

**Minutes of Sandwich Town Council
Heritage and Townscape Committee Meeting held in the
Council Chamber 20th February 2023**



Chair: Cllr C Ungerson
Councillors: D Friend, J Franklin, V Tomlins, K Heaven, D Marie, H Sampson, D Sivrikaya and C Wiles
Officer : A Nigol, Acting Town Clerk

<p>HT.02.23.1</p>	<p>Chair’s opening remarks: The Chair welcomed Councillor members and members of the public and mentioned that she wants to highlight three issues in her opening remarks. One of them being Thursday market and it’s return to the Forecourt once the project is completed. The second comment she made was about the Forecourt and whether the Council would want to celebrate the new Forecourt with a public celebration event. The Chair also mentioned that there has been some confusion about the old setts and who owns them and if people can still register and get them. Cllr Wiles mentioned that DDC owns the setts, not STC. Clerk to contact DDC for clarification. It was also mentioned that the current bus stop is dangerous.</p>	
<p>HT.02.23.2</p>	<p>Apologies for absence received: Apologies were received from Cllr Friend (DDC work commitment)</p>	
<p>HT.02.23.3</p>	<p>Declarations of interest: To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda. Cllr Sampson declared an interest on item 6 ii)</p>	
<p>HT.02.23.4</p>	<p>Public Participation: i) Mrs George shared her concerns about the speeding traffic at the Moat Sole. ii) Mr S Byers draw the attention to the SpeedWatch campaign of which he is a local coordinator iii) Mrs Latham who spoke to the committee as a representative of Sandwich Environment Conservation Group raised the questions about the climate emergency which was declared at the ordinary meeting 29th March 202. Mrs Latham wanted to know what plans Sandwich Town Council have to reflect and implement environmental and biodiversity strategic objectives, policies and procedures.</p>	

<p>HT.02.23.5</p>	<p>Fellowship Walk, otherwise known as Land South of Whitefriars Meadow: Committee received and considered a report from Cllr Ungerson, following the planning application refusal by DDC Planning Committee on 12th January 2023 Recommendation: i) Update from Cllr Carter is required ii) Council to conduct consultation with residents iii) What is the cost of the valuation iv) Consultation would include if the public would like Council to purchase this land. It was seconded by Cllr Marie and all members voted in favour.</p>	<p>Attach 1</p>
<p>HT.02.23.6</p>	<p>Empty Buildings of Sandwich: i) <u>Wayfarers</u> A planning application for this building is now with DDC. It is for change of use to 15 independent living units for people with learning difficulties by a private company. This is a matter of the Planning Committee, Clerk to follow up with Cllr Wiles. ii) <u>The Limes, New Street & School House</u> A message was received from Cllr Friend that there is no further progress regarding the Limes on New Street that is permissible to be shared with Town Councillors at this current time. School house future has been discussed by School governors but no further update yet. The School is owned by KCC, however School house belongs to the Academy trust. Cllr Sampson also mentioned that he had several meetings with the trust and KCC and couple of more meeting are scheduled to take place.</p>	<p>Attach 2</p>
<p>HT.02.23.7</p>	<p>Sandwich Waterways Working Group: The committee received a verbal update from the working group chair Cllr Heaven. The Working Group had a meeting with the representatives of the Environment Agency and Internal Drainage Board. EA is committed to carry out some improvement works to make delf deeper cleaner and faster. Another Waterways working group meeting will take place this Thursday 23rd February 19:00 at the Guildhall. Cllr Heaven will draw a draft report after the meeting, which will be sent to the members of the Waterways working group and presented to the Council with some recommendations. Cllr Heaven to contact DDC to discuss these plans before any decisions can be made.</p>	<p>Attach 3</p>
<p>HT.02.23.8</p>	<p>Tourist Information: Cllr Wiles gave an update on the recent Tourist Information Working Group meeting held on 1st February 2023. The minutes of the first of these meetings were presented as Attachment 4 to the Committee agenda. Next Tourist Information working group meeting tis taking place this Wednesday 22nd February at the Guildhall at 17:30. The Working group is going to look at the various leaflets, possibility of calling the Visitor Information Centre as a Tourist office among the other topics. Cllr Wiles is hoping to present the report to Committee during the next meeting in March.</p>	<p>Attach 4</p>
<p>HT.02.23.9</p>	<p>Quay Public Conveniences Working Group:</p>	

	<p>Cllr Sampson gave an update on the public online survey. In total there was 155 online responses, and some phone calls. He is still gathering the information as some emails were sent out to the local businesses to request their opinion about the public conveniences. A final report to this committee to be published next Month. Heritage and Townscape Committee thanked Cllr Sampson for his hard work.</p>	
HT.02.23.10	<p>Traffic Management in Woodnesborough Road and Moat Sole: A Sandwich resident has suggested that increased speed restrictions on Woodnesborough Road are likely to have adverse impact on Moat Sole. The Committee is invited to discuss this issue and make recommendations. Recommendation: Committee to contact KCC Highways for 20mph signs and Committee decided to return to this item.</p>	
HT.02.23.11	<p>Provisions of Temporary Bus Shelter during Guildhall Forecourt Works: Sandwich residents are concerned that there is currently no bus shelter provision at the Guildhall. The committee was invited to consider what temporary provision could be made, including opening the main doors of the old part of the Guildhall so people can shelter in the entrance. Recommendations: i) The committee doesn't support the idea to open the guildhall doors as bus shelter. ii) Permanent bus shelter to be installed by the end of May</p>	
HT.02.23.12	<p>Bowling Street Lighting: Committee received an update from KCC in relation to street lighting on Bowling Street. Recommendation: Cllr Ungerson to write to J Hennessy and asking for his response.</p>	Attach 5
HT.02.23.13	<p>The Donkey Paddock: Committee received a verbal proposal Cllr Heaven to use a part of the £2K allocated for the Donkey Paddock to sub-contract an initial clearing and strimming. Recommendations: i) Cllr Sampson recommend that STC should use already allocated £2K to subcontract and do the clearing and strimming. ii) The Council to develop a lease for certain period of time.</p>	
HT.02.23.14	<p>The STC declaration of a Climate Emergency: How to make this a reality by integrating it into our approach to local STC properties and green areas. The Committee is invited to discuss this issue and make recommendations. The Committee had a very interesting presentation from the member of the public. Committee to review what's been done so far and what else can be done. To be discussed during the next meeting.</p>	
HT.02.23.15	Sandwich Delf:	

	<p>Committee received a verbal proposal from Cllr Heaven to fund the publication of a new, revised version of Dr Stephen Fuller's book. For STC to fund, sell and benefit from the new book.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Committee resolved to follow up Cllr Tomlins idea about publicising what we had already achieved. Cllr Heaven was asked to produce more informative report.</p>	
HT.02.23.16	<p>Confidential Matters:</p> <p>i) It is recommended that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1 (2) (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.</p> <p>Committee decided to postpone this item to the next meeting and Cllr Ungerson decided reach out to the potential co-optees.</p>	
HT.02.23.17	<p>Date and time of Next Meeting: Monday 13th March 2023 at 18:30 within the Guildhall.</p>	