

Minutes of the Sevenoaks Town Forum Meeting held at Sevenoaks Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Wednesday 6 November 2013 at 6:30pm

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## PRESENT

### Cllr Peter Fleming Chairman

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| Cllr Mrs Avril Hunter  | Sevenoaks District Councillor                                                                       |
| Cllr Matthew Dickens   | Sevenoaks District Councillor                                                                       |
| Cllr Andrew Eyre       | Sevenoaks District Councillor & Town Councillor & General Manager of the Stag Community Arts Centre |
| Cllr R L Piper         | Sevenoaks District Councillor & Town Councillor                                                     |
| Cllr Elisabeth Purves  | Sevenoaks District Councillor                                                                       |
| Cllr Simon Raikes      | Sevenoaks District Councillor & Town Councillor                                                     |
|                        |                                                                                                     |
| Cllr Mrs Marilyn Canet | Sevenoaks Town Councillor and Sevenoaks Allotment Holders' Association                              |
| Mr J M Bamforth        | Hitchen Hatch Lane Residents' Association                                                           |
| Mr Andrew Smith        | Acorns Residents' Association                                                                       |
| Dr Geoff Brown         | St John's Residents' Association                                                                    |
| Ms Marcia Walker       | Sevenoaks Resident                                                                                  |
| Mr Edward Oatley.      | St Johns School                                                                                     |
| Ms Helen Wills         | N.C.W                                                                                               |
| Ms Ann Howard          | Kent Mediation                                                                                      |
| Mr Byron R Brown       | Secretary Bradbourne Residents' Association                                                         |
| Ms Fiona Pragnell      | National Council of Women GB                                                                        |
| Mr John Morrison       | Sevenoaks Cycle Forum                                                                               |

### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Larter, Town Clerk, Sevenoaks Town Council

Michèle MacDonald, Committee Clerk, Sevenoaks Town Council

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr Mrs P C Walshe and Ms B Barber

### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2013

It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2013 were a true record of events.

### 3. UPDATES FOLLOWING THE MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2013 FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FLEMING: PREVIOUS MINUTE NO:

- 5E PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT SEAL HOLLOW ROAD – Cllr Peter Fleming advised that Kent County Council (KCC) have been asked to arrange for this to be an internally illuminated one

- 5F ZEBRA CROSSING AT ST JOHN'S HILL – It was again agreed by all that Cllr Peter Fleming keep pressure on the KCC in order that Section 106 funds be used to update this crossing as soon as possible. He will revisit this as soon as possible.
- 5G PEMBROKE ROAD CROSSING Cllr Fleming will chase with KCC as a decision was made in March to update this crossing
- 5H BRADBOURNE LAKES – it was agreed that something needs to be done. Cllr Fleming will ask the leader of Sevenoaks District Council to write to the Environment Agency copying in Thames Water. Vandalism continues at Bradbourne Lakes. Cllr Fleming to notify PCSOs to ask for regular checks.
- 5J SEVENOAKS RAILWAY – Cllr Fleming had written to Sevenoaks Rail travel Association regarding the car parking and problems at London Bridge until 2018 but hadn't received a response.

#### 4. OPEN FORUM

- a. Oak Tree – had gone into liquidation end of October 2013
- b. Charity Shop Rates – the District Council no longer gives the 20% discretionary reduction in rates to charities
- c. Parking – The District Council are looking at parking more generally. Long stay car parking is under pressure from people working in the town and shoppers. VMS signs, which counts cars in and out of car parks, will give people information of spaces in Sevenoaks and give people more choice. Cllr Fleming advised that there will be 3 of the 4 sites wanted for the VMS signs:
  - i. London Road/Pembroke Road junction
  - ii. South of Sevenoaks before Sevenoaks School
  - iii. Dartford Road
  - iv. Repeater up Seal Hollow Road
 Commuter parking remains an issue. The District Council is looking to provide more off street parking in the town, and investigating how to manage long stay parking for workers and commuters and short stay parking for shoppers.
- d. Cycling/Speed watch – thanked the District Council for their excellent trainer and confirmed this is working well. The Joint transport Board are looking into using Section 106 money for cycling routes.
- e. 20 mph zones – District Council has an idea for pedestrian zone and requires an audit of Sevenoaks Town to comprise:
  - i. Where one can walk
  - ii. Access to the town centre
  - iii. Wheelchairs/push chairs – their width vis a vis pavements
  - iv. Uneven pavements
  - v. Can you walk to school
  - vi. Can you get to the shops
  - vii. Are you a pensioner, will you get run over?
 Cllr Fleming will invite KCC Highways to attend the next meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Forum. Cllr Canet, Sevenoaks District Access group, requested that pedestrian crossings have 'bubble' pavements for those with physical and impaired vision.
- f. Local Listing – The Town Council takes account of what the Sevenoaks Society says and the District Council will consider road safety and pedestrians.
- g. Sevenoaks Society Issues – Teams of 3 are invited to walk around the town to note houses worthy of architectural notice worth of listing
- h. Urban foxes – getting worse.

## 5. MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- a. **Broadband** – Open Reach id digging up town. Rural issues being investigated.
- b. **Fort Halstead** – DSTC Government agency still not left the site.
- c. **KCC Highways** - Cllr Fleming will invite the KCC representative of Kent Highways to attend the next meeting for advice on how to judge pot holes and how to grade them.

## 6. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12 March 2014

- 5:30pm for Coffee
- 6:00pm 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 21 February 2014 – [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

There being no further matters for discussion, the meeting closed at 7:38pm

Chairman .....