



Saxmundham Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Saxmundham Town Council
7.00 pm 8th February 2021 by Video Conference

In attendance - Councillors:

Cllr. Jeremy Smith (Chair)

Cllr. Di Eastman (Vice-Chair)

Cllr. John Findlay

Cllr. John Fisher

Cllr. Charlotte Hawkins

Cllr. Nigel Hiley

Cllr Tim Lock

Cllr. James Sandbach

Also Present: Rosalind Barnett (Town Clerk)

Open Forum: No members of the public were present.

1 123/20TC	Apologies for Absence No apologies for absence were received as all councillors were in attendance.
2 124/20TC	Declarations of Interest Cllr Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 12 (134/20) as he is a trustee of The Saxmundham & District Community Interest Company.
3 125/20TC	Minutes of the Previous Meeting Town Council Meeting RESOLVED: It was unanimously resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on the 18 th January 2021 with a minor amendment. (Remove the word county item 122/20TC)
4 126/20TC	County Councillor Report Cllr R Smith congratulated the Saxmundham surgery for the effective roll out of the vaccination programme. He asked the Town Council to note that the next phase of the Sizewell C consultation process will commence in March/April. He also reported that the County Council are proposing a budget increase of 4%.
5 127/20TC	District Councillor's Report District Cllr J Fisher reported that East Suffolk would not be raising their proportion of the Council Tax. He also explained that East Suffolk had suspended bulk waste collections and that domestic waste collection had been delayed because of the snow.
6 128/20TC	Chair's Report Cllr J Smith reported that there had been a positive response to the newsletter that had been delivered to every house by the IP17 GNS volunteers and councillors. He asked councillors to note that there are 3 vacancies on the Council and that residents were being invited to put themselves forward for co-option. Cllrs briefly discussed the flying of the St George's flag for St George's Day and the possibility of decorating the Town with bunting in the summer. There was broad support for these ideas.

Signed

Date

20/4/2021

	<p>Cllr Smith expressed the Council's sadness at the death of Glynn Moyes, a former councillor who played an important role in the town. Cllr Fisher explained that Glynn had chaired the Market Hall Committee and had been instrumental in organising many events in the Town. The Chair also expressed the regret of the Council at the recent reported news of the death of Ray Friedman who had run the successful shoe repair shop in Saxmundham for 26 years.</p>
7 129/20TC	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meetings The Council received and noted the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 21 December 2020. The Council received and noted the minutes of the Resources Committee and the Market Hall Committee held on 21 December 2020 and the Amenities Committee held on 4 January 2021.</p>
8 130/20TC	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a) Cllrs noted the YTD budget reports on the Market Hall and the Town Council. The Clerk explained that depending on spending in February and March, the Council will be expecting an underspend of around £30,000 on the Town Council's budget. (Due to additional grants received in the year and savings due to Covid-19). She also reported that Market Hall is predicting a bank account balance of £6000 if a further £3000 is spent on refurbishment before the end of the financial year.</p> <p>b) The Clerk stated that the bank accounts on the 31st of January stood at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge Building Society - £ 60,000, • Saxmundham Town Council - £ 139,375.70 • Market Hall - £8977.22 <p>c) Payments were approved and noted. No late payments were received.</p>
9 131/20TC	<p>Budget 2021-2022</p> <p>Cllr Findlay presented the recommendation of the Resources Committee.</p> <p>a) RESOLVED: Cllrs. unanimously agreed to transfer any surplus funds at the end of the financial year 2020 -2021 to the council's general reserves.</p> <p>b) RESOLVED: Cllrs. unanimously agreed that the additional £7665 in the 2021-2022 budget be allocated as follows: - Covid-19 Emergency Fund (£3,000), Neighbourhood Plan (£3,000), and improvement to communications (£1,665).</p>
10 132/20TC	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Cllr Smith gave an update on the development on the Neighbourhood Plan and shared the ambitious aspiration of completing the plan by May 2022. The team are looking at commissioning a consultant to help with the final stage.</p>
11 133/20TC	<p>South Saxmundham Garden Neighbourhood- Pigeon Consultation Cllr Smith reported that the Town Council response was submitted before the Pigeon's consultation deadline.</p>
12 134/20TC	<p>Grant Request Councillors considered the grant request from the Saxmundham & District Community Interest Company for equipment for the refurbishment of the new community centre kitchen.</p>

Signed



Date

20/4/2021

	RESOLVED: Councillors unanimously agreed a grant of £4000 to the Saxmundham & District Community Interest Company from the earmarked Community Infrastructure Levy reserve.
13 135/20TC	Civic Matters – Cllrs discussed the idea of launching the Saxmundham ‘Services to the Community Award’ and agreed it would be a good idea. The Chair, Cllr Sandbach, and Cllr Eastman agreed to bring a proposal forward to a future meeting.
14 136/20TC	Reports from Councillor Representatives on Community Organisations Cllr Eastman reported that IP17 GNS had been busy in January with 136 requests for help in January and 33 in the first week in February. She also reported that the community fridge should be running at the end of February from the Town House. Cllr Hiley reported that the vaccination programme is going well at the surgery. He also stated that the letter signed by Saxmundham and other towns had been set to the Minister inviting him to visit the area to discuss the Sizewell C development. Cllr Findlay gave an update on the Community Partnership Town map and signage project. He informed the council that one of the signs will now be located outside the Edge Café.
15 137/20TC	Correspondence The Clerk explained that the purpose of the new agenda item ‘correspondence’ was to give councillors an overview of some of the communications received by the Town Council. Cllrs noted the correspondence as listed. Cllr Eastman asked if we had followed up on the contact with Flagship Housing. The Clerk said she would make contact and arrange a meeting.

The meeting closed at (8.17)p.m.

Roz Barnett

Clerk/RFO to Saxmundham Town Council

Station Approach

Saxmundham, IP17 1BW

AS THIS MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY, ALL DOCUMENTS WILL BE SIGNED AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

Signed

Date

20/4/2021

