

MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL

6pm Wednesday 16th January 2019

Southwell Library, King Street, Southwell

Minutes

Present : Cllrs D Martin (Chairman), B Prentice, S Thompstone, P Rainbow, K Ashworth, A Gregory, P Handley, P Brooker, M Jeffrey, S Rodgers, M Brock, P Scorer, L Harris, P Harris (arrived at 19.35) & S Reynolds

In Attendance : T Broughton (Clerk to the Town Council), K Green (Assistant Clerk), Mr P Tipping Police Crime Commissioner Nottinghamshire, Inspector H Sutton, District Commander Newark and Sherwood Nottinghamshire Police, PCSO R Dunn Newark & Sherwood Nottinghamshire Police, District Councillor Laughton, County Councillor Jackson

Members of the Public: 65 members of the public and one member of the press
Chairman welcomed all in attendance. –

Paddy Tipping spoke. Nationally police funding has been cut by 2% and policing staff has been reduced by 22,000. Notts budget reduced by £54million. Number of police offices in Nottinghamshire rose above 2000. The district may receive a further three neighbourhood police officers. Mr Tipping talked to the audience about sharing police resources with other forces. He also made clear the national statistics for crime in comparison with Nottinghamshire. There will be no specific information on recent crime in Southwell.

Inspector Sutton – explained the resources that currently cover the town.

Response time to the Post Office was ten minutes – it was stated that this is still too long. Not all police stations have response vehicles attached to them. Response vehicles are out on the road and are sent to the incidents. Guidelines state that response times nationally are 15 minutes. Average for Southwell is 12.9 minutes.

Intelligence can be used and PCSO's feeding into providing intelligence as are the councillors and staff and the public.

One member of the public spoke about the high detection rate in the 1980's and 1990's compared to today's detection rate. Mr Tipping would be happy to share the information with the Home Office.

One question was related to parking near Metcalfe close. There is a worry that a person may get knocked down due to parking on the pavement and double yellow lines. This is because the parking is near to the pub and often cars are left from Friday evening to Monday morning. Police can only prosecute if the vehicle is causing an obstruction. The cars are always checked out and often they are not causing an obstruction.

It was asked what the residents of the town get for the council tax that they pay. There is a tiered response with resources being distributed in Southwell. It was stated that the level of crime in other areas in the District is far greater than in Southwell.

There was a question about anti-social behaviour and behaviour around licensed premises around the town. Licensing officer and anti-social behaviour offices work with the police in dealing with anti social behaviour.

The question was asked if the police are talking to the Government about the lack of resources. It was stated that the problems should be resolved at their source rather than be allowed to escalate.

It was stated that there has been anti-social behaviour on Church Street. It was suggested that there should be

some agile working in Southwell late at night. There have been response cars stopping in Southwell. It was stated that more research will be done to access the police room at the Town Council Officers 24/7 and this will increase the police presence.

Speeding on Ropewalk is out of hand. There are no signs stating that it is a 30mph limit. Speed van has been in the town 12 times during the last year. One member of the public stated specific statistics related to speeding offences over the last year. Local speed watch group will help. One member of the public asked if a flashing speed sign be funded. The police do not fund flashing speed sign.

Signage and speed limits are the responsibility of Highways Agencies. Mr Tipping will arrange a meeting to look at speeding and parking issues in Southwell.

Chairman thanked the guest speakers for attending Southwell Town Council Full Council Meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

None received.

2. Minutes of previous meetings.

2.1 Minutes of the Town Council meeting dated 21st November 2018

AGREED

Proposed Cllr Martin, Seconded Cllr Brooker

To accept the minutes dated 21st November 2018

Unanimous of those present at the meeting

2.2 Clerk to report on matters arising – Facebook comments

3 To receive any declarations of interest

Members are hereby reminded that, under the provisions of sections 26-34 and Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011, a member with a Disclosable pecuniary interest of which they are aware in a matter who attends a meeting of the council at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

Cllrs Rainbow, Handley, Prentice, Martin, Gregory & Brooker declared a personal interest in Southwell Leisure Centre in item 9.

