

Sevenoaks Town Council

Minutes of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held at the Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 17th September 2018

Meeting Commenced: 7.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8:02 pm

Cllr S G Raikes, Chairman	Present	Cllr R J Parry	Present
Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Present	Cllr E Parson	Present <i>[arrived 7:52]</i>
Cllr J M Canet	Present	Cllr R L Piper	Present
Cllr M A Chakowa	Absent	Cllr P E Towell	Present
Cllr A S Clayton	Apologies	Cllr E T Waite	Present as substitute for Cllr A S Clayton
Cllr A Eyre, Vice Chairman	Present	Cllr Mrs P C Walshe	Apologies
Cllr R M C Hogarth	Apologies		

[8]

Also in attendance:

Linda Larter MBE, Town Clerk

Michèle MacDonald, Committee Clerk

Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

236 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED to accept the apologies for absence as received from Cllr A S Clayton, Cllr R M C Hogarth, Cllr Mrs Walshe and the Responsible Finance Officer.

237 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Eyre declared an interest in the Grant Application from Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival *[Agenda Item No 7a) and Minute No 223 refers]* and took no part in the discussion or voting.

238 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There had been no requests for dispensations.

239 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH JULY 2018

RESOLVED: to receive, accept and sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

240 SUB COMMITTEES**RESOLVED:** to receive and

- a) note that the meeting of Youth Council due to have been held on 4th July 2018 was inquorate and therefore did not take place
- b) adopt the minutes of the meeting of Youth Services Sub Committee held on 4th July 2018.

241 FINANCE REPORTS**RESOLVED:** It was unanimously agreed to accept the following reports: -

- a) Management Accounts for the period 1st to 30th June 2018
- b) Supplier's Accounts for the period 1st to 30th June 2018 - £ 73,574.85 (net)
- c) Payroll Account for the period 1st to 30th June 2018 - £ 72,541.00
- d) Petty Cash Account for the period 1st to 30th June 2018 - £739
- e) Budget Timetable for the financial year 2019/2020
- f) Hospitality and Gifts Register for the period of 1st to 30th June 2018, noting that none had been received by the members or employees.

Some minor queries were raised regarding the reports. Responses would be circulated to all Councillors.

242 GRANTS

The Grant Aid requests and the Grant Aid Balance were received, considered and noted.

RESOLVED:

- a) Grant Requests be awarded under the General Power of Competence [Localism Act 2011 Sections 1-8 refers] as follows

Grant Ref No	Organisation Name & Charity Reg No If Applicable	2017/2018 Grant Application £	Grant Approved
04	Citizens Advice Bureau	£650.79	£650 To purchase a desk and filing cabinet for their Sevenoaks Town office and to organise 2 future events in the wards of Sevenoaks Town

Cllr Parson arrived 7:52pm

06	Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival	£600	£600 for the Young Musician of the Year award "Sevenoaks Town Council Prize ".
11	Sevenoaks Counselling Service	£1,500	£1,500 for Sevenoaks Town clients who cannot afford the recommended amount of £60 counselling sessions. £10 to be paid and bursary available. £25 to be paid with use of grant to cover the £45 cost per session.
49	Kent Painters Group	£500	£0 Grant decision delegated to Chairman and Town Clerk.
	Total Awarded		£2,7250

It was agreed that terms and conditions of the grant be outlined to the above organisations.

- b) Grant reports be received and noted. The Committee valued the reports, which show a reflection of participation in the local people involved in Community Engagement.

243 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY [CIL]

The details of the distribution of CIL payments to be made to Sevenoaks District Council and distribution to Sevenoaks Town Council as shown below were received and noted:

Most developments require a CIL payment to be made to SDC. This is then distributed as follows:

25% to parish (STC CIL) divided into two elements, see below A & B*

5% to SDC for Admin

70% to SDC for pot for infrastructure projects (SDC) for which we have in the past bid for e.g. B&B Station. (Ref C)

Definition	Type of Payment
A	Proportion of CIL receipts as laid out in Section 59A of the CIL Regulations where SDC has a duty to pay the town and parish council. The money received under A can only be spent on the following: i) The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure. ii) Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.
B	The equalisation of CIL receipts paid at the discretion of the Sevenoaks District Council Cabinet, to ensure the town and parish council receives 25% of all the CIL monies secured in the parish at the highest rate set out in the CIL charging schedule. i) The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure <u>only</u> .

