

**Minutes of the Meeting of St Ives Town Council
held on Wednesday 10th April 2024 in the Town Hall, St Ives at 8:00 pm**

Present:

Town Mayor: Cllr P Pope

Councillors: M King, C Morgan, R Chapman, M Burke, P Hussain, Martin Page, J Spencer, J Cantwell, M Gleadow, A Thompson, J Tiddy, N Wells, S Mokbul

In attendance:

Democratic Officer: E Bleazard

Five members of the public

PRAYERS

The Town Mayor's Chaplain said prayers prior to the commencement of the meeting.

[Cllr S Mokbul entered the chamber]

The Mayor announced that he is recording the meeting to aid minute taking and that the recording will be deleted in the presence of the Locum Town Clerk, following the minutes being written.

C239.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Riddell (personal), Cllr Kerr (personal) and Cllr Valla (personal).

C240.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Wells – non pecuniary interest as a resident of The Broadway (**Agenda Item C247.00**).

Cllr Mokbul – non pecuniary interest as a business owner of premises located on The Broadway (**Agenda Item C247.00**).

Cllr Pope – non pecuniary interest as a resident of The Broadway (**Agenda Item C247.00**).

C241.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Local resident queried the new wording of the public participation section of the agenda as he felt it may not follow the public speaking policy. The Mayor clarified that members of the public can discuss any issues in this section, if they are not on the current agenda they can be added as agenda items for future meetings if required.

The resident commented on the Broadway Scheme Proposal, that he feels it benefits pedestrians to the detriment of other road users.

The Chairman of the Flood Action Group (FLAG) spoke regarding St Ives lock which is running at 50%. He reported that the Environment Agency have stated that this affects four properties in St Ives, however FLAG feels this figure is higher. He requested that the Town Council consider writing to the Environment Agency regarding this. He also mentioned the Broadway Scheme Proposal, commenting that it is not addressing flooding or speeding.

C242.00 MINUTES

Members were in receipt of the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 13th March 2024.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2024 were agreed as correct record and signed by the Mayor

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C243.00 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were in receipt of the Mayor's engagement list for March 2024. The Mayor reminded members of the upcoming Mayor's Ball and the deadline for purchasing tickets, which is 17th April.

C244.00 FORMAL WELCOME TO NEW COUNCILLOR

The Mayor formally welcomed Cllr Page and confirmed his appointment as representative for St Ives South Ward.

Cllr Page thanked the Mayor and commented that he is looking forward to contributing to the town.

C245.00 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members were presented with the minutes of the following meetings, which were received and noted:

C245.01 Planning Committee

Held on 13th and 27th March 2024.

C245.02 Facilities Committee

Held on 27th March 2024.

C246.00 2024/2025 MUNICIPAL YEAR

C246.01 Members considered the following nominations for the roles of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2024/25 municipal year:

Mayor: **Cllr Pope** – nominated by Cllr Gleadow, seconded by Cllr Spencer.
 Cllr Hussain – nominated by Cllr Burke, seconded by Cllr Mokbul.

Deputy Mayor: **Cllr Kerr** – nominated by Cllr Gleadow, seconded by Cllr Pope.

The Mayor explained that following selecting the preferred nomination today, there will be an election in May. Cllr Pope and Cllr Hussain briefly discussed their reasons for wishing to stand for the role of Mayor.

Voting slips were passed to all members and counted by the Democratic Officer. During the first round of voting for Mayor, both candidates received seven votes. The Mayor requested a second round of voting, for which Cllr Pope received six votes, Cllr Hussain received seven votes and there was one abstention. The Mayor congratulated Cllr Hussain, who thanked members.

Cllr Kerr was voted unanimously by members to continue as Deputy Mayor for the 2024/25 municipal year.

C246.02 Members were in receipt of the 2024/2025 meeting schedule.

Cllr Burke commented that there are some clashes of Town Council meetings with HDC meetings, the Mayor asked that the HDC meeting schedule be sent.

The Mayor commented that the date for Mayor Making and the annual meeting of council may change as the Locum Town Clerk is not available. Councillors will be made aware when this change has been finalised.

Following a question from Cllr Hussain, the Mayor confirmed that the new Town Clerk will be starting in post on 13th May.

Some diary clashes were noted by members which will be looked at by officers.

