

SNODLAND TOWN COUNCIL**15 MARCH 2018**

Committee Members present:	Cllrs Mrs D King (C), Mrs S Bell, Mrs B Brown, Mrs D Crook, Mrs L Downes, B Garlick, P Hickmott, A Keeley, J Minter, Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf, D Purll and M Sawkins
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO) and Miss E Jones
Members of the public:	Cllr Mrs S Hohler (KCC), Mr P Rimmer (Town Talk) and PCSO Ross McMillan

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs P Misy, Mrs B Keeley and D Keeley.</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr P Misy (C), Cllr Mrs D King chaired the meeting.</p>
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
3.	<p><u>Report from Neighbourhood Police Team</u></p> <p>The crime report was distributed to the Committee for their information.</p> <p>The PCSO apologised for arriving late at the meeting. He reported that there had been nuisance behaviour around Willowside, whereby youths were knocking on resident's windows. As a consequence, an opportunist burglary had been committed whereby a handbag was taken via an open window. In light of this, he has advised residents to remain vigilant and to ensure that their properties are kept secure.</p> <p>A councillor advised that teenagers were doing 'wheelies' on their bikes (which did not have lights) in the roads and asked if the PCSO could help with this? He said that he had tried to engage with the youths regarding this issue but they were not responsive. He said that he would be agreeable to approach the schools to seek their assistance and make them aware of the problem.</p> <p>The CEO asked PCSO McMillan if he had had an opportunity to carry out speed checks over the recent weeks. He reported that he had not had a chance due to work commitments but said that that he would be carrying out speed checks in the area over the weekend (weather permitting).</p>
4.	<p><u>County Councillor's Report</u></p> <p>The County Councillor (CC) reported that the budget had been passed in February. The proposed reductions to subsidised bus routes in Kent have been drastically scaled back following positive talks with bus companies and the decision by KCC to reduce the required savings from £2.25 million to £455,000 in this coming financial year. Due to the lack of need on certain rural routes, next month, KCC will launch "The Big Conversation" to better understand what communities want from their public transport services and how they could be better organised to meet that need.</p>

The CC reported that KCC had been given an award for getting young people into 236 new jobs/apprenticeships.

The CC gave a report on how KCC coped with the recent severe weather. She reported that during the snow, 60 big gritters, 5 mini gritters and 117 farmers (snow ploughs) were used to deal with the snow and to keep as many roads open as possible. She advised that since the severe weather, countless potholes have been left in the roads. She reminded the Committee to report these (with a photograph if possible) as £2m had been put aside in the budget to repair them. Kent based highway contractors were also on alert to assist with the task.

The CC advised that the speeding issue along the A228 was still a high priority and she would continue to push for a signalised crossing to ensure pedestrians and station commuters could cross the carriageway safely. She was also concerned that the Nursery situated on Holborough Road should improve their exit sight lines from their premises leading directly onto the A228. The CC advised that she was meeting the new Highways Manager in due course and would take him to the A228 location so that he could see, at first hand, how busy and dangerous the road is and report back to STC.

A request was made to show the Highways Manager the location of the traffic lights at Ham Hill as they were in very close proximity to the Ham Hill roundabout and therefore Councillors could not see how this could be an argument on safety grounds for a crossing at the Holborough roundabout.

The point was raised that the road leading south to the children's nursery on Holborough Road was 40 mph but vehicles far exceeded this limit along this stretch of road and put pedestrians at risk. The CC explained that she looked at the possibility of a speed count along this road but would have been very expensive due to the fact that it was a dual carriageway.

Another comment was made regarding the safety of residents who lived in the surrounding villages (Wouldham, Eccles and Burham) and the new housing development at Peters Village, all of which use local services in and around Snodland and Halling.

The CEO asked PCSO McMillan whether he would be able to carry out speed monitoring along this stretch of road? He said that he would need to check whether he would be able to use a speed gun on this road and he would need to ensure that there was a safe place to park to carry out the speed checks. He said that he would double check this information and confirm when and how many days he would be able to do.

A question was raised whether a speed van could be used to undertake speed monitoring but PCSO McMillan advised that enquiries would need to be made directly to Kent Police regarding this.

The point was raised that parking at Rectory Close sheltered housing was causing problems due to other vehicles parking there and taking up residents' spaces and emergency vehicle spaces. The CC sympathised but advised that this should be discussed with the Parking department at TMBC.

	Pursuant to Standing Order 68 the Chairman of the committee will invite Members of the public to express an interest should they wish to make representations, ask questions, or give evidence in respect of any item of business included on the agenda.	
5.	<u>Questions from the public (Members of the public are advised that they may speak for up to three minutes)</u> There were no questions from the members of the public.	
6.	<u>Chairman's Announcements</u> The Chairman thanked everyone who attended the unveiling of the bench at Holborough Park in memory of the late Cllr Moloney and also the Snodland Partnership. The Chairman also thanked all Council staff for their efforts during the heavy snow a few weeks ago.	
7.	<u>To resolve that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 31 January 2018 are a correct record</u> 0363 RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 31 January 2018 be approved a correct record and be signed by the Chairman. Signed	
8.	<u>To receive reports and consider recommendations of Council Committees</u>	
8.1	Policy and Resources	Meeting cancelled
8.2	Planning and Environment	6 February 2018 (special meeting p93) 7 March 2018 (pp 94 – 96)
	Special meeting - The Chairman asked the CEO if she had received a response from the Co-op following the special meeting held on 6 February 2018. The CEO advised that she had not. The Chairman reported 3 recommendations from the meeting held on 7 March 2018:	
0364	RESOLVED – Item 6 – Brooklands Lake Café - to let the building remain painted but to advise the tenant not to paint any further. If the tenant should relinquish the lease, the building would be put back to its original state.	
0365	RESOLVED – Item 7.2 – Copies of the papers regarding Kent Mineral Site Options Evidence Addendum from KCC were e-mailed to the Councillors for their information. No comments had been received from Councillors.	
0366	RESOLVED – Item 7.3 – Copies of the papers regarding A2 Bean and Ebbsfleet junction improvements: Statutory public consultation were e-mailed to the Councillors for their information. No comments had been received from Councillors.	