RESOLVED:

- i) to use £21,000 of the October 2018 CIL payment to the Town Council on the following projects as mentioned in the 2018/2019 budget:

No	Expenditure	CIL Reference A
1	Bus Shelters 50%	5,000
2	Pontoise Gates	2,000
3	Skateboard Park Surface	3,000
4	Littlewood Fencing	4,000
5	Cemetery Path Repairs	5,000

No	Expenditure	CIL Reference A
6	Knole Paddock new doors	2,000
	Total	£21,000

ii) to note the report detailing CIL income and expenditure to date

244 SEVENOASK TOWN PARTNERSHIP [STP] MEETING HELD ON 8TH AUGUST 2018

RESOLVED: to receive and note the minutes as a true record of events. Sevenoaks Rail Travellers update [*STP Minute 9 v) refers*] attached, as was omitted from the agenda documentation, as APPENDIX A.

245 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT 2018

RESOLVED: to receive and note the arrangements to date for 30th November 2018.

246 CURRENT MATTERS AND PRIORITIES

RESOLVED: to receive and note the report relating to updates of current matters and priorities as distributed with the agenda.

247 PRESS RELEASE

It was RESOLVED: that press releases be issued of the Grants awarded to the local community and progress to date on the Community Investment Plan.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Signed
Chairman