4 Opportunity to hear questions from the members of the public –

No members of the public remained for this part of the meeting.

5 Police Report – Report Circulated previously.

6 County Councillor's Report – Personal Property Protection work on flood affected properties is making progress and is moving forward. There will be a balanced budget by the end of the year, but a lot of pressure is centred on Adult Social Care. Speed limit questions will be taken back to County Officers for further investigation. The progress report for the race course path is in the hand of the legal staff at the County Council and the path will be a permitted footpath and a permissive cycle path.

7 District Councillor's Report –

District Councillor Rainbow – still awaiting the Destination Management Plan but it has been produced in draft and will lead and coordinate all aspects of a destination taking into consideration the needs and visitor experience in the District. It was stated that there were great proposals for Newark Castle and this was a good thing for the district. The question was asked regarding the Safer, Cleaner, Greener approach and what plans are there for enforcement of litter and dog fouling offences. There will be more offices around the district with enforcement powers over the next few months. Allenby Road planning application has been approved with an in-depth review of the conditions. Speed limits will be a 30mph and 2 additional bus stops.

District Councillor Handley – new CEO is implementing a new organisation plan.

District Councillor Loughton – was not able to stay for this part of the meeting.

- 8 **Recommendation for Southwell Town Council 2019/20 Precept from Finance & Scrutiny Committee as detailed in the Budget Report attached 8(a).**
- a) **Accept the attached report: ‘BUDGET REPORT FROM THE FINANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE’**
 - b) **Fix a Precept of £216500 for 2019/20, being £75.36 for the equivalent of a Band D property.**
 - c) **Adopt the Income and Expenditure Budget for 2019/20 per 8 (b)**
 - d) **Adopt a projection and realignment of Reserves for 2019/20 per 8 (c)**
 - e) **Issue to all residents via the Bramley an additional ‘Budget’ newsletter as soon as possible after the January 2019 Full Council Meeting. Chairman of the Council, Chairman F&S, Vice Chairman F&S and Clerk be delegated to write.**
 - f) **Consider the specific salary recommendations from the HR panel.**
 - g) **The Way Forward Group initiate a project to consider the strategic financial policy of the Council, including;**
 - All current and anticipated operations;**
 - Any identified additional needs;**
 - The principles around supporting the viability and vitality of the Town centre, and tourism;**
 - Opportunities regarding income from CIL and Section 106, in particular the ability, for example, to invest CIL in flood prevention and other schemes, thereby releasing an element of current reserve for R&R;**
 - All owned assets.**

Chairman expressed his thanks to all members for their involvement in the preparation of the budget 2019/20. Real Living Wage has been introduced with Job Evaluation and national scales that have been implemented. An awareness to attempt to shelter the residents of the town from over inflationary increases and also awareness of the previous major increases in the precept to accumulate funds for the flood alleviation project. There was ongoing structure to the preparations of the budget and future budgeting. Future strategic discussions to be taken through the Way Forward Group. Thanks to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to the Council for their hard work.

One member stated that it is difficult to identify what the true costs of the staff costs were for each area of the council services. Time sheet analysis can be forwarded to Finance & Scrutiny committee.

Budget newsletter for the March edition of the Bramley newspaper.

AGREED

Proposed Cllr Handley, Seconded Cllr Jeffrey

To accept the items 8 a, b, c, d, e, g be accepted as above.

14 For and 1 abstention

9 **Discussion and decision on the donation of Land to the Leisure Centre to assist with the expansion of leisure facilities within Southwell**

Leisure Centre is 50 years old and opened as a charity to provide a swimming pool facility to the Town. Has expanded and is very successful. Is a non profit making organisation and all profits go into refurbishments and repairs. It receives financial support from Newark & Sherwood District Council. This supports any repairs. The Leisure Centre is now full and working 120% of its capacity. It is expected there to be some local commitment to the project. All Leisure Centre available reserves will be used to facilitate the expansion.

