

## Snodland Town Council – Full Council Minutes

9 February 2023

Councillors in attendance:	Cllr Mrs S Bell (C), Mrs N Misy (DVC), A Bennison, Mrs D Crook, P Hickmott, Ms D King, Miss V Lawrence, D Lettington and Mrs S Shaw
Other Council Members in Attendance:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO)
Others in Attendance	County Cllr Mrs S Hohler, 2 Members of the public
Councillors Absent with apologies:	J Butterfield, Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf (VC), W Mallard and J Minter
Councillors Absent without apologies:	
Other Apologies:	PCSO Naomi Houghton and PCSO Suzi Leng

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>See above.</p>
2.	<p><u>Declaration of interests</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.	<p><u>Report from the Neighbourhood Police Team</u></p> <p>The CEO advised that PCSO Samir Patangwa is no longer the PCSO for Snodland and has been replaced by PCSO Houghton and Leng. Both sent their apologies for being unable to attend.</p> <p>The CEO also advised that the monthly drop-in Surgery normally held at the Council Offices had been suspended due to lack of attendance They will monitor any issues in Snodland and will look to reinstate the surgeries in the spring if the necessity arises.</p> <p>The Council members had received an E-Watch report prior to the meeting.</p>
4.	<p><u>County Councillor's Report</u></p> <p>Cllr Hohler reported on the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potholes – a huge number of complaints have been received regarding potholes and these are being dealt with as quickly as possible. The large ones will receive a temporary repair and then come back to them later.</li> <li>• Details regarding road salting schedules can be found on the KCC website.</li> <li>• A campaign for Drink and Drug driving was carried out over the holiday period with 249 arrests.</li> <li>• The budget is currently being looked at and there will inevitably be a number of cuts.</li> <li>• Kent County Council is reviewing its community services to ensure they are run as efficiently, effectively and sustainably as possible. Proposals include co-location of facilities, more flexible outreach activities, reducing the number of permanent buildings and making of the most of existing and emerging digital technologies to balance the needs of residents in Kent against the need to reduce costs as one of the measures to balance the council's budget and reduce the carbon footprint. Any changes are subject to feedback from the</li> </ul>