Dated

Sevenoaks & District Train Services Today & Tomorrow

Roger Johnson

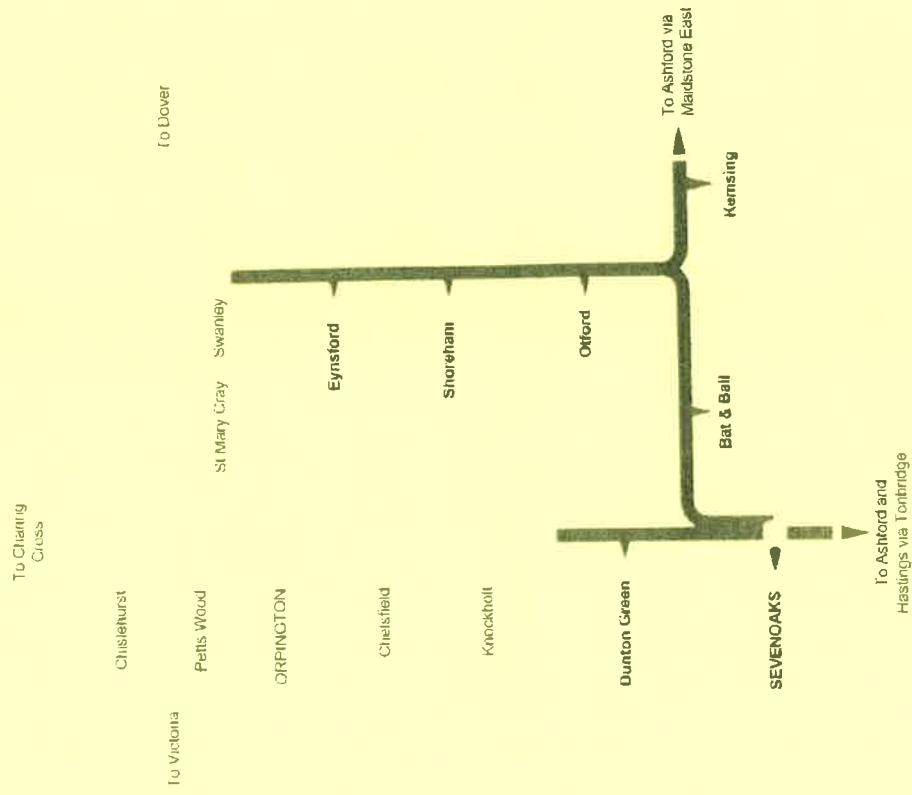
Vice-Chair

Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Association

APPENDIX
A
F+GP
Minutes
17.9.18

Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Association

- Representing Sevenoaks and nearby stations
- Annual footfall almost 5 million

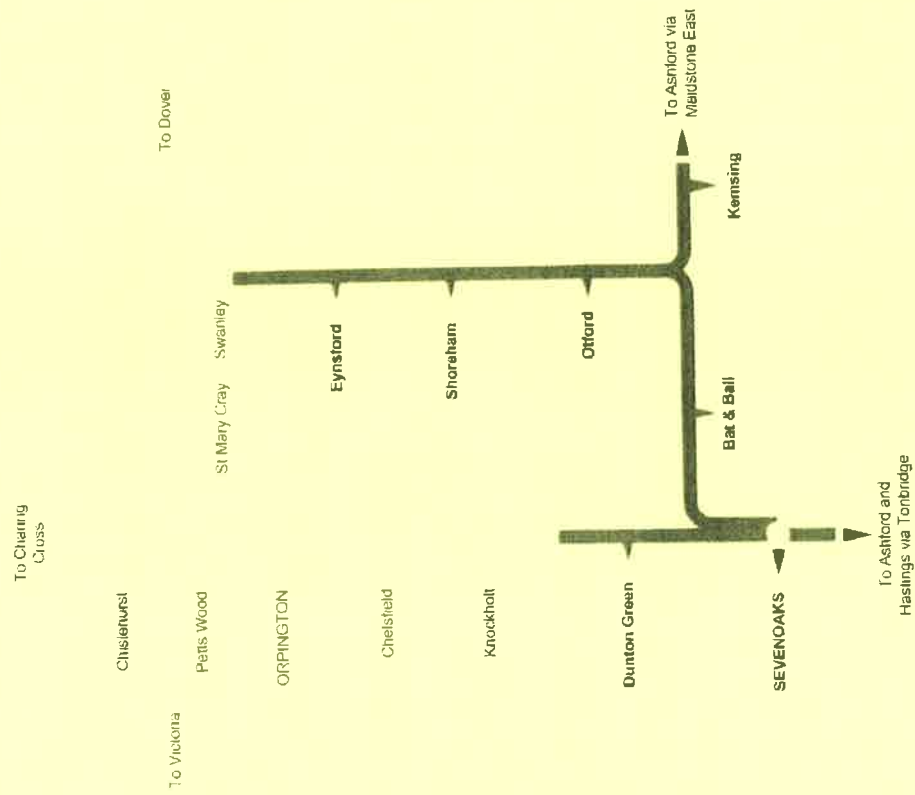


Station Footfall in Kent

Kent Stations	Footfall
With footfall >3M per year	2016-17
Tonbridge	4,414,394
Sevenoaks	4,160,110
Tunbridge Wells	3,820,560
Dartford	3,908,158
Ashford International	3,798,486
Gravesend	2,984,420

Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Association

Tonbridge – Orpington
twin track bottleneck
with 18 paths per hour
Service pattern stable
since 1986
Temporary timetables
during LB rebuilding.
Earlier timetable
reinstated May 2018
without issues



Key Issues

Short term

- GTR performance via Darent Valley

Longer term

- Oyster to Sevenoaks
- Kent Franchise – ITT issues
- Lack of Growth Options - NR Kent Study

GTR performance on Darent Valley line

GTR abandoned communities of Shoreham and Eynsford causing severe inconvenience and distress

Villages have no other public transport apart from four off-peak buses per day

GTR run a few replacement buses with no timetable or even announcements at stations (most unmanned)

CIS information often misleading or just wrong

SER declined to stop selected fast peak services following MPs request

SER finally responded to DfT by stopping some PM peak services but none in AM peak

GTR and SER share a common parent company

Kent ITT Service Specification

DfT should have been based it on pre-2015 timetable not LB rebuilding temporary one – start from what works and then improve!

Damaging to commuters in rapidly growing communities in Dunton Green and Knockholt (Zone 6) if current Chelsfield semi-fasts are lost

Proposal for Orpington stops appears not feasible since no path is available and trains already full and standing from Chelsfield. Consider more semi-fast services to Victoria

Seat occupancy must “trump” journey time considerations

SRTA do not believe ITT service specification is feasible

How are DfT Service Specifications verified for feasibility with current infrastructure? (cf GTR problems)



Oyster to Sevenoaks

- SRTA long term supporter for extending Oyster to all SER Metro services
- Locally both Mainline and Darent Valley services to Sevenoaks
- TfL told SRTA that it was “simple to do”
- Similar to Watford Junction with mainline TOC setting Sevenoaks fare

Lack of Growth Options - NR Kent Study

NR Study finds no capacity growth option for Sevenoaks area (except possible reinstatement of one lost service to Cannon St) despite SDC planning for 14,000 new homes

Mainline peak services have always been maximum length

London termini are “full” in the peaks

Only option for capacity growth for Sevenoaks area and west Kent is Maidstone East Thameslink service

Essential that future housing growth is matched by public transport expansion eg Bromley, Orpington, Bexleyheath

Strategic vision needed from Network Rail to avoid further short term decisions eg sale of land adjacent to

Metropolitan Curve

Thank you