

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sandwich Town Council held Monday 21st August 2017, in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Sandwich at 7:00pm.

Present: **Councillors:** **The Mayor, Cllr Graeme (in the chair)**
 HJ Bragg
 PI Carter
 RA Daw
 Mrs J Dunay
 JE Franklin
 D Friend
 JEM Gisbey
 MJ Holloway
 VA Liote
 Ms L O'Donoghue
 JO Sneller
 JJ Watts
 DMA Wood

Officer: **Miss L Fidler & Ms A Irwin**

01.08.17 MAYOR'S OPENING COMMENTS

The Mayor drew Councillors attention to the fact that this was the last Council meeting to be attended by the Town Clerk before she left for maternity leave for 9 months and wished her well. The Mayor also briefly referenced the public meeting hosted by the Town Council on 15th August 2017 regarding the St Peters bells noise complaint and highlighted the strength of feeling within the community on this issue. Finally, the Mayor mentioned the upcoming election scheduled for 7th September 2017.

02.08.17 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Moorhouse who is on holiday. There is also one vacancy.

03.08.17 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or other significant interest.

04.08.17 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting held on 31st July 2017 were received.

RESOLUTION: The Minutes were approved as accurate and signed.

05.08.17 PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The schedule of payments, totalling £32,405.67, was received, approved and signed.

06.08.17 PUBLIC RIGHT TO SPEAK

Local resident Mr Loffman spoke on the matter of the Historic Boatyard and raised concerns felt by he and friends over progress of this project. A copy of Mr Loffman's notes detailing points raised is attached to these minutes.

Attach. A

07.08.17 CRIME STATISTICS & COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Council received and considered a report setting out the most recent crime and anti-social behaviour statistics available via the Police.UK website (May 2017) was received and noted.

RESOLUTION: That this information be noted.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (application plans and papers were available to view in advance of the meeting via the Dover District Council website – use of a computer in the Town Clerk’s office was possible by arrangement)

(i) 17/00654| Repair of first floor principle ceiling joist and removal of ground floor partition | Delf Cottage, 27 Delf Street, Sandwich, CT13 9HD

RESOLUTION: To raise no objections.

(ii) 17/00840| Erection of a detached garage/home office (existing carport to be demolished)| 5 Dover Road, Sandwich, CT13 0BH

RESOLUTION: To raise no objections.

(iii) 17/00869| Erection of a single storey flat roof rear extension, single storey rear conservatory extension and alterations to rear first floor window including installation of a Juliette balcony| The Maltings, 6 Cottage Row, Sandwich, CT13 9HR

RESOLUTION: That a lead roof with small parapet in the corner be requested but otherwise to raise no objections.

(iv) 17/00870| Proposed single-storey flat roof rear kitchen extension. Proposed garden room extension. Replacement of existing 1st floor window to rear elevation with French doors and guard rail.| The Maltings, 6 Cottage Row, Sandwich, CT13 9HR

RESOLUTION: That a lead roof with small parapet in the corner be requested but otherwise to raise no objections.

(v) 17/00897|Conversion of garage to living accommodation, replace garage door with window and installation of external cladding. | 28 New Street, Sandwich, CT13 9AB

RESOLUTION: that appropriately fire retardant cladding be used in light of recent events but otherwise no objections.

(vi) 17/00911| Erection of single-storey rear extension. Removal of existing rear French doors | 19 New Street, Sandwich, CT13 9AB

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(vii) 17/00929| Repair and re-covering of existing roof | Melody House, 64 New Street, Sandwich, CT13 9BB

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(viii) 17/00930| Repair and re-covering of existing roof | Melody House, 64 New Street, Sandwich, CT13 9BB

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(ix) 17/00910| Erection of a single storey rear extension | 19 New Street, Sandwich, CT13 9AB

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(x) 17/00798| Erection of a single storey side extension to existing ancillary building formation of raised terrace area, with ramp and steps | The Old Cottage, Loop Street, Sandwich, CT13 9HE

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(xi) 17/00971| Erection of 2no. detached buildings for use as Use Class B1 (Business) and creation of additional parking | Site at unit 2, Building 5 Sandwich Industrial Estate, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, CT13 9FA

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(xii) 17/00482| Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extensions (amended description and drawings) | 24 St Barts Road, Sandwich, CT13 0BG

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(xiii) 17/00875| Insertion f rooflights erection of dormer roof extension and first floor window to garage (to facilitate provision of living accommodation above garage) and installation of new cladding | 2 Mulberry Field, Sandwich, CT13 9DJ

RESOLUTION: To raise no objection.

(xiv) 17/00876| Erection of 120 dwellings, including 36 affordable homes with new vehicular and pedestrian access, internal access roads, car parking, landscaping, provision of 0.84 hectares of open space and a locally equipped area for children’s play (LEAP) | Land east of Woodnesborough Road Sandwich, Woodnesborough Road, Sandwich, CT13 0BA

RESOLUTION:

- (i) That a letter be written to Abbey Homes expressing the will of the Council that access to the site must be improved before the Council can consider endorsing this application.
- (ii) That a meeting be requested with DDC planning team and KCC Highways to express the concerns of the Council over this application.

