



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MILDENHALL HIGH TOWN COUNCIL
FENLAND ROOM, THE PAVILION, RECREATION WAY, MILDENHALL

Thursday 28th July 2022 – 7pm

Present:

Cllr. Alecock	Cllr. Lemiesz
Cllr. Bloodworth	Cllr. Neal
Cllr. Bristow	Cllr. Peachey
Cllr. Busuttil	Cllr. Shipp (Mayor)
Cllr. Chipping	Cllr. Sulman

Also in attendance was the Town Manager and two (2) members of the public.

058. APOLOGIES AND ACCEPTANCE FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs. Leaman, Roman and Sykes. None were received from Cllr. Foord

059. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr. Alecock: West Suffolk District Council.
Cllr. Shipp: West Suffolk District Council.
Cllr. Neal: West Suffolk District Council.

060. TO RECEIVE APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30th JUNE 2022 FROM THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the meeting on the 30th June 2022 with some grammatical changes. Proposed by Cllr. Busuttil and seconded by Cllr. Bloodworth. All in favour.

061. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

062. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

Two (2) members of the public expressed an interest in being considered for co-option. Each were given three minutes to speak about their reasons for putting themselves forward and what they felt they could bring to the Council both now and in the future.

A ballot then took place and it was **RESOLVED** to co-opt. Mr. Gordon Littlechild onto the Council having received a majority vote.

Cllr. Littlechild signed the Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interests forms, witnessed by the Town Manager and then took his seat on the Council.

063a. REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

Cllr. Shipp reported that he recently attended a Twinning Civic Event in Luc-Sur-Mer which also included representative from Frickenhausen in Germany and the Mayor from a Latvian town.

He also attended the RAF Mildenhall Base Commander's Barbeque.

063b. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr. Leaman was not in attendance.

064. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr. L. Stanbury reported on issues surrounding adult social care, speeding around the town and mitigating measures proposed to be put in place and some which were not recommended and speed checks in alternative locations.

Cllr. Shipp reported that a long-standing speed trap outside the old Mildenhall College Academy building which was in place due to concerns over students crossing, but now the Academy had changed sites this was no longer needed, it was hoped that a site on Queensway could be provided instead.

Concerns were also raised about the A11 near the entrance to Barton Mills.

Cllr. Neal also reported that the Mallards Bridge was in a state of disrepair, C Cllr. Stanbury promised to look into this.

065. REPORT FROM DESIGNATED DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Alecock reported that West Suffolk Council was continuing to tackle climate change following a commitment in 2019. Some of the highlights being:

- Total emissions down 41% compared to a 2010 baseline and 15% compared to 2019.
- Renewable energy generated 138% compared to 2012 and up 41% since 2019.

- Total owned vehicle emissions down 13% compared to 2010 and down 9% compared to 2019.
- Business travel down 68% compared to 2010 and down 51% since 2019.
- Total water consumption down 43% compared to 2010 and down 35% since 2019.
- During 2021-2 West Suffolk Council held 6 Green Flag status parks.
- Public electric vehicle (EV) chargers installed by West Suffolk Council can support 67 vehicles at the same time.
- Energy delivered to drivers powered 353,170 miles.
- 318 trees and 560 hedge plants planted during 2021-22.

However, it was also recognised that there was more to do.

Regarding grass cutting it was reported that the MET Office issued the first ever red warning for exceptional heat on the 18th and 19th July 2022 and Council workers were instructed to only cut where there is extension growth and barley stalks until there is further rain. The staff not involved in this activity will be reassigned on summer shrub pruning and hedge cutting. There has also been lots of positive support from local residents shown to workers during this difficult period.

Finally, it was reported that St. John's Play Area had begun the second stage of development which included the skatepark and should be completed in 8 weeks.

066. REPORT FROM POLICE

The Town Manager reported that a meeting had recently taken place with Inspector Lyon and that Anti-Social behaviour overall had dropped in the town with one repeat offender recently moving away, and then back again to the area. It was expected that this would increase again over the summer holidays.

067. REPORT FROM RAF MILDENHALL BASE

Sq. Leader Bell reported that 1,400 refueling missions over 15 countries had taken place in the past month, which used 22m kilograms of fuel in the support of the Ukraine.

Also reported was a commitment to significant investments over the next 2-5 years to integrate the West Mildenhall Development especially around the gate area.

It was also reported that fumes from the base recently had been caused by an electrical failure on an aircraft.

Finally it was reported that it was more effective to call into the base rather than use the form on the website. Details would be passed to the Town Manager so this information could be

placed on the website.

C Cllr. Stanbury asked why Air Force One had recently landed at the base, it was explained that this was purely for a refueling stop.

