

Snodland Town Council – Annual Town Meeting

27 April 2023

Councillors in attendance:	Cllrs Cllr Mrs S Bell (C), Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf (VC), Mrs N Misy (DVC), A Bennison, Mrs D Crook, P Hickmott, Ms D King, Cllr D Lettington and Mrs S Shaw
Other Council Members in Attendance:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO)
Others in Attendance	County Cllr Mrs S Hohler, 6 Members of the Public were in attendance
Councillors Absent with apologies:	Cllrs J Butterfield, J Minter, Miss V Parker
Councillors Absent without apologies:	Cllr W Mallard
Other Apologies:	PCSO N Houghton

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>See above.</p>
2.	<p><u>To confirm the minutes of the 5 May 2022 to be taken as read (copies available from the Council Office)</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of the 27 April 2023 were circulated.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that the minutes of 5 May 2022 were a correct record of the meeting.</p>
3.	<p>To receive the report of the County Councillor</p> <p>County Councillor (CC) Mrs Sarah Hohler’s report was circulated. Mrs Hohler reported on a range of Council services affecting the borough. The CC’s report can be viewed on file.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked CC Mrs Hohler for her work on behalf of Snodland Council and for attending the meeting.</p>
4.	<p>To receive the reports of the various Committees</p> <p>All Council Committee reports were circulated and reported (full copies can be viewed on file).</p>
5.	<p><u>To receive the report of the Chairman of the Council</u></p> <p>The Chairman’s report was circulated and reported (copy on file).</p> <p>The Chairman finally thanked the CEO and members of the Council staff for their continued support and dedication to the Town, along with the Town and Borough Councillors.</p> <p>The Chairman also referred to her year as Mayor for Tonbridge and Malling and that it had been an absolute privilege to represent her own constituency of Snodland.</p> <p>Cllr Lettington commented on the Antique Centre that the Chairman mentioned in her</p>

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	<p>report. He went on to say that prior to it opening as an Antique Centre, planning permission had been put in to convert the building into 14 small, cramped Apartments with insufficient parking spaces. It is partly due to the comments made by this council that the planning Committee at Tonbridge and Malling managed to overturn the application and the building remaining as a retail building. This shows the value of the comments made by our planning committee.</p>
6.	<p><u>Question time – Only previously submitted questions will be taken during this time and questions must be submitted to the Office in writing at least 7 days in advance of the meeting</u></p> <p>There were no questions from members of the public.</p>
7.	<p><u>Presentation of the KALC Community Award</u></p> <p>The Chairman presented the Kent Association of Local Council's awards, The first award was delayed from 2020 following the cancellation of the Town Meeting due to Covid.</p> <p>The Award for 2020 was presented to Lyn Pilkington in recognition for her Voluntary and long serving role as a Beaver Leader. Working for many years with Students at Holmesdale School. Lyn was instrumental in setting up the Beaver Group in Snodland 39 years ago.</p> <p>The Award for 2023 was presented to Mel Rayfield for the outstanding contribution to the community, his support to the organisation of local events and sporting activities. Mr Totham gave a precis of the many activities and organisations Mel has supported over the years starting with the BT better Towns initiative to help improved business in the Town with the re-emergence of the Chamber of Commerce and the start of the magazine Town Talk. He went on to be the driving force behind a 2-week 40 event festival in 2007 showing of the wide and varied organisations within Snodland, culminating with Party in the park, which continued for the following two years. Mel went on to amalgamate the various football clubs in Snodland into one large club. He was the driving force behind securing a lease with the Town Council to enable an area at Potyns for a fully enclosed ground with facilities.</p>
8.	<p><u>Presentation of the Snodland Community Award</u></p> <p>The Chairman presented this year's Community Award to Alan Totham, for his loyal and committed service to the Town of Snodland. Alan has been an integral part of the Snodland community for over 26 years. He was instrumental in setting up the magazine Town Talk, Party in the Park, part of the Chamber of Commerce and heavily involved in Snodland Town Football Club. A great advocate for the town.</p>

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.30pm