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	<p>public and a 10-week public consultation began on Tuesday 17 January 2023. The areas being considered as part of the proposal are community services for adults with learning difficulties, adult education, children’s centres and youth hubs, public health services for children and families and KCC Gateways.</p>
	<p><u>The Chairman moved item 7 to the next item on the agenda.</u></p>
5.	<p><u>Councillor’s Co-option</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed the Candidate.</p> <p>Councillors had received a copy of the candidate’s application form prior to the meeting. The Candidate introduced herself and gave an outline of why she wanted to become a Councillor and what attributes she could bring to the council.</p> <p><b>0987 RESOLVED</b> to co-opt Vicky Parker as Councillor for Snodland Town Council – Snodland West and Holborough Lakes once the application to TMBC electoral role has been confirmed.</p>
6.	<p><u>Questions from the Public</u></p> <p>Pursuant to Standing Order 3 e &amp; g Members of the public may make representation, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes.</p> <p>No questions from the public</p>
7.	<p><u>To receive a presentation from DHA Planning on behalf of McCulloch Homes regarding development plans at Cemetery Road/Woodlands Lake.</u></p> <p>A representative from DHA Planning presented plans relating to development plans relating to Cemetery Road and Woodlands Lake. The original proposal that was presented to council some weeks ago was to put a wedding venue on the lake, this received an unfavourable response and the developers have now come back with plans to place further residential units between the existing units. Part of the new planning application will include plans to open up the lake and would include a small café with flexible space for community use. There may also be a provision for affordable housing.</p> <p>Concerns included –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking.</li> <li>• Antisocial behaviour</li> </ul> <p>Part of the redevelopment would include some parking, however it was seen that the destination would be for local residents to walk to rather than a large scale country park type location.</p> <p>Suggestions included -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the lake should be low key, possibly without a café. Just allowing a walk around the lake.</li> <li>• Any form of café should be based on the Eco Café at Leybourne Lakes.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The track and informal parking area around the lake should not be open for general access.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed a KALC course on how to recruit and retain a diverse pool of Councillors.</li> <li>Problems with traffic on A228 which was reported to KCC, has since been rectified. The problem appeared to have been that the traffic lights were all out of sequence.</li> <li>Attended the Christmas tree event at All Saints Church.</li> </ul>
9.	<p><u>To resolve that the Minutes of the Full Council held on 8 December 2022 (pp 74-78) are a correct record</u></p> <p><b>0988 RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8 December 2022 (pp74-78) were agreed as a correct record</p> <p>Signed .....</p>
10.	<p><u>To receive reports and recommendations of Council Committees</u></p> <p>There were no recommendations from any of the meetings</p>
10.1	<p>Planning and Environment – 9 January 2023 (pp 79)</p>
10.2	<p>Policy and Resources – 19 January 2023 (pp 80-81)</p>
10.3	<p>Amenities and Recreation – 26 January 2023 (Cancelled)</p>
10.4	<p>Planning and Environment – 30 January 2023 (pp 82-83)</p>
11.	<p><u>Reports from Borough Councillors</u></p> <p>Cllr Lettington reported on the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Had received email comments that have been forwarded from correspondence from Tracey Crouch MP relating to the call for sites in the TMBC Local Plan. The Plan is progressing very slowly and there looks like there may be changes in National Legislation and guidance regarding houses targets so may well change.</li> <li>Attended a Borough meeting regarding the Borough Councils approach to Climate change and net zero.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Hickmott made further comment regarding Regulation 19 (Local Plan), a further consultation will take place in the autumn.</p> <p>Cllr Bell reported that the Leybourne Lakes is now run by the Leisure Trust which includes the car park. The charges have just been increased and old passes are no longer valid. Cllr Bell raised concerns that residents may not be aware of the changes.</p>
12.	<p><u>Town Councillors reports on meetings, events and activities attended on behalf of the Council - Councillors are reminded to only report on council related items</u></p> <p>Cllr Bell judged the Christmas window display competition with Bows receiving first prize, Moodlift Café second and CWB third.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Bennison – attended Coffee and Chat at Christ Church</p> <p>Cllr Hickmott – attended a site meeting at the disused public toilets relating to the possible conversion to a community building for the foodbank. Cllr Hickmott also attended a meeting with the current organizer of the foodbank which was a very productive meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Lettington has painted the bins and benches in Willowside and will continue to paint others once the weather gets better. Distributed the Holborough Lakes Parking consultation letters.</p> <p>Cllr Lawrence - Distributed the Holborough Lakes Parking consultation letters.</p> <p>Carried out an internal Audit.</p>
13.	<p><u>To receive details of Payments and transfers from 1 December 2022 to 31 January 2023 for Nat West Bank totaling £88205.59 and Unity Bank Payments totaling £7156.29 which includes BACS Payment lists pages 1481-1483, 1496-1498 and 1504-1505.</u></p> <p>Council members received details of payments and transfers prior to the meeting. No comments were made.</p> <p><b>0989 RESOLVED</b> to accept details of Payments and transfers from 1 December 2022 to 31 January 2023 for Nat West Bank totaling £88205.59 and Unity Bank Payments totaling £7156.29 which includes BACS Payment lists pages 1481-1483, 1496-1498 and 1504-1505.</p>
14.	<p><u>Report from the Chief Executive Officer</u></p> <p>The CEO reported on the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public spaces protection order consultation – consultation ended 15 January – included Holborough lakes. The CEO made comment that all Public open spaces in Towns and Parishes should be included.</li> <li>• Holborough Parking review has now been distributed to residents in Holborough Lakes and the surrounding roads. Awaiting responses.</li> <li>• Bowls club/Football club car park – Two meetings have taken place with Contractors and an Architect to try and find a way forward with regards to the drainage and resurfacing of the car park. This will be brought to a council meeting once further detailed plans and solutions have been sought.</li> <li>• New meeting dates cannot be confirmed beyond June as the diary for TMBC has not been completed and will not be available until after the May elections.</li> <li>• Snodland Litter Picks – Five Acres School will also be carrying out litter picks as part of a school initiative. The Town Councillor litter picks have had no dates put forward for 2023. The CEO will compile a new list for publication.</li> </ul>
15.	<p><u>To consider nominations for the KALC Community Award Scheme 2023.</u></p> <p>The CEO asked the Committee if they had any names to be put forward for the KALC Community Award Scheme. She said that she was proposing to put a person forward for this who had served the community for approximately 30 years. She explained to the Committee that further background information was needed before the application is sent. Further nominations for the STC Award should be sent to the CEO with background information.</p>

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16.      <b>0990</b>	<p><u>Permission for Snodland Community Cricket club to hold an event in the cricket meadow.</u></p> <p>The Cricket club have requested the use of the cricket meadow for a funday in July. They will apply to TMBC for a TENS Licence.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to allow the Cricket Club the use of the cricket meadow for a funday, on condition that they have all the appropriate liability insurance and licences.</p>
17.      <b>0991</b>	<p><u>To consider the date of Fireworks of either Wednesday 1 November or 8 November 2023.</u></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to hold the firework display on Wednesday 8 November to move it away from Halloween.</p>
18.	<p><u>Kent County Council (KCC) has launched a public consultation on its Community Services which runs from 17 January to 26 March 2023.</u></p> <p>The consultation proposes changes to the way they use their buildings to deliver some of their community services. Feedback is invited on the proposals as part of this consultation. The existing facilities in Snodland will not be affected. Councillors are invited to take part in the consultation.</p>
19.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p>
<p><b><u>THE COMMITTEE HAS AGREED That in view of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be Temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.</u></b></p>	
20.      <b>0992</b>	<p>CEO Appraisal</p> <p>Mrs K Sowten left the meeting for the Committee to discuss the CEO's annual salary increase.</p> <p>The Chairman of the council had carried out the CEO's annual appraisal and this was reported to Councillors.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> - to accept the appraisal and 1 increment point increase from April 2023.</p>

being no other business, the meeting closed at 21:20