



Saxmundham Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Saxmundham Town Council 6.00 pm Monday 8th August 2022, Market Hall, Saxmundham

Councillors

D. Eastman (Chair), J. Findlay (Vice-Chair), J. Fisher, C. Hawkins, T. Lock, J. Sandbach, J. Smith, N. Hiley, B. Gulliford, E. Clark

Also present: Karen Forster (Town Clerk)

Open Forum: There were no members of the public present.

49/22TC **Apologies:**
There were no apologies received.

50/22TC **Declaration of Interest:**
There were no declarations of interest

51/22TC **Boundary Change Proposal**
Cllr. Smith explained that Saxmundham Town Council with the support of Benhall Parish Council had submitted a recommendation to ESDC to move the parish boundary to include the planned garden neighbourhood development. ESDC had consulted on this and whilst supporting the proposal in principle had made a minor amendment which excluded three residences and was asking for the opinion of the town council to this change.
Cllr. Smith had prepared a reply attached as appendix 1 in which he outlined the reasons for the original plan and asked for them to be reconsidered however, notwithstanding these reasons, the Town Council would support the amended change proposal.
It was unanimously RESOLVED to accept Cllr. Smiths reply to ESDC.

52/22TC **Number of Councillors**
After discussion, it was RESOLVED by a majority vote of nine Councillors with one against, that, in the event of a boundary change to be agreed, the number of councillors allowed for the Town Council is increased to twelve (which is an increase of one).

53/22TC **Christmas Event**
Working Party
It was unanimously RESOLVED that a working party for the Christmas Event is set up with Cllrs. Eastman, Sandbach, Findlay and Gulliford as members. This working party will report to the Events & Communications committee.

Delegated Christmas Event budget

It was unanimously RESOLVED that the £13,000 budget for the event be delegated to the Events & Communications committee.

Meeting ended at 6.29 pm

Karen Forster Interim Clerk to Saxmundham Town Council

Signed _____

Date _____

26/9/22

Appendix 1.

East Suffolk Council Community Governance Review – amended draft Recommendation 7 of the Working Group: the Saxmundham / Benhall parish boundary

Saxmundham Town Council's response

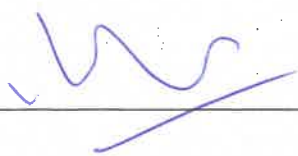
(1) For the reasons of coherent future local administration, local identity and community governance, as set out in our earlier response, Saxmundham Town Council considers that the best solution, given the proposed development of the new 800 home South Saxmundham Garden Neighbourhood and related development proposals, is generally that set out in the map proposed in Community Governance Review Member Working Group's first-round recommendation;

(2) As we have previously stated, we would not oppose, if deemed expedient by East Suffolk Council, the retention for the future of the 3 existing dwellings west of the railway line within the parish of Benhall. We note that two of them are immediately adjacent to the railway, so that their retention within Benhall parish can be very simply effected by minor adjustments to the map. The third (Kiln Farm) would require a small 'carve-out' of a part of Kiln Lane to cover this property, but this does not raise any significant problem.

(3) The new proposed map excludes, however, the whole of the narrow triangular area to the south of the site and situated between the railway and the A12 bypass. While this area does not comprise part of the Local Plan site formally identified for the Garden Neighbourhood development, the would-be developers have earlier made proposals for its integration into the overall site (e.g. to form part of the SANG), and we believe that – in view of its location and points of access – this area would in principle be more appropriate to be included within Saxmundham parish in future, as closely linked to the Garden Neighbourhood development. This can be achieved while excluding the 3 dwellings through minor boundary changes, as set out above, if deemed appropriate;

(4) If our contention under (3) is not accepted, we confirm that we have no further objection to the amended draft Recommendation 7 setting out the proposed changed Benhall / Saxmundham boundary, and which on that basis, we would support.

Signed



Date

26/9/22