



Saxmundham Town Council


Minutes of the Meeting of Saxmundham Town Council 7.00pm Monday 10th October 2022, Market Hall,

Councillors

Di Eastman (Chair), John Findlay (Vice-Chair), John Fisher, Charlotte Hawkins, Tim Lock, James Sandbach, Jeremy Smith, Nigel Hiley, Benjamin Gulliford, Elizabeth Clark

Also present: Karen Forster (Town Clerk), County Councillor R. Smith MVO

Open Forum: There was 1 member of the public present.

- 62/22TC **Apologies:** There were apologies received from Cllr Lock due to illness.
- 63/22TC **Co-option of a New Councillor.**
It was **RESOLVED (with one abstention)** to co-opt Marianne Kiff to the Council. Cllr. Kiff signed the Declaration of Acceptance, which was witnessed by the Clerk, and joined the meeting.
- 64/22TC **Declaration of Interest:** None received
- 65/22TC **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**
The minutes of the meeting 26th September were presented for approval. It was noted that the name of the Resources Committee had been erroneously shown as Resources and Governance. This was amended and the Chair signed the document. It was **unanimously resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting and the Chair signed the document.**
- 66/22TC **Minutes of the Previous Committee Meetings:** 
a) The draft minutes of the Resources & Governance Committee held 26th September were noted
b) The draft minutes of the Planning & Development Committee held 7th September were noted
- 67/22TC **County Councillor's Report:**
County Councillor Richard Smith was not present
- 68/22TC **District Councillor's Report:**
District Councillor John Fisher stated that the report from District Council Leader S. Gallant (previously circulated) covered most items. In addition, he stated that:
- Government was now spreading out the care of refugees across the UK resulting in 136 being allocated to East Suffolk
 - Free parking is available for the Remembrance service and for the Christmas Event. The Clerk is to reply. **NOTED**
- 69/22TC **Chairs Report**
The Chair commented on the following:
The recent Saturday market on 8th October launched the Memorial Trail. Some local families had come forward as relatives of the people who had been identified on the trail. The "sponsor a tree" for the Memorial Field had also gone well with twelve people putting their contact details forward.
The Chair reminded councillors of the Re-dedication service on 5th November.

Signed _____

Date _____

17/11/22

The planting on the Memorial Field will start on 11th October, some edging is to be completed and there may be something identified for the centre area.

Cllr. Smith added that there had been a major electrical outage of nine hours on 9th October. Various Councillors joined in at this point agreeing that there had been good levels of update and installation of generators.

The Chair stated that she had attended a meeting that morning regarding the establishment of a warm hub in the Town. The Library was already organising them, but could not do Mondays or Thursdays. Other providers of support, including IP17GNS, the Art Station, Frómus Centre and St John's, were also there and plan to continue to work together with the Library to enable a warm hub to be available for Saxmundham residents 7 days a week.

70/22TC Audit Report

The External Audit report and certificate had been received. There was one matter identified which was down to a transposition of numbers on the AGAR which had been corrected. **NOTED**

71/22TC Financial Matters:

a) **It was unanimously RESOLVED to note and ratify the payments and receipts for September 2022 for the Town Council, Gannon Rooms and the Market Hall.**

b) The Bank balances were reported as follows:

Gannon Rooms	£ 5,856.90
Market Hall	£ 13,439.46
Town Council (Unity Bank & Cambridge BS)	£ 318,0773.42

c) **It was unanimously RESOLVED to allocate £5,000 of CIL towards the Gannon Rooms for the decorating, electrical works, inspections, and replacement doors.**

d) The 2nd half of the Precept had been received. **NOTED**

e) A grant of £1,000 had been received towards the Christmas Event. **NOTED**

f) £50k to be transferred from the Unity Bank to the Cambridge Building Society on the next payment run. **NOTED**

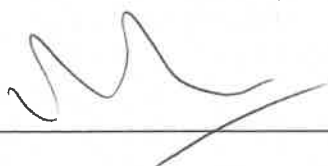
72/22TC Governance Review

An email from the Electoral department of ESDC had been received confirming that the boundary changes and increase in number of councillors had been approved by ESDC and was now awaiting approval by the Boundary Commission. **NOTED**. Cllr. Smith questioned whether the land on the other side of the A12 was still within the boundary change as no map had been provided. District Councillor Fisher confirmed that it was as he had already spoken to ESDC on this matter. The Clerk was asked to confirm with ESDC and obtain a map. **NOTED**

73/22TC CCTV

The Clerk presented a report from M. Light after a survey of the business owners on the High Street, Fromus Square and the Market Place regarding CCTV. There was overwhelmingly no interest in the Council implementing CCTV, the majority of businesses having their own version. **NOTED**

Signed _____



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74/22TC **Weekly Market.**

The Clerk presented a proposal to examine and redevelop the weekly market with a plan to relaunch as a Spring Market in April.

Cllr. Smith stated that County Councillor Richard Smith MVO had wanted the weekly market continued a few years ago and could any project team ensure that Richard is kept informed. **NOTED**

The project would be led by the Officers, using the expertise of the Town Co-ordinators who had organised the successful monthly markets. Cllr. Gulliford asked to be included in the team. The proposals would then be brought back to Council. **NOTED**

It was unanimously RESOLVED to initiate a project to redevelop the weekly market, looking at location, days and times and costs/income.

75/22TC **Memorial Field**

As Cllr. Lock was not present there was no update, however, the Chair had covered most of the points in her report.

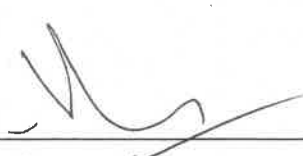
76/22TC **Christmas Event**

The Chair reported that the light switch on would be at 4.30pm. She reported that the list of acts performing was almost complete and everything was coming together nicely, as shown by the amount of green on her spreadsheet. The project cost is currently within budget.

Meeting ended at 8.15 pm

Karen Forster
Interim Clerk to Saxmundham Town Council

Signed _____



Date _____

17/4/22

