

SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting

Date of meeting: Monday 13th March 2023 at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: Cllrs de Vries, Eke, Fairhurst, Freeman, Gadd, Hawke-Smith, Porch, Roberts and Toy.

Officers: Lisa Courtney (Town Clerk)

Public: One member of the public
Essex Police Chief Inspector Martin Richards and local officer PC Ryan McNamara

FC 032-23	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Asker, Coote, Frost, Gregory, Light, McLellan and Millward.</p>
FC 033-23	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllrs de Vries, Eke, Fairhurst and Freeman declared generic non-pecuniary interests as District Councillors for Uttlesford District Council (UDC).</p> <p>Cllr Gadd declared a generic non-pecuniary interest as County Councillor for Essex County Council.</p>
FC 034-23	<p>Public Speaking Time</p> <p>There were no questions arising.</p>
FC 035-23	<p>Uttlesford Community Policing Team - Chief Inspector Martin Richards and local officer PC Ryan McNamara</p> <p>Chief Inspector Martin Richards and local officer PC Ryan McNamara provided a verbal update on the policing team in Saffron Walden noting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essex Police is reverting back to the Town Team format, looking to recruit new officers.• The communication strategy is being reviewed and regular meetings are taking place with Uttlesford District Council.• The three priorities are violence, anti-social behaviour and road safety.• Essex Police is looking to host a community event in August 2023. <p>Questions surrounding county lines work were raised and Essex Police explained this intervention work will be carried out with the Community Safety Partnership.</p>

	<p>Councillors raised some questions around addressing lower-level crimes before it escalates, and Essex Police explained they are looking into running more school projects around intervention and support work with youths.</p> <p>Council passed on their thanks to Chief Inspector Martin Richards and PC Ryan McNamara for their update.</p>
FC 036-23	<p>Essex County Councillor Update</p> <p>Cllr Gadd explained the recycling centre booking system implemented by Essex County Council has gone live this week and residents are largely in objection to the changes. Council agreed that it did not support the booking system and wished for the service to be used as and when required basis, as previously. Cllr Gadd noted he continues to talk to ECC regarding reverting the decision.</p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To write an open letter to ECC regarding the Town Council's opposition to the newly introduced booking system.</p>
FC 037-23	<p>Mayor's Communications</p> <p>The Mayor noted he has recently attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chelmsford County Council, Service at the Cathedral • The SWTC and Churches Together, Saffron Walden Warm Hub, which had record number of attendees at the Garden Rooms. • Also attended the Garden Rooms for a photo to mark the signing of the lease.
FC 038-23	<p>To verify the Minutes of the Town Council meetings</p> <p>The 13.02.2023 Full Council minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meetings and signed by the Mayor, with the correction to the apologies (FC 018-23) as Cllr Frost was listed twice and Cllr Freeman was incorrectly omitted.</p>
FC 039-23	<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 23.02.2023 (draft minutes) • Finance and Establishment 20.02.2022 (draft minutes) • Assets and Services 27.02.2023 (draft minutes)
FC 040-23	<p>Policies</p> <p>Council unanimously agreed to re-adopt the following policies:</p> <p>a) Investment policy, with no changes and a review date of October 2025.</p>

	b) Member and Officer Protocol, to readopt and to include a reference to the adopted civility and respect pledge, with a review date of October 2025.
FC 041-23	HMS Lapwing Association Reunion 2023 Council noted the HMS Lapwing Memorial will take place on Saturday 18 th March and Cllrs should meet at St Mary's Church at 14.15 hours.
FC 042-23	Reports from other Meetings No reports from other meetings were noted.
FC 043-23	Additional Forthcoming Meetings Council noted the Annual Town Saffron Walden Meeting of Electors is taking place Tuesday 14 th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Saffron Walden. (This is not a Council meeting but is hosted by SWTC.)
FC 044-23	Urgent Items No matters raised.
FC 045-23	Date and time of Next meeting(s) The Mayor reminded all that the next meeting is scheduled for 11 th April 2023 and Cllr Hawke-Smith gave his apologies.

The Mayor closed the meeting at 8.45pm