

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 22nd November 2021 At Bat & Ball Centre, Crampton's Road, Sevenoaks

Livestreamed on YouTube <https://youtu.be/jrYr7UHr4W8>

Meeting Commenced: 8.07 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 8.50 p.m.

Cllr Keith Bonin	Present		Cllr Nicholas Busvine	Present
Cllr Sue Camp	Present		Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet, Mayor	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Present		Cllr Andrew Eyre	Present
Cllr Victoria Granville-Baxter	Present		Cllr Roderick Hogarth	Present
Cllr Lise Michaelides	Present		Cllr Tom Morris Brown	Apologies
Cllr Rachel Parry, Deputy Mayor	Apologies		Cllr Richard Parry	Present
Cllr Robert Piper	Apologies		Cllr Simon Raikes	Present
Cllr Claire Shea	Present		Cllr Edward Waite	Apologies

In Attendance: Town Clerk via Zoom, Responsible Finance Officer, OSR Committee Clerk, KCC Cllr Streatfeild.

Representations received from Members of the Public

Kent County Councillor Richard Streatfeild addressed the meeting regarding the following matters:

- Adult Social Care Committee
- Unaccompanied Minors Landing in Kent
- Pressure on Health and Social Care system caused by pandemic
- Grant of £4000 to three local primary schools for Educational Psychologist support
- £2000 funding to Town Team for the cleaning of street furniture and future improvements within Sevenoaks Public Realm
- Croudace planning application on Brittain's Lane

At the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor read two letters to the Council:

1) The Society for Local Council Professionals

From Robert Smith, Chief Executive Officer:

"As Linda's term of office draws to a close, I write to express the Society's deepest gratitude to you and Sevenoaks Town Council for the support and accommodation you have given her in her term as President of the Society of Local Council Clerks. The time has not been without its challenges and certainly wasn't what she had planned, but it has, nonetheless, been an incredibly successful presidency and she has achieved a great deal not only in terms of the Society's aims but also in terms of raising the profile of some of the key issues facing the local council sector. Linda's contribution

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has been significant and it's a reflection of the time, effort, and commitment she has put into the role.

I am only too aware that no Clerk can make such a contribution without the backing of the council so please accept our abiding thanks for enabling Linda to commit to the role and fulfil her responsibilities. We are hugely grateful to Linda but equally grateful to you and Sevenoaks Town Council."

The Committee praised the Town Clerk for her outstanding work.

2) Friends of Sevenoaks

Letter from Joachim Weiß, Chairman Freunde von Sevenoaks e. V.

"My name is Joachim Weiß, and I am pleased to be able to write you this letter today. 2,460 EUR from the fundraising campaign 'Rheinbach Flood Disaster Appeal' of the Friends of Rheinbach were officially handed over to our Mayor Ludger Banken and the town of Rheinbach on 4th November 2021.

According to the wish of the 'Friends of Rheinbach', the donation is to be made available to kindergartens and schools. Those were affected by the devastating storm on 14th July 2021 and lost personal school supplies, toys, books, and other important items.

In the area of our town, we only learned after days - due to the total power failure and loss of communications - of the extent of the enormous destruction outside our local area in the nearby Ahr Valley, in Bad Münstereifel and in numerous other municipalities in Nordrhein-Westfalen and Rheinland-Pfalz.

Both, as well the immediate commitment of the 'Friends of Rheinbach' as many donors from Sevenoaks we have experienced with great gratitude.

After general letters of thanks to the 'Friends of Rheinbach', I would like to say thank you personally for your generous donation also on behalf of all Freunde von Sevenoaks."

385. Apologies for Absence: as shown above.

386. Requests for Dispensations: none received.

387. Declarations of Interest: none received.

388. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 13th September 2021

RESOLVED: to accept and sign the Minutes of the Sevenoaks Town Council Meeting held on 13th September 2021 as a true record.

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389. Minutes of Committees

Council was asked to consider and adopt the Minutes of Committees as follows:

389.1 Planning Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 6th September, 20th September, 4th October, 18th October, and 1st November 2021 as true records.

389.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 13th September 2021 as a true record.

389.3. Youth Services Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Services Committee held on 8th September and 3rd November 2021 as a true record.

389.4. Open Space & Leisure Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of Open Spaces and Leisure Committee held on 27th September and 8th November 2021 as a true record.

389.5. Personnel Committee

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 25th October 2021 as a true record.

390. Sevenoaks District Town & Parish Charter 2021

To receive and consider the Sevenoaks District Town & Parish Charter 2021.

RESOLVED: To reply to the Sevenoaks District Council with the following comments:

- 1) At least one month should be available for consultation periods, ideally 6 – 8 weeks, because some local councils only meet monthly.
- 2) Make corrections of some grammatical errors within the document.
- 3) It was recommended that the following paragraph *In line with the current CIL Legislation, ensure the process of collecting CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) and distributing due receipts is undertaken as efficiently as possible* be changed to *...distributing due receipts is undertaken efficiently and transparently.*
- 4) It was thought there should be more emphasis on listening to local councils and tiers of local government working together to better meet the needs of the community to ensure better delivery of service.
- 5) It was agreed that the Parish Charter should reflect the LGA Charter.

391. Sevenoaks Town Council's Green Initiative

391.1 Notes of the Meeting

RESOLVED: To accept the notes of the meeting of 6th November as a correct record.

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391.2. Sevenoaks Town Council's Green Community Investment Plan 2021

RESOLVED: That officers finalise the wording of the consultation document for approval at the Town Council Meeting on 6th December 2021.

392. Mayors Engagements

RESOLVED: To note and accept the reports relating to Mayoral activities.

393. Press Release

RESOLVED to:

- 1) To issue a press release announcing the completion of the Town Clerk's Presidency of the Society of Local County Clerks and the Society's gratitude for her outstanding effort and commitment in the role and her achievements in raising the profile of key issues facing the local council sector.
- 2) To issue a press release communicating the gratitude expressed by the community of Rheinbach for the donation provided by 'Friends of Rheinbach' in Sevenoaks toward the Rheinbach Flood Disaster Appeal and which will be allocated towards the replacement of school supplies, toys, and books.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting.

Signed
Mayor

Dated