09.08.17

PLANNING DECISIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

The Following planning decisions were reported from Dover District Council:

- (i) 17/00716 | Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) for the erection of a single storey side extension (existing garage to be demolished) | 23 St Georges Road, Sandwich, CT13 9LF| *GRANTED PERMISSION*
- (ii) 17/00654 | Repair of first floor principle ceiling joist and removal of ground floor partition | Delf Cottage, 27 Delf Street, Sandwich, CT13 9HD| *GRANTED PERMISSION*
- (iii) 17/00304 | Change of use of shop and flat into self-contained residential dwelling (C3) including the erection of a single storey rear extension | 6 St Peters Street, Sandwich, CT13 9BW| *GRANTED PERMISSION*

10.08.17

MONKS WALL NATUR RESERVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE VACANCY

The Council received and considered an email to the Town Clerk recommending a candidate to fill the vacancy on the committee.

RESOLUTION: That the Council approve the recommendation and the candidate be contacted by the Town Clerks office.

11.08.17

ST PETERS CHURCH BELLS

The Council received and considered draft minutes from a public meeting held on 15th August 2017 regarding the chiming of the bells at St Peters Church.

RESOLUTION:

- (i) It was agreed that the Council would support the will of the community on this issue and that Cllr Ms O'Donoghue would monitor progress of the 'Save the Chimes' group on behalf of the Council.
- (ii) It was agreed that the Council would not allow the banner of 'Save the Chimes' to be hung from the Guildhall balcony as requested.

12.08.17

SANDWICH SHOWGROUND EVENT

The Council received and considered an email from Cllr Carter regarding feedback form the community following a recent event at the Sandwich Showground.

RESOLUTION: It was agreed that a letter be sent to Dover District Council asking that amplified music on the Showground be monitored and that helicopters running from the site be routed in a westerly direction over the agricultural land rather than Sandwich town centre.

13.08.17

UPDATES FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS REGARDING OUTSIDE BODIES ON WHICH THEY REPRESENT SANDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Cllr Wood advised that he would update on progress with the Christmas lights after their next meeting.

14.08.17

REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS ON MATTERS DIRECTLY RELATED TO SANDWICH

Kent County Councillor, Mrs Sue Chandler reported that:

–She will be happy to assist in liaising between Sandwich Town Council and Kent County Council on current planning and highways issues where appropriate.

Cllr Holloway reported that:

- The latest status of the issue over the closure of the Dover District Council helpdesk situated in the Guildhall is that the meeting with Dominic Whelan of EK Services has now been held and the fundamental outcome was that closure is inevitable and the key now is therefore mitigation of the effects and easing of the transition process for all involved.

RESOLUTION: That the Dover District Council desk closure issue will be added to the September agenda for further discussion.

15.08.17

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

(i) It was RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

(ii) Councillors received a written report from the Town Clerk on matters relating to the purchase of the ACF Sandwich (the Drill Hall).

RESOLUTION:

- (i) **To proceed with the loan request for purchase of the Drill Hall.**
- (ii) **To approve the proposal for payment of related disbursements.**

(iii) Councillors received and considered a request for further information in relation to the Historic Boatyard from Cllr Wood. The response to Cllr Wood's queries from Dover District Council was read out to Councillors.

RESOLUTION:

- (i) **The Mayor would speak to involved parties regarding progress of the project.**
- (ii) **That a letter be sent to the member of public who spoke at the outset of this meeting on this matter clarifying the position as understood by the Council.**

(iv) Councillors received and considered a report from the Town Clerk regarding the retirement of two of the Guildhall caretakers.

RESOLUTION: That the proposed timetable of events be agreed, that Haley Sharpe design be asked to review caretaking provisions for the building as soon as possible and that the Council office can proceed with recruitment once the relevant DDC benchmarking is complete and if it proves to be financially neutral without further recourse to the Council.

16.08.17

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 25th September 2017, at 7pm, in the Council Chamber, Guildhall (**Ordinary Meeting**).

- 2 yrs ago I shared a shift on the reception desk at St Peters during Arts Week with Bob Martin & Was excited by
- a key question is what is now being presented the same as originally conceived especially with regard to a community-based trust leasing and running? The answer 'roughly' I am sorry to say is utterly inadequate to the feelings of disappointment and outrage felt by a number of residents.
- Another key question is how long-term the exciting prospect of ship-building and apprenticeships would be. The answer seems again to be not long-term at all. That a scaled-down version of a boat and after that no commitment at all.
- It all feels that there has been a year of behind closed doors manoeuvring from the public perspective and there is a need for transparency in all the dealings regarding the project *- why can't the leasing agreement wait until budget trial was properly completed*
- My friends and I are hoping that the STC has been placed in an invidious position by DDC. However, unless STC stand up for the project as originally conceived and do not content themselves with a shoddy compromise there could be a feeling that the benefit to Sandwich is not as great a priority as party politics with regard to DDC.
- Therefore some things I would certainly like to hear from STC are -
 - i. in what way does the STC intend to censure the DDC over this matter
 - ii. what actions does the STC intend to correct the matter - such as confirming the long-term future of the apprenticeships and boatbuilding
 - iii. can STC confirm that there has been no collusion or lack of integrity in this matter that might require legal advice
 - iv. will STC place in public domain all of the agreements and the process undertaken which the public have not been privy to in order to address the matter of transparency.

contact details