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C246.03 Members discussed the frequency and attendees at Councillor Surgeries for the upcoming year. The following dates were agreed: 15th June 2024, 21st September 2024, 21st December 2024 and 15th March 2025.

C247.00 THE BROADWAY SCHEME PROPOSAL

Following a discussion, it was agreed that a statement will be sent to Cambridgeshire County Council on behalf of the Town Council regarding the Broadway Scheme Proposal. The statement will include opinions received by residents. Proposed by Cllr Burke, seconded by Cllr Cantwell. Voted in favour with one abstention.

RESOLVED: that a statement be sent to Cambridgeshire County Council with regards to the Broadway Scheme Proposal.

C248.00 RAMSEY ROAD CEMETERY

Members were in receipt of an update from the Cemeteries Officer regarding a kerbed section at Ramsey Road Cemetery.

The Mayor thanked the Cemeteries Officer for the report. Cllr Hussain requested that the item be deferred to the next meeting as he is waiting for some further legal information that hasn't been received yet. Cllr Mokbul requested that the proposal is accepted to avoid further delays.

The Mayor agreed to defer the agenda item until the next meeting.

RESOLVED: that the agenda item be deferred until the next meeting.

[Councillor S Mokbul left the meeting at 21.02pm]

C249.00 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

C249.01 Nominations were requested to fill a vacancy on the Planning Committee. No nominations were received. Cllr Page stated that he would be interested in joining the committee following the end of his current planning consultancy work.

C249.02 Nominations were requested to fill two vacancies on the Norris Trust Committee. No nominations were received.

C249.03 Nominations were requested to fill a vacancy on the Property Committee. No nominations were received.

C250.00 ROLLING PROGRAMME

Members were in receipt of the rolling programme.

Cllr Wells spoke on behalf of the Civic Society Chairman to request an update regarding the Coronation bench at Slepe Hall Field. The Mayor reported that the Facilities Manager is actioning this.

Cllr Hussain reported that one further defibrillator is to be installed at the Mosque. The Mayor commented that that he is proud that the council have been able to recently fund several defibrillators for the town.

RESOLVED: that the rolling programme be received and noted.

C251.00 FINANCE MATTERS

C251.01 Members were in receipt of the orders for payment. No queries were raised.

RESOLVED: that the orders for payment be received and noted.

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- C251.02** Members were in receipt of the Bank Reconciliation Statement. No queries were raised.
RESOLVED: that the Bank Reconciliation Statement be received and noted.
- C251.03** Members discussed membership of CAPALC for 2024/25. After a brief discussion, it was proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Cllr Burke that the membership including the Data Protection Officer scheme be funded for the coming year at a cost of £1807.38.
RESOLVED: by unanimous vote that membership to CAPALC with the Data Protection Officer Scheme is funded for 2024/25.
- C251.04** Members discussed ongoing support from Rialtas to the Finance Officer. The Mayor proposed that the gold scheme be funded for the coming year, Cllr Burke seconded.
RESOLVED: by unanimous vote that the gold scheme with Rialtas be funded for the coming year.
- C251.05** Members were in receipt of a report from the Facilities Manager regarding the request for new gazebos for the Farmers' Market, which are in need of replacement. Following a brief discussion it was agreed to go out for tender. There was also a discussion regarding storage of the new gazebos to prevent damage. The Mayor suggested that this should be raised with the Town Clerk and the Facilities Manager. Cllr Hussain also queried whether the old gazebos could be sold, The Mayor suggested that this could be done if approved.
RESOLVED: by unanimous vote to go out to tender for replacement gazebos for the Farmers' Market.
- C251.06** Members were in receipt of the budget report. Cllr Thompson raised some queries with the Locum Town Clerk by email prior to the meeting. The Mayor commented that there are plans to report on the budget each month, with each committee having an agenda item at the Full Council meeting. The Mayor thanked the Locum Town Clerk for the work she has put in regarding financial matters.
RESOLVED: that the budget report be received and noted.

C252.00 **REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**
None received.

C253.00 **COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**
None received.

C254.00 **DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**
Cllr C Gleadow (HDC) reported approval of the budget at 3% and introduction of the green bin levy. She reported a council tax levy for low income families, with no council tax for four thousand low income families across the district. She reports ongoing work with the Environment Team at HDC regarding Berman Park, involving liaising with local residents and engaging locally with Town and Parish Councils.

The meeting concluded at 21.23pm.

Town Mayor:

Dated: 28th May 2024

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