

Minutes of a Meeting of Sandwich Town Council as Trustee of Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund held on Monday 30th May, at the conclusion of the Town Council Meeting at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: J Franklin (in the chair)

**A Fox
D Friend
P Graeme
N Gray
K Heaven
H Sampson
D Sivrikaya
C Ungerson
C Wiles**

Officer: C Leith (Minutes)

01.05.22 APPROVAL FOR APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Lintott (away), Marie (work), Carter and Carter (annual holiday).

02.05.22 MINUTES

Councillors received and considered the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sandwich Town Council as Trustee of Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund held on 25th April 2022.

RESOLUTION: Minutes were approved as accurate.

URGENT MATTERS

03.05.22 PAYMENT SCHEDULES

(i) Members received the Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund Schedule of Payments for May

RESOLUTION: All payments were approved.

(ii) Members received the Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund Guildhall Schedule of Payments for May

RESOLUTION: All payments were approved.

(iii) Members received the Museum & Archives Payment Schedule for May

RESOLUTION: All payments were approved.

NON-URGENT MATTERS

04.05.22 SPRUCER

Councillors received and considered a report from the CEO on behalf of Cllr Friend proposing that STC convenes a working party to revive, review and evaluate the possibility of engaging a Sprucer for Sandwich.

RESOLUTION: Cllrs Sampson and Wiles volunteered their services to convene a working group to investigate this further.

05.05.22 THE HUB

Councillors received a report asking them to consider the future of the Hub.

Cllr Graeme reminded Council that the lost revenue from The Hub, amounting to £6,250 per annum had been included in this year's income budget, which should be a consideration.

Cllr Sivrikaya suggested that we advertise the availability within the Guildhall.

RESOLUTION: Council resolved to afford Officers delegated powers to consult with local Estate Agents to seek quotations for rental/advertising costs with a view to attracting parties interested in leasing The Hub.

06.05.22 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Councillors received and considered a Schedule of Meetings for 2022/2023.

RESOLUTION: Council resolved to approve the Schedule of Meetings for 2022/2023.

07.05.22 CHANGING PLACES

Following STC/DDC collaboration over a considerable period, Council received a report from the CEO asking them to consider a Changing Places opportunity, following a DDC funding offer to upgrade toilet facilities within the Guildhall building, to include accessible toilets.

Cllr Sivrikaya questioned whether investment in toilets within the Guildhall was necessary and asked whether investment in the public toilets would be more appropriate.

Cllr Franklin agreed that investment in the toilets in the Guildhall car park would be more advantageous.

Cllr Friend explained that the offer of the grant was exclusively for the Guildhall building.

Cllr Graeme advised that STC consider this proposition carefully as we would presumably be required to provide match funding from STBF, but we would need to understand the full implications of the project, as costs could be considerable, beyond simply match-funding.

RESOLUTION: Councillors resolved to allow Officers to make further enquiries regarding this project and feed-back the full implications to Council.

08.05.22 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

In the previous STC meeting, the Mayor moved to discuss Item 15 in Confidential matters at the conclusion of the following STBF meeting. This was contended by Cllr Gray, who believed this matter should be discussed in public. A vote was taken to discuss Item 15 in public:

For: Cllrs Gray, Sivrikaya, Ungerson, Wiles and Heaven

Against: Cllrs Friend, Graeme, Sampson, Fox and Franklin (using the Chairman's casting vote to carry the motion.)

Despite the vote taken, this matter was again brought up before members of the public were asked to leave the public meeting.

Cllr Wiles stressed that he felt this matter should be discussed within the public domain and stated that the Maddox Estate was public knowledge and that the will of the late Georgina Maddox had already been read extensively by members of the public. He stressed that STC need to be satisfied that we have met the requirements for confidentiality.

Cllr Gray reiterated that he believed there was no reason to discuss this matter confidentially and that he believed STC would be acting illegally to do so.

Cllr Graeme suggested that this item should be deferred in avoidance of this difficulty, until the matter of confidentiality can be resolved.

A vote was taken to defer Item 15 until the matter of confidentiality can be resolved:

For: Cllrs Friend, Graeme, Sampson and Franklin.

Against: Cllrs Wiles, Ungerson, Gray, Sivrikaya and Heaven.

Cllr Fox abstained from this vote.

Cllr Gray moved to suggest that STC should establish a working party to include the CEO, to investigate the full status of the Maddox Estate further.

For: Cllrs Wiles, Ungerson, Sivrikaya, Gray, Heaven and Franklin

Against: Cllrs Graeme, Fox, Friend and Sampson

Cllrs Fox and Sampson wished to note that this matter is the responsibility of the CEO, and that they believe a working party to be inappropriate.

RESOLUTION: That STC establish a working party to include the CEO to investigate the full status of the Maddox Estate further (to involve Cllrs Franklin, Heaven, Gray, Carter and CEO).

Recommendations for Council consideration relating to Item 15 were left unresolved at this time.

09.05.22

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 27th June 2022 at 7pm

Signed.....

Date.....