

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE HELD IN
THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR, TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 6.45PM**

PRESENT: Mr J Owen – Chair

Mrs S Ayres
Mr O Forder
Mr S Hall
Mrs J Osborne
Mr J Sayers

Mrs J Budd – Deputy Town Clerk
Mr B Smith – Community Warden Supervisor
Councillor D Davis – Cabinet member for Communities – Babergh
Mr D Clark – Service Improvement Adviser - Babergh

Before the meeting started, members walked around North Street identifying areas that needed attention as well as looking at a selection of replacement litter bins. A copy of these notes are shown at page 428.

1. SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES

Apoloies for absence were received from Mr L Cresswell and Mr D Williams.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

In accordance with guidance from Babergh District Council's Standards Committee, Mrs S Ayres and Mrs J Osborne declared that they are Babergh District Councillors. Mr Owen declared that he is a Suffolk County Councillor. All of these members asked that it be noted that their views expressed at this meeting would be based on information available at the time and might not be the same as those expressed at meetings involving other councils.

Mrs Ayres declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 10a regarding the Christopher Centre.

Mrs Osborne declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 6 regarding CCTV.

3. DECLARATION OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

No declarations of gifts or hospitality were received.

4. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

No requests for dispensation had been received.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Leisure, Environment & Highways meeting held on the 24th September 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

6. CCTV ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUDBURY

Councillor Davis, Cabinet Member for Communities and Mr Clarke, Service Improvement Adviser at Babergh District Council attended the meeting to discuss with members CCTV arrangements for Sudbury.

Members were advised that 17 cameras were installed in Sudbury in 2000. The quality of the image these produce is poor and they are all failing gradually.

The CCTV at Sudbury is monitored by volunteers at the Police station on a Friday and Saturday evening, however it is continually recording. The amount of volunteers is dwindling. Stowmarket Town Council have now taken over the control and monitoring of their CCTV. Babergh District Council have historically funded CCTV in Sudbury.

Members were requested to consider 2 options.

1. Do nothing – Allow the cameras to gradually fail and not be repaired or replaced.
2. Install a complete new state of the art HD camera system at a cost of around £150,000. Funding of this would need to be discussed at a future date.

The police are very supportive of a CCTV system remaining in Sudbury.

RECOMMENDED

That substantial evidence and results from the use of CCTV be obtained from the Police. This will then be discussed at the November meeting. A volunteer viewer will be invited to come along and discuss the sort of incidents they witness.

7. GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Community Warden Supervisor, Mr Bradley Smith, attended the meeting to discuss with members a policy on the removal of graffiti from private properties. Recently there has been a spate of graffiti vandalism. Whilst this isn't being removed, it is feared that this may encourage the problem to increase.

Most of the time the Warden Team use the machine to remove the graffiti. When this was donated it was specified that its use would be for the cleaning up the community.

In very few places, the machine is too big to use or too powerful therefore the graffiti would be required to be painted over, especially on private dwellings.

Are the council happy for the residents to purchase the paint and the Wardens paint it?

RECOMMENDED

That the Town Council agree to the Wardens using the Graffiti machine where possible or for residents to purchase the required paint for the Wardens to use. Should this become a regular issue, then the committee will discuss the matter again.

8. INSTALLATION OF FREE WIFI IN THE TOWN CENTRE

RECOMMENDED

That as Mr Cresswell was absent from the meeting and that free WIFI is available in most shops and restaurants, it was agreed not to progress with this suggestion.

9. ST PETER'S CLOCK

Members were requested to discuss two quotations for work on the chiming bearing of the clock. This is failing due to old age and there is nothing that can be done to prevent further work being needed.

On close examination of the two quotes, it appears that they may be very different.

RECOMMENDED

That this matter be discussed again once clarification on the two quotes has been received.

10. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a) The Christopher Centre – An email received from the Christopher Centre in Gainsborough Street was discussed. They have requested that bollards be placed at the front of the centre to stop large vehicles from mounting and parking on the pavement. They have been advised by Suffolk County Council that they do not have the funds to install these bollards.

RECOMMENDED

That the Christopher Centre be advised that unfortunately the Town Council are unable to support the request, however they do sympathise with the issue. They do not wish start a precedent of installing bollards. Once the parking enforcement comes into play it is hoped this issue may be alleviated. Any dangerous parking should be reported immediately to the Police.

- b) Highways list – The following recommendations were given:

RECOMMENDED

- **That a meeting be arranged with the new Cabinet Member for Highways as soon as possible.**
- **That contact be made with Suffolk County Council regarding the poor state of the highway near St Gregory's Church.**
- **Check what the status is with the replacing of the lights on Ballingdon Bridge.**
- **Add the 'blocked drains' in Waldingfield Road and East Street to the highways list.**
- **That the ongoing issue of parking out the front of St Peters be discussed at the next meeting.**

11. MATTERS PENDING

The Matters Pending list shown at minute page 429 was discussed.

- Pedestrian signage – This will be incorporated within the whole regeneration project of the Town Centre.

RECOMMENDED

That the contents of the matters pending list be noted.

The meeting concluded at 8.20pm

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Chairman

Points where improvements noted for areas on location that members/officers discussed on their 'walk about' this evening.....

- Street light out opposite Betfred/Old Hughes, column C899 and C342.
- Light out on an arrow sign – C807 Girling Street.
- North Street parade is owned by a private company. Each business pays the private company.
- The red finger post outside Lloyds Chemist at the top of North Street has been hit, resulting in the post now leaning.

RECOMMENDED

That the lights are all reported to Suffolk County Council.

That costing be obtained from Wiles for the repair of the land and the straightening of the finger post.

LITTER BINS

Mr Smith had met with two companies, Glasdon and Amberol to discuss litter bins. Members were able to view different styles of bins.

Mr Smith advised that Glasdon currently had a stock of 10 bins 'on offer' whilst stock lasts. The other 5 would need to be purchased at the full price.

RECOMMENDED

That 15 bins be purchased. 10 of these being the ones on offer (if still available) and 5 at the full price. If the 10 are no longer available, then 15 should be purchased at the full price.

That full Council consider funding these out of the CiL money.