

Minutes of a Meeting of the FULL COUNCIL of Swanley Town Council held at the Alexandra Suite and in the Council Chamber, the Civic Centre, Swanley on Wednesday 11 November 2015.

Present

Cllr J Barnes (Chairman)	Cllr J Hulton-Scott
Cllr L Ball	Cllr E Komolafe
Cllr C Barnes	Cllr R Morris
Cllr R Brookbank	Cllr N Rosen
Cllr L Dyball	Cllr T Searles
Cllr J Halford	Cllr V Southern
Cllr S Gaire	Cllr H Willingale
Cllr M Hogg	

Also in attendance

J Pilbeam (Chief Executive)	67 members of the public were present.
G Mills (Democratic Services Officer)	

The first part of this meeting was held in the Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley and commenced at 7.30pm

In order to mark Armistice Day the meeting stood and held a Minutes silence.

Apologies.

Apologies from Cllr L Gaire were received for which reasons were given and accepted.

Declarations of Interests

There were none

Public Question Time.

The Chairman moved that in accordance with Standing Order 3(d)(f) Public Question Time be extended for a period lasting 45 minutes.

Councillor Ray Morris, The Chairman of the Swanley Banqueting Board read out a statement a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to these Minutes.

The Chairman then read out those questions which had been submitted in writing together with the answers. A copy of these is attached as Appendix B to these minutes.

Residents then asked a number of oral questions to which answers were given as appropriate. During this time questions were asked about Swanley Banqueting, the Council's responses to the Sevenoaks District Council Call for Sites consultation, the proposed development at Beechenlea Lane, the morale of the staff currently employed by the Council, the discontinuation of the quiz nights at The Olympic, the future of Swanley Leisure Centre, traffic conditions around Hextable Primary School and the future of the former Hextable secondary School site.

8.45 PM - Cllr Komolafe left the meeting.

8.55 PM The public question time part of the meeting came to a close and the meeting was adjourned.

9.25 PM The meeting of Full Council reconvened in the Council Chamber, The Civic Centre, St Mary's Road, Swanley.

Apologies for this part of the meeting were received from Cllr Komolafe for which reasons were given and approved. 6 members of the public were present.

Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 30 September 2015

9874 It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 30 September 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

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

9875 It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the committee meetings held since the last meeting of Full Council be noted.

Mayor's Communications

Cllr J Barnes reported on events and activities he had undertaken as the Mayor of Swanley since the last meeting of Full Council.

Report from County Councillors

Apologies were received from Cllr Roger Gough.

Cllr Brookbank said it was his understanding that the entire site of the former Hextable secondary school was being kept in the ownership of Kent County Council with the intention that it would re-open at a time when there was a recognised need. The traffic around Hextable Primary School was a concern and Cllr Brookbank said he had already taken up the matter with the Area Education Officer. The wider need for a traffic survey for the whole of Swanley was something he would take up with the KCC Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways.

Cllr Brookbank also spoke about the consultation KCC was currently undertaking on its 2016/17 budget. In addition Cllr Brookbank said there was still time for views to be submitted on the consultation being undertaken by the Boundary Commission. On a point raised by Cllr Halford Councillor Brookbank said he would bring the publication of the Emergency First Aid Education Bill to the attention of the KCC Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform.

Correspondence from the Kent Association of Local Councils re Kent County Council's Budget Consultation.

During the course of discussion Cllr Searles said over the past 5 years KCC had had to find savings of some £430m and that a further £80m still had to be found. He understood for 2016/17 KCC would be recommending a Council Tax rise of 1.99%.

9876 It was **RESOLVED** that the correspondence from the KALC be noted.

A Master Plan for Swanley and Hextable

9877 It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted with the details being published in the next edition of the Town Crier.

Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Kent: Further Limited Consultation for Sevenoaks.

9878 It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

Report of Chief Executive

9879 It was **RESOLVED** that

- (i) The report of the Chief Executive be noted and thanks to the manager of The Link, Claire Cormack, for achieving such a high positive feedback rate.
- (ii) The Chief Executive be asked to arrange for a letter of thanks to be sent to those volunteers who had in the past helped at the Christmas day lunch.
- (iii) A reserve of £1000 be approved for the renovation of the property in Station Road.
- (iv) Approval be given to the revised wording of the Café in the Park contract;
and,
- (v) Support be given to the revised format of the Town Crier.

Appointment to Outside Bodies – Sir Thomas Smythe Charity

9880 It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Willingale be appointed as the Town Council's representative on the Sir Thomas Smythe Charity.

Swanley Park – Tendering of Concession Contract

(This is an unrestricted minute of a matter which was declared to be confidential on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted).

Following a tender process carried out in accordance with the Town Council's procurement procedures two bids were received to operate Swanley Park. This report provided a detailed comparison of the two bids and following discussion Full Council decided that it should enter into more detailed negotiations with the company 'Can you Experience'.

9881 It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should enter into more detailed discussions with the company 'Can you Experience'; and,

Delegated authority be granted to the Working Party made up of the Mayor, the Leader of the Council, the Leader of the Labour Group and the Chief Executive to negotiate the detail of the agreement with the preferred tenderer following which a further report is to be submitted to Full Council.

The meeting closed at 10.15 PM

SignedChairman

Date: 9 December 2015