

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Community & Wellbeing Committee Held on 24th June 2024 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, TN13 3QG

Livestreamed and available to view on YouTube until approved by Council:

<https://youtube.com/live/qNNGydnAtB4?feature=share>

Meeting commenced: 7:00pm

Meeting Concluded: 7.39pm

Present:

Cllr Claire Shea, Chair	Present	Cllr Chloe Gustard	Apologies
Cllr Victoria Granville, Vice-Chair	Present	Cllr Lise Michaelides	Present
Cllr Libby Ancrum (Mayor, ex-officio)	Present	Cllr Gareth Willis	Apologies
Cllr Catherine Daniell (Deputy Leader)	Present		

In attendance: Cllr Dr Merylyn Canet, Cllr Nigel Wightman, Town Clerk and Senior Committee Clerk.

Representations received from Members of the Public: None

177 Chair and Vice-Chair

It was noted that at the Annual Town Council meeting held on 13th May 2024, the following appointments were made:

- 1) Chair of Community & Wellbeing Committee – Cllr Claire Shea
- 2) Vice-Chair of Community & Wellbeing Committee – Cllr Victoria Granville

178 Terms of Reference

RESOLVED: to receive and note the Terms of Reference of the Community & Wellbeing Committee adopted at the Annual Council meeting on 13th May 2024.

179 Apologies for Absence

As noted above.

180 Dispensations: There were no requests for dispensations.

181 Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

182 Community Groups

The Committee considered ways to identify community groups to support and promote, in accordance with Terms of Reference 3 of the Committee.

The Chair advised that the Committee needed to be mindful of what support the Town Council might be able to deliver directly and what areas they could work with people to make improvements.

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RESOLVED: that a framework be established based on the objectives set out in the Terms of Reference, detailing where possible existing community groups operating in those areas to identify where the greatest need might be. Once the framework was in place the Committee could identify local groups to consult with.

183 Community Support

The Committee considered ways to identify gaps in community support (including healthcare) and lobby for improvement, in accordance with Terms of Reference 4 of the Committee.

The Committee expressed concern about the current closure of the rehabilitation ward at Sevenoaks Hospital. It was agreed that the Chief Executive Officer of the hospital be invited to a future meeting to discuss her vision for provision in the town.

It was also suggested that a representative of the Sevenoaks Primary Care Network be invited to attend a meeting to discuss their role.

It was noted that the consideration of community facilities was essential in the light of the Tarmac development, Master Planning for the Town Centre and development proposals for land east of the High Street.

Councillors were asked to send in any suggestions in relation to the promotion of new education provision, faith facilities and other necessary community infrastructure, for inclusion in future agendas.

RESOLVED: To invite the Chief Executive Officer of Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust and a representative of the Sevenoaks Primary Care Network to a future meeting.

184 Community Grant Applications

The Committee noted that grant applications were invited from local community groups twice a year and would be considered by Working Groups as appropriate, and recommendations made to this Committee.

This Committee had delegated authority to make decisions within the agreed budget, with any additional spending proposals to be recommended to the Finance & Delivery Committee for consideration.

The criteria set out in the Grants Guidance Notes for applicants were considered, together with details of grants awarded between 2022 – 2024 to date.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) The grant application process be noted.
- 2) The Grants Guidance Notes for applicants be updated to expand the environmental impact section in Part 1 of the grant application form to include how organisations have a positive impact on accessibility.

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185 Youth Services Working Group held on 22nd May 2024

RESOLVED: To receive and note the minutes of the Youth Services Working Group held on 22nd May 2024 and to note that the recommendations therein had been approved by the Finance & Delivery Committee on 10th June 2024.

186 Sports Strategy Working Group held on 29th May 2024

It was noted that the Sports Strategy Group had agreed to approach Sevenoaks District Council to release £150k Section 106 funds for Indoor Cricket to be used for Outdoor Cricket facilities: this item to be included on the agenda for the next meeting of this Committee.

The Committee noted that most sports clubs had a system for enabling access to sports for financially disadvantaged people or those with medical or physical needs. There had been discussion at the Sports Strategy Working Group about creating a wider fund, perhaps with contributions from local businesses.

It was agreed that Sevenoaks District Council be encouraged to attend the Sports Strategy meeting to facilitate collaboration on sports provision in the town.

RESOLVED:

- 1) to receive and note the minutes of the meeting of the Sports Strategy Working Group held on 29th May 2024.
- 2) That the S.106 agreement for indoor cricket be on next agenda.

187 Arts & Culture Working Group held on 19th June 2024

It was noted that the Working Group had agreed that a draft working document be created setting out the ambitions of the Working Group for the Sevenoaks Cultural Strategy in the medium and long term, including what has been achieved so far, and to monitor progress.

RESOLVED: to receive and note the minutes of the meeting of the Arts & Culture Working Group held on 19th June 2024.

188 Press Release: None

There being no further business the Chair closed the Meeting.

Signed

Dated

Chair