Cllr. Busuttil asked about the number of extra squadrons mentioned by President Biden in a recent speech. It was explained that there would always be three (3) squadrons in operation, not three (3) extra ones, but that the size of these squadrons may vary.

Sq. Leader Bell, C Cllr. Stanbury and one member of the public then left the meeting at 7.28pm.

068. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

None.

069. FINANCIAL MATTERS 2022/23

069.1 To receive and note the bank reconciliation up to 30th June 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the figures as presented. Proposed by Cllr. Busuttil, seconded by Cllr. Alecock, all in favour.

069.2a Approval of Accounts – Payments – 1st to 30th June 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments, proposed by Cllr. Busuttil, seconded by Cllr. Bloodworth, all in favour.

069.2b Approval of Accounts – Receipts – 1st to 30th June 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the receipts, proposed by Cllr. Sulman, seconded by Cllr. Bristow, all in favour.

069.3 To receive the list of current debtors to the Town Council.

The Town Manager reported that there were no outstanding debtors to the Town Council. This was **NOTED**.

069.4 To receive the quarterly budget figures from 1st April to 30th June 2022

The new format of the report was welcomed and it was **AGREED** to retain the format until the raw data from the finance system could be communicated.

Questions were asked about a payment regarding the Sunnica Development, the nature of a £400 refund and the accounting of a grant from the National Lottery of £4,500 which the Town Manager addressed.

070. GENERAL MATTERS

070.1 Update from Town Manager regarding Action Sheet

The document was presented and **NOTED**.

070.2 To consider a quote regarding fencing

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the quote for £3,999.00 (exc. VAT), proposed by Cllr. Bristow, seconded by Cllr. Peachey, all in favour.

070.3 To discuss matters concerning the West Mildenhall Development

Cllr. Shipp gave a verbal report on the recent meeting with officers from AECOM and Suffolk County Council. The technical note primarily addressing the transport concerns which the proposed development would cause was also shared as a report.

It was then **RESOLVED** to submit this technical note to Suffolk County Council as part of the ongoing consultation exercise and to allow Cllrs. Alecock, Neal and Shipp access to the Town Council's report to speak on behalf of the town at West Suffolk Council meetings concerning the development. Particularly in respect of the Suffolk County Council masterplan.

It was also **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Manager, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Cllr. Busuttill to respond to any further concerns or requests for information on behalf of the Town Council if this falls before the next Town Council meeting on the 15th September 2022. Proposed by Cllr. Sulman, seconded by Cllr. Bloodworth, all in favour.

070.4 Verbal update on the Sunnica Energy Farm Development

The Town Manager reported on a recent session of online meetings and open floor hearings on the DCO application. It was confirmed that the Parish Council Alliance had the support of the Town Council and the Town Manager was authorised to respond to any request for further information with the consent of the Mayor, proposed by Cllr. Shipp, seconded by Cllr. Sulman, all in favour.

071. PLANNING COMMITTEE

071.1 To receive the minutes from the meeting of this committee from the 12th July 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECEIVE** the minutes with no alterations. Proposed by Cllr. Alecock, seconded by Cllr. Lemiesz, all in favour.

071.2 To consider planning reconsultation DC/22/1263/EIASCR – Safepac House, Field Road, Mildenhall, IP28 7AP

It was **AGREED** to **OBJECT** to the application due to the location on the application being incorrect, clarification being needed over the grading of farm and agricultural

land (exact and not estimated classifications), the need for a traffic management assessment and concerns that this would be a part of a much larger planning application in West Mildenhall which should be considered in its entirety.

Proposed by Cllr. Bloodworth, seconded by Cllr. Peachey, all in favour with Cllr. Neal abstaining.

072. ESTABLISHMENT AND POLICY COMMITTEE

072.1 To receive the minutes from the meeting of this committee from the 7th July 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes, proposed by Cllr. Shipp, seconded by Cllr. Neal, all in favour.

072.2 To adopt the terms of reference for this committee

The document was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the document with no changes, proposed by Cllr. Alecock, seconded by Cllr. Bristow, all in favour.

073. To consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the press and public for the duration of the following items in view of the confidential and personal nature of the business to be transacted. If resolved, such items to be dealt after the item that confirms details of the next meeting.

This was so **RESOLVED**.

075. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Town Manager announced that the Council had again been approached to be a vaccination centre for Covid-19 and that this would begin in September which would mean that all Council meetings would be moved to the Jubilee Centre.

076. Date of Next Full Council Meeting

This next meeting of the Full Council will be on 15th September 2022 at 7pm, in the Main Hall of the Jubilee Centre.

074. To receive an update regarding contracts

The Town Manager gave an update on the streetlight and pest control contracts.

The meeting then closed at 8.34pm.