

MINUTES of the SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING of the SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 11 JANUARY 2024 at 7.20pm

PRESENT: Councillor Peter Harman – Town Mayor
Councillor Ann Duke – Deputy Town Mayor
Councillor Lorna Cross
Councillor Peter Harris
Councillor Lesley Howes
Councillor Dawn Johnston
Councillor Richard Lees

ALSO PRESENT: Graham Blew – Town Clerk
Martin Harding – ATC/RFO
x1 member of the public

ABSENT: There were none.

361/23-24. 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.

362/23-24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Anita Barham, due to health reasons.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Emma Ben - Moussa, due to health reasons.

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.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Hazel Stephens, due to other commitments.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Elizabeth Wickham, due to other commitments.

RESOLVED:

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

363/23-24. 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.

364/23-24. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2023.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 7 December 2023 be confirmed as a true record and be signed.

365/23-24. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE TOWN MAYOR / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

366/23-24. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2023.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Planning, Major Developments, Transportation & Environment Committee Meeting held 13 December 2023 be confirmed and the recommendations made therein be adopted.

367/23-24. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2023.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee Meeting held on 6 December 2023 be confirmed and the recommendations made therein be adopted.

368/23-24. ANNUAL ESTIMATES 2024 – 2025.

Further to minute 320/23-24 (*full Council 7 December 2023*) members had been issued with the proposed Annual Estimates for the 2024 - 2025 financial year (*Annual Estimates provided with the preceding Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting paperwork*).

MOVED BY Councillor Richard Lees, seconded by Councillor Peter Harris, and unanimously agreed.

Recommended: That the proposed Annual Estimates for 2024 – 2025, and subsequent proposed Tax Base (Band D) be approved.

369/23-24. COUNCIL TAX BASE & PRECEPT 2024 – 2025.

To set the Council Tax Base for Band D properties and the precept figure for 2024 – 2025.

MOVED BY Councillor Richard Lees, seconded by Councillor Lorna Cross, and unanimously agreed.

Recommended: That the Council Tax Base for Band D properties 2024 – 2025 be set and the precept figure be set at £440,713 for 2024 - 2025.

370/23-24. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

MOVED BY Councillor Richard Lees and seconded by Councillor Ann Duke.

RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following item(s).

No members of the press or public were present during discussion of the following items of business.

371/23-24. **MEETING ADJOURNED**

At this point Members agreed to adjourn the meeting to give members time to read and consider the contents of the tabled confidential report.

372/23-24. **PAVILION PROJECT –UPDATE.**

Members considered the tabled confidential report and were provided with a detailed verbal update on the project.

After lengthy discussion it was proposed, duly seconded, and unanimously agreed:

RESOLVED:

That options A and B of the confidential report be pursued at the meeting with the Youth Investment Fund and that the outcome of that meeting be reported back to members at a Special Town Council meeting to be held on the rising of the 17 January 2024 Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting.

There being no further business to transact the Meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

(Chairman)