8.3	Amenities and Recreation	7 March 2018 (pp 97 – 99)
0367	<p>In the absence of the Chairman and absence of the VC at the meeting of 7 March 2018, Cllr Mrs B Brown reported one recommendation:</p> <p>RESOLVED – Item 11.3 – that a hire agreement be drawn up between STC and Wouldham PC setting out the cost of hire and duration times for the SID device. It was requested that the device should not be released until Snodland’s Speedwatch team have completed their refresher course which would take place in due course.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Reports from Borough Councillors</u></p> <p>Nothing to report from the Borough Councillors.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Town Councillors reports on meetings attended on behalf of the Council</u></p> <p><u>All Saints Church Rededication Service and Exhibition</u></p> <p>Cllrs Mrs D King, Mrs S Bell, Mrs D Crook, Mrs L Downes, P Hickmott and Mrs K Moredcai-Woolf attended the All Saints Church Rededication Service and Exhibition.</p> <p><u>Unveiling of the late Cllr A Moloney’s Bench at Holborough Park</u></p> <p>Cllrs Mrs D King, Mrs S Bell, Mrs B Brown, Mrs D Crook, Mrs L Downes, A Keeley, J Minter and M Sawkins attended the unveiling of Cllr Moloney’s bench.</p> <p><u>Meeting with Kent Police and Crime Commissioner & Joint Transportation Board</u></p> <p>Cllr Mrs S Bell attended the meeting with the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and also attended the Joint Transportation Board.</p> <p><u>Partnership Panel and Flood Warden training</u></p> <p>Cllr A Keeley attended the Partnership Panel and the flood warden training.</p>	
11.	<p><u>To receive details of cheques signed since the last Council Meeting</u></p> <p>A list of cheque payments, direct debits and transfers into reserve account from 1st February 2018 to 15 March 2018 totalling £50,235.08 was given to each Councillor. Several payment queries were asked for the CEO to clarify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transaction of £1,191.09 and £360.00 (EDF Energy (DD)) – The CEO advised that EDF carry out an annual audit of payments made by direct debit and if there is an amount due at the end of the year they automatically debit the amount outstanding and then set a new direct debit amount for the following year. The CEO advised that annual bills are received and regular meter readings are now taken and given online so that payments can be received more frequently; • Transaction of £427.76 and £386.38 (EON) – The CEO confirmed that these were monthly payments for street lighting; • Transaction of £357.70 – this was for the purchase of the Exclusive Right of Burial Certificate book; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transaction for £278.40 (clock tower)– the CEO confirmed that this payment was for the servicing of the clock tower and not for the crooked weather vane - this would be addressed in the future; • Transaction for £8,411.91 (Wages) – The CEO confirmed that this payment was higher than usual as it included Pension and NI contributions and income tax deductions for monthly and weekly paid staff and this payment was due at the same time as Monthly salaries; • Transaction for £70.09 and £140.10 (Gazprom Energy) – the CEO confirmed that the difference in payment was due to the change of supplier (from Scottish Power). The CEO confirmed that she would double-check these payments to ensure that they were correct; • Transaction of £535.50 (ATP Project Support) – The CEO confirmed that this was a payment for the Project Manager who was dealing with the business plan for the MUGA/3G pitch.
12.	<p><u>Report from the Chief Executive Officer</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that the doors have been removed and shutters installed at the external entrance to the MG. Unfortunately, the shutters were slightly damaged and a new shutter has been ordered in its replacement. The CEO reported that the lift was due to be installed during the week commencing 26 March 2018. The CEO advised she would need to install internal fire doors in due course and would look at the different options available before making a decision.</p> <p>The CEO advised that as part of the agreement with TMBC for part-funding the lift, it was agreed that STC would hold a number of business networking events. The first event will take place on 9th May 2018 and will be hosted by Barclays Bank, inviting Councillors and local businesses to attend a presentation on GDPR. It will start at 6.15pm and be held in the Moyeuivre-Grande in the Council offices.</p> <p>The CEO thanked Cllr D Purll for his assistance with the issue of the overflowing bottle banks which have now been emptied by TMBC.</p> <p>The CEO advised that she had received a letter from Mr Mike Whiting, Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste, reporting on the extent of damage caused to the highways due to the snow, causing 1,200 potholes needing to be reported in Kent. In light of the office receiving calls for potholes and other KCC and TMBC issues, the CEO advised that it would be helpful to add the KCC and TMBC ‘reporting a fault’ link on the Snodland Council Facebook page.</p> <p>The CEO requested that the Planning committee members call in to the office to look at 4 plans which could not be extended, before they were returned to TMBC by 28th March 2018.</p>
13.	<u>Correspondence</u>
	There was no correspondence.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.