

## SNODLAND TOWN COUNCIL

10 December 2008

Council Members Present: Cllrs C Block (Chairman), Miss A Moloney (Vice Chairman), J Atkins, L Baldock, Mrs S Boakes, D Brown, Mrs D Crook, B Garlick, C Grayhurst, Mrs B Keeley, D Keeley, J Tucker, L Withey, Ms K Woolley Mrs S Hunter (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public Present: Cllr Mrs S Hohler, J Boyes, PC Stubberfield, J Hayes, Mrs A Hayes, Mr P Hickmott

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Mrs Sarah Hohler, PC Mark Stubberfield and members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs B Brown.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mrs D Crook and Cllr Miss A Moloney – Community Association

3. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Mrs Hohler's report was circulated and will be kept on file.

Cllr Hohler wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and highlighted the part of her report that refers to schools achieving the best results ever, especially Holmesdale Technology College in Snodland.

Cllr Miss Moloney asked if there had been any improvements with Kent Highways. Cllr Mrs Hohler replied that they are not up to standard, but are on the way to reaching that goal.

The Chairman wished Cllr Mrs Hohler a Merry Christmas and thanked her for attending the meeting.

Cllr Mrs Hohler left to attend another meeting.

4. Borough Councillors Report

Cllr D Keeley reported – The Borough Council is facing severe financial difficulties because of a down turn in Revenue.

Cllr Withey reported – MR594 has officially been defined by KCC as a public footpath.

The planning application for the new bowling green will be discussed at the next Area 3 planning committee meeting.

Cllr Mrs Boakes had nothing to report.

Cllr Miss Moloney reported – Berkeley Homes have reduced their proposed costing for visitor parking at the new Holborough development, and they will not charge for daytime visitor parking. The scheme will operate in the New Year. They have doubled the number of parking spaces for part of phase four of the development. The results of the first phase of the Snodland parking review will be available in January. The response to the review was very low with only 600 responses, fifty of

which were anonymous, so those people cannot be kept up to date on the progress of the review?

Following a Borough Council planning meeting, site visit's for 90 High Street and the Red Lion will take place.

Leybourne Lakes – TMBC have taken on Snodland's concerns about the lack of benefits Snodland receives from its contribution to Leybourne Lakes and they have undertaken to clean up the entrance to Leybourne Lakes from Nevill Park. This will be placed on a regular schedule.

5. Chairman's Announcements

The Christmas in Snodland event was a great success in spite of the weather, and a special thank you goes to everyone involved in the organisation of the event.

The Mayor's wife had a fall, but she has fully recovered.

The Council has a request for an extension to the end of January for the start date of the new building at Potyns. Councillors were asked for their comments, so the variation of contract could be signed.

The Council agreed to the variation and the documents were signed and returned to our solicitor.

The Chairman congratulated Oliver Coppard, Snodland's PCSO, who has been accepted for the regular police force and thanked him for his work in Snodland. PC Dave Riley and the other Snodland officers were also thanked for their work. Mrs Julie Streatfield has been helping as a temporary caretaker while Mrs Crittenden is off sick and everyone is grateful to her for stepping in.

6. Questions from the Public

6.1 PC Mark Stubberfield gave the Crime Statistics for Snodland for the past month – 10 thefts, 8 assaults, 2 drugs, 1 burglary, 8 criminal damage, 4 burglaries other, 2 vehicle and 1 theft of fuel – a total of 36 crimes.

The crime rate for Snodland is extremely low and many of the above were dealt with very quickly.

Cllr Miss Moloney asked about the CCTV camera at Potyns car park. PC Stubberfield replied that the infra red is being purchased by the Snodland Partnership.

6.2 Mr Hickmott asked if he could use the Cricket Meadow and the marquees on 4 July 2009. This will be put to the Policy and Resources Committee in January.

7. To Confirm as a correct record the Part I Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 October 2008 (pp 64 - 67)

**RESOLVED** that the Part I Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 October 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Signed.....

8. To receive Part I Reports of the Council's Committees

8.1 **Planning & Environment – 3 November 2008 (pp 70–72)**

8.2 **Amenities & Recreation – 10 November 2008 (pp 73-74)**

**RESOLVED** - to allow shed at 29 Sloughfields Allotments  
 - Letter to Sports Association  
 - purchase a dog bin for Holborough Park.

