

SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting

Date of meeting: 13th June 2022 at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: Cllrs Coote, de Vries (Chair), Eke, Freeman, Gregory, Light, McLellan, Milward, Roberts

Officers: Lisa Courtney (Town Clerk), David Broomfield (Responsible Financial Officer)

Public: None present

FC 087-22	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Asker, Fairhurst, Frost, Gadd, Hawke-Smith, Porch, Toy</p>
FC 088-22	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllrs Coote, de Vries, Eke, Freeman and Light declared generic non-pecuniary interests as District Councillors for Uttlesford District Council (UDC).</p>
FC 089-22	<p>Public Speaking Time</p> <p>There were no questions arising.</p>
FC 090-22	<p>Essex County Councillor Update</p> <p>Council noted with thanks the written report provided by the ECC Councillor, Cllr Gadd</p>
FC 091-22	<p>Mayor's Communications</p> <p>The Mayor summarised the activities he attended since the last meeting, notably the Jubilee Events and a series of community events. He thanked all the staff for their hard work and dedication in delivering a successful series of community days for the Jubilee weekend.</p> <p>The Mayor further noted the planned trip Bad Wildungen (Saffron Walden's twin town) to take place in September 2022, noting that all Councillors were invited, and this was a self-funding trip. Members of the local business community were also attending.</p>
FC 092-22	<p>To verify the Minutes of the Town Council meetings</p> <p>The May 2022 Full Council minutes and the Annual (General) Meeting minutes from 09.05.22 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meetings and signed by the Mayor.</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record

Minutes of Full Council Meeting June 2022

FC 093-22	<p>To receive the Minutes of the Previous Meetings</p> <p>Council received and noted the minutes from the following Committee meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Transport 12.05.22 • Planning and Transport 26.05.22 • Finance and Establishment 16.05.22 • Assets and Services 27.06.22
FC 094-22	<p>Planning & Transport Committee Membership</p> <p>Council noted the withdrawal of Cllr Fairhurst from the Committee. There were no other nominations, it was therefore agreed to carry the vacancy forward</p>
FC 095-22	<p>Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021-2022 (Annual Return)</p> <p>(a) Council received and noted the annual internal audit report with thanks to the RFO and Clerk for their continued diligent and effective management of the Council's accounts</p> <p>(b) Annual Governance Statement: Council received and noted all supporting documents in support of the Statement, it was unanimously Resolved:</p> <p>To answer in the affirmative to all questions in Section 1, save for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question (k) where the response was "Not Covered" • Question (m) where the response is "No" given the timing error from the previous year (which was included in the 2021//22 external auditor's report) • Question (o) where the response was "Not applicable"
FC 096-22	<p>UDC Parish Forum Meeting</p> <p>Council approved the questions as proposed for requested inclusion in the Parish Forum meeting on 20.06.22</p>
FC 097-22	<p>Saffron Walden Town Council Market Licensing Policy</p> <p>It was unanimously Resolved:</p> <p>To adopt the Town Council Market Licensing Policy as presented with immediate effect</p>
FC 098-22	<p>UTT/21*1523/CLP – The formation, laying out and construction of a means of access to Cornells Lane in connection with the use of land (up to 14 days per calendar year) for the purposes of the holding of a market. Land to the north of Cornells Lane, Widdington, Essex</p>

	<p>Council considered the report as presented; it was Resolved:</p> <p>To adopt all of the recommendations as proposed within the report being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Progression of options B – E as contained within the report, and that these be progressed in sequential order. With regards to Option C as given in the report, Council unanimously agreed not to offer a licence to any new market in Widdington as it would be a commercially operated market, actively in conflict with the Town Council’s Market Licensing Policy; there was a firm belief that the application would detrimentally impact upon the Town Council’s long-standing and successful general market (b) Submission of an objection to the planning application, citing the reasons as stated above and quite specifically noting that SWTC’s market is protected under statutory legislation. As such, should the Local Planning Authority be minded to grant the application, it would be condoning an illegal act. (c) That a request is made to the UDC Ward Cllr (Cllr Hargreaves) covering the Widdington area to call in the planning application, so that it is considered by UDC’s Planning Committee, as opposed to being a delegated Officer decision (d) That a representative from SWTC (nominated as the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Planning and Transport Committee), attends the UDC Planning Committee to further represent SWTC’s objection, specifically noting that the LPA would find itself in breach of market legislation should it be minded to grant the application (e) The Town Clerk reports back to Council at the earliest opportunity
FC 099-22	<p>Clean Air Day 2022</p> <p>The Council’s participation in Clean Air Day 2022 was noted with a number of Councillors committing to support the market stall on 14.06.22</p>
FC 100-22	<p>Response from Home Office</p> <p>Council received and noted the response from the Home Office with disappointment given it did not specifically address any of the issues raised by Saffron Walden Town Council in its letter of 20.04.22. It was Resolved:</p> <p>To gauge any interest from other Town/Parish Councils in Uttlesford to ascertain an appetite for a collective action from local councils</p>
FC 101-22	Reports from other Meetings - No meetings reported.
FC 102-22	Additional Forthcoming Meetings - No meetings reported.
FC 103-22	Urgent Items - No matters raised.
FC 104-22	<p>Date and time of Next meeting(s)</p> <p>The Mayor reminded all that the next meeting is scheduled for 11th June 2022</p>

The Mayor closed the meeting at 8.13pm