

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING of the SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2024 at 7.00pm**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Peter Harman – Town Mayor  
Councillor Ann Duke – Deputy Town Mayor  
Councillor Anita Barham  
Councillor Emma Ben Moussa  
Councillor Lorna Cross  
Councillor Lesley Howes  
Councillor Dawn Johnston  
Councillor Richard Lees  
Councillor Hazel Stephens

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Graham Blew – Town Clerk  
Martin Harding – ATC/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)  
x11 Members of the public  
x1 Press

**ABSENT:**

Councillor Elizabeth Wickham.

**421/23-24. ARRANGEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS REGARDING FILMING OR RECORDING THE MEETING.**

The Town Mayor explained the arrangements and constraints relating to the filming or recording of the meeting.

**422/23-24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Peter Harris, due to other commitments.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Claire Pearce, due to other commitments.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Alan Reach, due to other commitments.

**RESOLVED:**

That the reason/s for absence, for the above Town Councillors, be formally accepted and approved.

**423/23-24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

***As per Standing Order 34 c) the Chairman adjourned the meeting at this point to allow members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business being transacted at the meeting.***

After the Chairman had welcomed everyone to the meeting the RFO gave a detailed overview of the project from early 2021 to date. There then followed a question-and-answer session with the public which included the tender and procurement process and the decision/action timeline.

During the discussion Members confirmed their commitment to providing a new community hub on the site.

**424/23-24. PAVILION PROJECT.**

Further to the Town Council meeting on 8 February 2024 where members had been informed that the Relationship Manager from the Youth Investment Fund (YIF) had advised that, following the YIF panel meeting on Tuesday 6 February 2024, a decision had been made to withdraw the offer of funding it was resolved to hold this meeting for members to begin formulating the strategy for the building going forward.

Members discussed various options for the building, including the service provision for the sports hirers, the overall condition of the building, and the possibility of utilising a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan.

It was then proposed, duly seconded, and agreed unanimously:

**Recommended:**

**1. Short Term**

In terms of service provision for sports hirers the Town Council continues as planned.

The Town Council investigates the possibility of a PWLB loan and to agree a financial plan from the point of the loan (how much would be required, when would the best time to take out a loan etc.).

Whilst the PWLB loan is being investigated the Town Council consider the possibility of demolishing the building and readying the site for future use.

**2. Long Term**

That the Town Council plan for a modular building until sufficient funding is obtained/available.

There being no further business to transact the Meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)