

SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting

Date of meeting: Monday 11 September 2023 at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: Cllrs Abercrombie (Walker), Ahmed, Curtis, de Vries, Eke (Chair as Deputy Mayor), Freeman, Hawke-Smith, Jones and Meloy.

Officers: Lisa Courtney (Town Clerk)

Public: None present

FC 113-23	In the absence of the Mayor Cllr Asker, Deputy Mayor Cllr Eke chaired this meeting.
	Apologies for absence
FC 114-23	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Asker, Coote, Frost, Gadd, McBirnie, McLellan, Porch, Reeve and Shotropa.
	Declarations of Interest
FC 115-23	Cllr Freeman and Melon declared generic non-pecuniary interests as District Councillors for Uttlesford District Council (UDC). Cllr Gadd declared a generic non-pecuniary interest as County Councillor for Essex County Council.
	Public Speaking Time
FC 116-23	There were no questions arising.
	Updates from 3rd parties – for information only
FC 117-23	a) Council noted the written update from Cllr P Gadd as the Essex County Councillor. b) Cllr Freeman as UDC District Cllr, noted discussions are ongoing between UDC and Bloor Homes regarding the noise at the electrical sub-station at the Tudor Park site off Ashdon Road.
	Mayor's Communications
FC 118-23	Deputy Mayor Cllr Eke noted he recently attended a community cultural event with Cllr Melon.
	To verify the Minutes of the Town Council meetings
FC 119-23	The 10.07.2023 Full Council minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of

Signed as a true and accurate record

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	<p>the meetings and signed by the Deputy Mayor, subject to one amendment under the declaration of interest referring to Cllr Meloy as a member of St Mary's church which should read as <i>member of the friends of Saffron Walden Church</i>.</p>
FC 120-23	<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 13.07.2023 (Approved minutes) • Planning and Transport 27.07.2023 (Approved minutes) • Planning and Transport 10.08.2023 (Approved minutes) • Planning and Transport 24.08.2023 (draft minutes) • Finance and Establishment 17.07.2023 (draft minutes) • Assets and Services 24.08.2023 (draft minutes)
FC 121-23	<p>Policies</p> <p>Resolved: Council adopted the following policies with a three-year review date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Community Engagement b) Scheme of Delegation c) Anti-Harassment, bullying and dignity <p>Resolved: The below policy will be considered at the October meeting because the report was omitted from the published reports for this meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> d) Co-option policy
FC 122-23	<p>Priorities 2023-2027</p> <p>Council reviewed the proposed attached to the agenda for the period 2023-2027.</p> <p>Resolved: Unanimously to adopt the priorities noting they must be considered alongside the budget setting process.</p>
FC 123-23	<p>Police engagement day</p> <p>Council noted the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Notes from Meeting In August, Council attended an engagement day with the Police team. Council posed a series of questions, answers to which were attached to the agenda. b) Meeting regarding Police Specials Cllrs are invited to attend a meeting with Essex Police to discuss the appointment and retention of Police Specials on Wednesday 25th October at 11:00am at the Town Hall.

FC 124-23	<p>Budget Timetable & Working Group</p> <p>In preparation for setting the 2024/25 budget, the below was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The budget setting timetable was agreed as attached to the agenda. - The budget setting working group was established including: Cllrs Gadd, Curtis, Freeman and de Vries.
FC 125-23	<p>Business Improvement District Referendum</p> <p>At the July 2023 Council meeting, Council noted the BID referendum was in favour for a second five-year term. At this meeting, Council posed a series of questions for the BID and the responses were noted by Council at this meeting.</p>
FC 126-23	<p>Twin Town Visit</p> <p>SWTC recently received a visit from its Twin Town, Bad Wildungen, Council noted the written report attached to the agenda detailing the successful activities.</p>
FC 127-23	<p>Community Governance Review – Realignment of parish boundary</p> <p>Council noted the timeline provided by Uttlesford District Council detailing the steps required to progress with the community governance review (in relation to extension of the parish border).</p>
FC 128-23	<p>Reports from other Meetings - No meetings reported.</p>
FC 129-23	<p>Additional Forthcoming Meetings</p> <p>a) Local Council Liaison Forum (LCLF)</p> <p>Council noted the upcoming Uttlesford District Council LCLF taking place Tuesday 12th September at 7pm in the UDC offices, London Road. Attendees confirmed as follows: Cllrs Freeman, Meloy and the Town Clerk.</p> <p>b) Heritage Development Group (HDG)</p> <p>Council noted it is invited to attend the HDG meeting taking place on Wednesday 20th September at 10am in The Community Link, Market Street. Cllr Meloy confirmed attendance.</p>
FC 130-23	<p>Dance in the Square – Saffron Walden Initiative (SWI)</p> <p>Council noted the written thanks recently received from SWI for funding and supporting the Dance in the Square.</p>
FC 131-23	<p>Urgent Items - No matters raised.</p>
FC 132-23	<p>Date and time of Next meeting(s)</p> <p>The Mayor reminded all that the next meeting is scheduled for 9th October 2023 – apologies were received from Cllrs Hawke-Smith, Meloy and Curtis.</p>

The Mayor closed the meeting at 8.30pm.