

Minutes of the Sevenoaks Town Forum Meeting held at Sevenoaks Town Council Offices,
Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Wednesday 24th October 2012 at 6:30pm

PRESENT

Chaired by Cllr Mrs Avril Hunter (nominated Chairman by all present)

Ann Howard	West Kent Mediation
Cllr Elizabeth Purves	Sevenoaks District Councillor
Cllr Roger Walshe	Sevenoaks District Councillor
Cllr Andrew Eyre	Sevenoaks District Councillor & Town Councillor
Cllr Simon Raikes	Sevenoaks District Councillor & Town Councillor
Cllr Mrs Pam Walshe	Sevenoaks Town Councillor
Cllr Mrs Merrill London	Sevenoaks Town Councillor
Cllr Mrs Marilyn Canet	Sevenoaks Town Councillor and Sevenoaks Allotment Holders Association
Cllr Matthew Dickinson	Sevenoaks District Council
Cllr John London	KCC Member
Keith Loney	Lyle Park Residents' Association
Helen Wills	National Council of Women
Geoff Brown	St John's Residents' Association
Henry Pound	Knole Paddock Residents' Association
Andrew Smith	Acorns Residents' Association
Roy Walker	The Drive Resident Association
J. M. Bamforth	Hitchen Hatch Residents' Association
Joe Stevenson	St Botolph's Residents' Association
Gerry Wood	White Hart Estates Residents Association (WHERA)
Mr Rindy Bakker	S.A.H.A
Gwyn Jones	St John's Resident Association

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Larter, Town Clerk, Sevenoaks Town Council
Michèle MacDonald, Sevenoaks Town Council

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr Peter Fleming, Leader Sevenoaks District Council
Mr Edward Oatley, Sevenoaks District Sports Council
Mr Peter Scott, St Botolphs Res Association
Cllr Robert Piper

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Forum held on the 25th July 2012 were approved and signed.

2. UPDATES FOLLOWING THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH JULY 2012:

a. Website

Sevenoaks Town Council now publishes the Agenda's and Minutes on its website. **It was RESOLVED that**

- Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) arrange this soonest
- Sevenoaks Town Council (STC) request Agenda items 3 weeks in advance of meetings

[Minute 3(bullet point6) 25.07.2012 refers]

b. Speed Limits

Otford Parish Council purchased a kit which is available to hire in addition to the one that SDC loans. **It was RESOLVED that** SDC organise dates for further training in addition to the course planned for 6 November 2012 and inform all present.

c. Traffic Lights at Sevenoaks Railway Station

These are continually being monitored by SDC. **It was RESOLVED that** the District contact Kent County Council (KCC) again.

d. Local Controls on Demolition Work

SDC to apply for a S125 notice *[minute 3 bullet point 3 25.07.2012 refers]*. **It was RESOLVED that** SDC, Sevenoaks Town Forum and the STC write to Michael Fallon MP requesting for planning laws to be changed to address such matters and that the SDC put pressure on all Local Authorities to change the law.

e. St Botolphs Road:

i. KCC Tree Survey

The KCC inspected the trees on 23 October 2012 and found that 6 trees were diseased and 6 new trees neglected. Work is due to start in November 2012 and take approximately 3 – 4 weeks with a traffic programme in place.

ii. Parking on double yellow lines

SDC confirmed that traffic wardens have been patrolling mornings and evenings.

f. Architect's Panels

SDC reiterated that the formation of local panels be outside their remit. SDC will monitor the formation of architect's panels in other areas of the country.

g. Cycling on Pavements

It was reported by SDC that the police are aware of the problem but do not have the resources to address this matter.

h. Advertising signage on the "BT building" 106 London Road

SDC confirmed that the Enforcement Team is monitoring this.

i. Car Parking Ticket Machines

SDC reported that the new 10p and 50p coins do not work in the parking metres, which is a national issue as demand for new machines has outstripped the supply nationwide. The Town Forum felt that the charges rising from 50p to 60p should not be increased until the matter be addressed. **It was RESOLVED that** SDC issue notices on machines that are unable to take the new coinage until they have been updated.

- j. **Parking at Blighs**
SDC has now carried out surveys of car parking usage at variable times (11-12 and 2.30-3.30pm) throughout the week. The results show that there is a regular excess of parking spaces available in Sevenoaks Town. The total number of free spaces in Sevenoaks Town car parks were:

<u>Monday</u>	237
<u>Wednesday</u>	138
<u>Friday</u>	187

 Blighs had some spaces available as it proved the most popular car park.
- k. **Open Spaces Consultation**
SDC included the proposals and will consider the draft plan in November/December 2012 after which it will go out to public consultation. **It was AGREED that** an item be placed on the next agenda.
- l. **Railings Outside SDC**
SDC confirmed that the Joint Transportation Board is removing street furniture to improve the street scene.

3. MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- a. **Lidl Development (at 80 London Road)**
Lidl was given full planning permission in August 2012.
- b. **Marks and Spencers (at 66 London Road)**
SDC will consider the updated planning application on 22 November 2012.
- c. **Wonderland**
SDC had not heard anything further following the 2011 application.
- d. **Retail Park at Bat & Ball**
SDC had not yet been approached having found out when published in the Chronicle.
- e. **Lady Boswell's CE (Aided) Primary School**
Mr Henry Pound expressed his concern about the proposed expansion causing traffic congestion and area becoming grid locked. STC recommended that if a solution to the traffic matter could not be resolved, then the expansion should not be granted. The Sevenoaks Town Forum suggested that as the Environmental Park's lease is due for renewal, perhaps another entrance via the Environmental Park be considered by SDC.
- f. **New Faith School**
Helen Wills asked for an update re the Play School on the Wildernessee site but SDC had no further information. **It was AGREED that** an update of all schools be on the next Agenda.
- g. **Wednesday Market**
SDC confirmed the Wednesday market is still running but will be put out to tender for a new organisation to run this.
- h. **Permitted Development Rights**
SDC planning department will monitor if and when this is approved.

4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 23 January 2013:

- 6pm for Coffee
- 6:30pm meeting starts

in the Council Chamber at Sevenoaks Town Council, Bradbourne Vale Road,
Sevenoaks, TN13 3QG.

AGENDA items to be with Sevenoaks Town Council by Friday 4th January 2013 –
council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk.

The meeting closed at 7:20pm.

Chairman