That Southwell Town Council welcomes Southwell Leisure Centre Trust’s intention to expand the Centre for the benefit of the people of the Town and the surrounding catchment. As an indication of support, and contribution to the project, Southwell Town Council is prepared to donate the appropriate parcel of land, and permit adjacent works and access to construct a new throughway to the ‘rear car park’.

One member would like to value the land. There is a large student use of the Leisure Centre and Brackenhurst

will not compete with the Southwell Leisure Centre. It was noted that there was no Capital obtained from NTU for the student use. Talks are taking place with Brackenhurst with regard to student use. It was suggested that the trustees pursue grant funding.

In doing so the Town Council will apply the following conditions.

1. Recognising that funding is on a partnership basis, confirmation from SLCT that it will be applying major funds to the project and that Newark & Sherwood District Council will similarly be committing a major capital contribution.
2. The sole use of the land will be for the construction of an expansion of the Leisure Centre's facilities.
3. If such expansion is not completed and operational within 3 years of land transfer ownership will revert to Southwell Town Council.
4. The Leisure Centre Trustees will provide regular updates of the project to Southwell Town Council, minimum of quarterly.
5. To add a reverter that if the Leisure Centre is closed the land reverts back to the Town Council

The Clerk be authorised to draw up draft heads of Terms with SLCT, for approval at a future Council Meeting.

AGREED

Cllr Handley, Seconded Cllr Brooker

To agree with points 1,2,3 & 4 above.

14 For 1 abstention

10 Update on Race Course Path negotiations

Members have received a written update and County Councillor Jackson has informed members that the legal departments are discussing the progressive of a permitted footpath and a permissive cycle path.

11 In the unfortunate event of publicly available facilities of the Town Council having to be closed or withdrawn for a period of more than 24 hours, the Clerk will inform, as soon as possible, all Southwell Town Councillors of the withdrawal with a brief explanation of the circumstances.

It was stated that members have been in embarrassing positions of not being able to answer questions of services that have been closed and members not being informed. It was suggested to use the Council Facebook page for updates on closures.

Cllr Scorer, Seconded Cllr P Harris

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6 For 7 against 2 abstain

12 Chairman's Report and Announcements

Moorfield Court – Anchor Hanover request to vary the S106 agreement and amend the Deed of Release to facilitate the change of use of the Day Centre into four retirement homes. Clerk will report to Full Council in February with a more comprehensive report. It was stated that this is a priority.

New website will go live on January 17th. Thanks to Cllr Reynolds and Cllr Brooker for their work on the new website.

13 Town Councillor's and Working Group Reports –

No reports

14 Finance Matters

- 14.1** Draft Income & Expenditure Summary/ Reserves Position to end December 2018
- 14.2** Financial Statement and Bills for payment - previously circulated
- 14.3** Late bills for payment- to be tabled

One member asked how the income and expenditure worked for the Yarn Bomb project.

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Prentice seconded Cllr Rainbow**
To approve the Summary Report.
Unanimous

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Ashworth seconded Cllr Brooker**
To approve Bills for Payment and note the finance reports.
Unanimous

AGREED **Proposed Cllr Martin seconded Cllr Brooker**
To approve Late Bills for Payment

15. Location of Council funded Tommy to be decided

Some members felt that there was a health and safety issue located in the insider of the door of the council building. It was suggested that it should be located around the town.

AGREED **Cllr Martin, Seconded Cllr Gregory**
To be located around the town with an on loan sign from the Town Council
Unanimous

16. Planning Matters -

None.

17. Correspondence Received

None.

18 To Resolve on whether the Council will move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following confidential item relating to, Personnel Matters and legal matters.

Members agreed to discuss the HR points at the February Full Council so Closed Session was not entered into.

19 Personnel Matters – None

20 Legal Matters

None

21 Date of next meeting. Wednesday 20th February 2019

Meeting closed at 21.05

Signed Date:.....
Chairman, Southwell Town Council