

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST NEOTS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE MOOT, THE PRIORY CENTRE, ST NEOTS
ON THURSDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2011

PRESENT: Cllr G Thorpe – Chairman
Cllr Mrs B Arnold
Cllr Mrs J Bird
Cllr B Chapman
Cllr Mrs D Collins
Cllr Mrs K Cooper
Cllr D Giles

Cllr Mrs J Hayward
Cllr Mrs L Ottolangu
Cllr L Roberts
Cllr P K Ursell
Cllr S van de Kerkhove

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Cooper-Marsh (work commitment), Cllr A Cummings (family engagement), Cllr R W Eaton (prior engagement), Cllr D Harty (prior engagement), Cllr D Terry (holiday).

Cllr O Reynolds was not present.

81. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

82. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported that he and his Mayoral team had attended seven engagements since the last full Council meeting. There were 24 forthcoming engagements planned for this month.

The Mayor reminded Members that the next Community Coffee Morning would take place on Saturday 12 February in the Priory Centre Coffee Bar, followed by an Allotment meeting. All Members were invited.

Charity and Community Groups have been invited to take part in the Farmers' Markets on 12 and 26 March to provide publicity on their Groups.

The Mayor's End of Term Meal would take place in the Hong Kong Restaurant on 23 March. Please contact the Mayor's Secretary for further information.

The next Huntingdonshire District Council Meeting will be held on 23 February at 7pm in the Civic Suite.

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The next St Neots Forum will be held in the Priory Centre on 11 April at 7pm.

83. MINUTES

- (i) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 13 January were **APPROVED**;
- (ii) The Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 13 and 27 January 2011 were **RECEIVED**;
- (iii) The Minutes of the Health & Safety Committee meeting held on 24 January were **RECEIVED**;
- (iv) The Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 24 January were **RECEIVED**;
- (v) The Minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 24 January were **RECEIVED**;
- (vi) The Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 27 January were **RECEIVED**;
- (vii) The Minutes of the Operations & Amenities Committee meeting held on 27 January were **RECEIVED**.

84. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Chapman had attended a Loves Farm Community Centre meeting earlier that day at which the Committee were looking at plans and funds needed to build a new centre. They would need to raise a large amount of money. He asked for confirmation that the Town Council had put money aside in the budget to support the build.

The Chairman reminded Cllr Chapman that £60,000 had been earmarked in next year's budget for the provision or fitting out of a community centre in Eynesbury.

85. QUALITY STATUS

Diane Bayliss, Project Officer of the Quality Council at Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils informed Members that St Neots Town Council had now been awarded Quality Status reaccreditation.

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The Chairman thanked the Town Clerk for the hard work she had put into this achievement.

86. GRANT AID

The Responsible Finance Officer reported that application forms were now available for this year's Grant Aid scheme. Information had been placed on the Town Council website, in noticeboards around the town and in the local newspaper. Applications should be submitted by 31 March 2011 for consideration by the Finance & General Purposes Committee in June.

Total funds available for Grant Aid are £51,000 consisting of:

£36,000 for General Grants
£ 5,000 for Arts and Drama Provision
£10,000 for Youth Provision

Cllr Giles asked the Responsible Finance Officer how much could be given in grant aid under Section 137 of the Local Government Act of 1972.

The Responsible Finance Officer to advise all Members of this by email.

Members **NOTED** the report.

87. CONSTITUTION REVIEW

This item was deferred and will be considered at the next full Council meeting.

88. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The Town Clerk had received a request from Cambridgeshire County Council Traffic Management Committee inviting representatives from all local parishes and towns to a meeting to discuss issues associated with heavy traffic.

Members will be advised of details by email and to let the Clerk know if they wish to attend.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

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CHAIRMAN
03.02.11

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