

**Minutes of a Meeting of the FULL COUNCIL of Swanley Town
Council held at the Civic Centre, Swanley on Wednesday 3 June 2015
Commencing at 7.30 PM.**

Present

Cllr L Ball	Cllr M Hogg
Cllr J Barnes	Cllr R Morris
Cllr C Barnes	Cllr N Rosen
Cllr R Brookbank	Cllr T Searles
Cllr L Dyball	Cllr V Southern
Cllr S Gaire	Cllr H Willingale
Cllr J Halford	

Also in attendance

J Pilbeam (Chief Executive)	G Mills (Democratic Services Officer)
L Saunders (Operations Director)	
M Farrow (Estates and Facilities Manager)	2 members of the public were also present.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Komolafe for which reasons were given and accepted. Absent were Cllr L Gaire and Cllr Hulton-Scott.

Declarations of Interests

Cllr Halford declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 14 on the agenda – Letter from St Bartholomew’s Primary School.

Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 20 May 2015

9762 It was **RESOLVED** that subject to it being noted that Cllr J Halford will now be the Council’s representative on the Sir Thomas Smythe Charity and to the inclusion of Kent Legal Services in paragraph 22 (Subscriptions), the Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 20 May 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Minutes from meetings held since the last meeting of Full Council.

9763 It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Development Control Committee held on 20 May 2015 be noted.

Mayor’s Communications

Cllr J Barnes said since becoming Mayor he had attended a dinner with members of the Monday Club which he had enjoyed very much.

Public Question Time

In accordance with Standing Order 3 (e) the meeting was adjourned in order to allow members' of the public to address the meeting.

- (a) A local resident asked if it had been agreed by the Council that the Labour Party could hold a meeting at The Olympic.

Cllr Searles said that it had been agreed some while ago that elected members of the Council could use the Council's facilities to hold meetings free of charge but he would ask the Chief Executive to check whether that extended to meetings of political parties.

- (b) A question was asked about whether on the next agenda of Full Council there could be a cross party discussion on how the Council could encourage more people to take an interest in Council affairs by getting them to attend the various council meetings.

Cllr Searles said he would arrange for this suggestion to be given consideration.

- (c) The Council was asked to give consideration to purchasing a new Union Flag

The meeting was then reconvened.

Report from County Councillors

Cllr Brookbank spoke about the Traffic Regulation Order proposing a width restriction on Beechenlea Lane which had been discussed at a meeting of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board. Who also gave an update on progress with the Road Traffic Order which would implement a 20mph speed limit on St Mary's Road. He said he had held talks with officers at KCC about putting more dropped curbs in place and also referred to the draft recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for Kent County Council. In answer to a question about the volume of traffic using Birchwood Corner Cllr Brookbank said that the County Council was looking at other alternatives such as rephrasing the traffic lights. On wider point he said he had asked KCC Highways to look at the amount of traffic coming through Swanley to access the M25.

Cllr Roger Gough also spoke about the proposed boundary changes as well as the request he had made to KCC highways to place 'Not Suitable for HGV's' signs on appropriate on in Swanley Village. The closure of the Furness school was still going through but Broomhill Bank North (Special School) in Tunbridge Wells was hoping to open a unit on the site. Cllr Gough also spoke about the decision of KCC to raise the cost of the Young Persons Travel pass to £250.00 which was a rise of £50.00. He said this would mean the scheme was still heavily subsidised and remained unique to Kent. Cllr Gough was then asked a number of questions regard the County Council's decision to increase the cost of the scheme to which he said he felt it still presented good value and those in most need would continue to receive support.

Annual Audit 2014/15

9764 It was **RESOLVED** that Full Council approve the annual Audit return for 2014/15

Report of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive briefed Full Council on the lease of the Oaks Clinic and that it was hoped the Citizens Advice Bureau would have moved its office to the Civic Centre by the end of the month.

Community Infrastructure Levy

Cllr Searles proposed and Cllr Ball seconded that Full Council agree to confirm to Sevenoaks District Council the two schemes set out in this report.

All agreed

9765 It was **RESOLVED** that Sevenoaks District Council be advised that the two schemes which the Town Council has recommended for Community Infrastructure Levy funding are:

- (i) A scheme for sewerage and surface water drains to support a new toilet block on Swanley Park; and
- (ii) A scheme to build a new community building in Swanley Park.

The District Council be further advised that the Town Council recognised that both these projects would require delivery by another organisation.

Health and Safety Policy

9766 It was **RESOLVED** that Full Council note this report

Local Government Ombudsman and Larger Council's Consultation.

9767 It was **RESOLVED** that the National Association of Local Councils be advised that Swanley Town Council is in agreement with the views set out in the Executive Summary to this consultation.

Draft Recommendations on new Electoral Arrangements for Kent County Council.

Cllr Searles proposed and Cllr Morris seconded that the Boundary Commission be advised that Swanley Town Council supports the proposals for Kent County Council boundary changes as set out in its consultation document dated 12 May 2015.

All agreed.

9768 It was **RESOLVED** that the Boundary Commission be advised that Swanley Town Council supports the proposals for Kent County Council boundary changes as set out in its consultation document dated 12 May 2015.

Correspondence – Letter from St Bartholomew’s Primary School.

9769 It was **RESOLVED** that the school be advised that the Town Council regrets that it is unable to help in this instance but the school be advised that the Town Council operates a Grant Aid scheme and therefore it can give consideration as to whether it may have a project that would meet the grant aid criteria.

Reports from Representative on Outside Bodies

9770 It was **RESOLVED** that the reports be noted.

Swanley Town Council – Governance Actions *(this is an unrestricted minute of a matter which the meeting dealt with as a confidential item)*

This report by the Chief Executive set out actions being taken to ensure the Town Council has in place appropriate arrangements aimed at putting its governance on a firmer footing.

The meeting closed at 8.25 PM

Signed**Chairman**

Date: 22 July 2015