### 8.3 Policy & Resources – 17 November 2008 (pp 76-78)

**RESOLVED** - to adopt the New Model Freedom of Information Policy

- To install goal posts at Willowside

A meeting will be held on 5 January 2009 to decide on the final budget.

**RESOLVED** that the Part 1 minutes of the Council's Planning and Environment, Amenities and Recreation, Policy and Resources Committee's held since 20 October 2008 be confirmed and accepted as part of the proceedings of the Council.

### 9. To Receive Details of Cheques Signed Since the Last Council Meeting

The cheque list was circulated.

**RESOLVED** that the cheque list be accepted.

### 10. Correspondence

10.1 KCC has acknowledged the Council's request to place a notice board on the station side of the bypass.

10.2 TMBC Chief Executive has informed all Town and Parish Councils that there will be no funding for special projects due to the financial climate. This will affect the Council's street lighting project.

10.3 Snodland Cricket Club deducted a sum of £120 from their annual fee, because they were not able to use the Cricket Meadow during a festival event last year. This will not happen again.

10.4 Letter from Holborough Cricket Club requesting assistance with the cost of their new fence. This will be put before the Policy and Resources Committee in January.

10.5 A request from Age Concern for funding – this will also go to Policy and Resources Committee in January. Age Concern has also sent their thanks for the £50 donation raised by Cllr Keeley at the 10K Run.

10.6 TMBC has adopted the Parish Charter and this will be in the office for perusal.

10.7 Kent Fire and Rescue Risk Management Plan 2009/10 will be in the office for perusal.

10.8 NALC Annual Report and Audit for 2007/08 will be in the office for perusal.

10.9 Notification has been received of tree works to remove dead and dangerous trees along the M20 from junction 3 – 13. This work commenced today and will take eight weeks.

### 11. Reports from Councillors from meetings attended on behalf of STC

Cllr Withey reported on Leybourne Lakes. A disabled cycling route has been introduced and the schools education project is under way. Lakeside parking is now available for windsurfers who have their own equipment, and a new children's play area will be installed in 2009.

Cllr Miss Moloney attended the following meetings: - Parish Partnership Meeting and the 'Lack of Funds' message was presented.

KALC meeting – Not much to report on this occasion as the meeting concentrated on flood defences.

Twinning Association – would like a civic reception for the guests from Moyuevre who will be coming to Snodland for a visit on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2009. This will be put before the Amenities and Recreation committee.

Cllr D Keeley met with the Sports Association and even though a long meeting, the results were positive.

Cllr Withey & Grayhurst reported on the Snodland Partnership Meeting:-

Kent Police are introducing a new crime prevention initiative that will link business premises via radio.

Infra red will be purchased for the CCTV camera at potyns.

Two defibrillator kits will be purchased for the rapid response volunteers. This will enable four volunteers to be on call in Snodland.

The Clocktower Pre School's request for funding is being taken on board by the Co-op.

The Chamber of commerce is preparing a two day festival for 2009 and the partnership will assist with a donation of £4000.

The re launch of the partnership is scheduled for April and a sub committee has been set up to organise this.

The meeting with the Archdeacon regarding the Riverside project went very well, and match funding will be provided by the valley of visions.

The Recreation Avenue bird sanctuary should be completed by tomorrow, although more trees will be planted in the future.

The site line from the High Street to the church on the other side of the by pass needs to be cleared. KCC Highways are supposed to do this according to the by pass section 106 agreement. The clerk has contacted highways on several occasions and will continue to pursue this issue.

The Chairman attended the SLCC conference with the clerk. It was a busy day covering several subjects, and the new planning portal was of great interest. The Chairman said it made him more appreciative of what a clerk has to do.

Cllr Tucker reported on the Medway Valley rail partnership. After planning permission has been obtained the students from Holmesdale Technology College will create a mural for Snodland Station. A seat on the 'Maidstone' side will be installed, and the electronic displays are now up and running.

12. Any other items which the Chairman has decided are urgent owing to special circumstances

There being no other business the Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

The Chairman moved that the Press and Public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.