. The minutes were noted by Council.

**39/19 RECREATION GROUNDS, PUBLIC LANDS & LIGHTING COMMITTEE**

Councillor Mrs Cooper asked Members of the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands & Lighting Committee to receive the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and confirm as a correct record. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

There were no recommendations from the Committee. The minutes were noted by Council.

**40/19 BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Matthews asked Members of the Buildings Management Committee to receive the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and confirm as a correct record. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

There were no recommendations from the Committee. The minutes were noted by Council.

**41/19 TOWN ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Collier asked Members of the Town Enhancement Committee to receive the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and confirm as a correct record. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

Council considered recommendation from minute 5/19:

***Recommended:***

***That the Vision statement for Stotfold Town Council is:***

***“To enhance the sense of community within the town of Stotfold”***

The minutes were noted by Council and the **recommendation was resolved.**

#### **41/19 ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Cooper asked Members of the Establishment Committee to receive the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and confirm as a correct record. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

Council considered recommendation from minute 4/19:

***Recommended:***

***that the revised draft standing orders are adopted by Council***

Council considered recommendation from minute 5/19:

***Recommended:***

***that the amended (where appropriate) policies – Press Policy, Social Media Policy for Councillors and Credit Control & Bad Debt Policy are adopted by Council.***

The minutes were noted by Council and the **recommendations were resolved.**

#### **42/19 QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS ON ITEMS ARISING FROM THIS EVENING'S MEETING**

There were none

#### **43/19 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY**

Under agenda item 16 the Chairman introduced, under **Standing Orders**, para.18 (xix) (a), as an "action that will not admit of delay" the **Application to vary a Premises Licence (Licensing Act 2003).**

Submitted via; Winkworth Sherwood LLP, Minerva House, 5 Montague Close, London, SE1 9BB  
Ref. EMF/29898/63/RPB

Solicitors and authorised agents for the applicant.

Malthurst Petroleum Limited of MRH Stotfold, 67 Arlesey Road, Stotfold, SG5 4HB have applied for the Licensing Authority to vary the premises licence for the above premises as follows:

1. To extend the sales of alcohol to between the hours 0000 and 2400 daily for consumption off the premises.
2. The provision of late night refreshments between the hours of 2300 and 0500 daily.
3. To vary the licence conditions.
4. To make alterations to the premises.

Any person to make representation (must be in writing) to the Licensing Authority should do so no later than 19 February 2019.

The contents were read out in full to councillors and the application considered and voted upon point by point.

Results were that Stotfold Town Council –

1. OBJECT to extension of sales from the existing 0700 to 2300 licence on the grounds **that this premises sits within a residential area** where, particularly during summer months when windows are opened, there is already a degree of disturbance to nearby residents from motor vehicle movements. The current time limits were imposed to protect the amenity of neighbouring residents meaning that any extension would exasperate the existing conflict of interests.

There is the additional concern that these sales may encourage purchasers to congregate and possibly consume their purchases in the vicinity causing further disturbances and littering.

Should the public require night-time services of this kind these are already available, **outside of residential areas**, at the A1(J10) service area, A507 services at Shefford or at the Tesco store in Baldock.

2. OBJECT on the same grounds as in Item 1.
3. OBJECT
4. No comment without sight of alterations proposed.

The Town council comments will be sent to the Licensing Section, Central Bedfordshire Council

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATED**