

## Snodland Town Council – Full Council Minutes

28<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Councillors in attendance:	Cllrs D Lettington (C), Mrs S Bell (VC), Mrs J Ayers, , A Bennison, Mrs D Crook, P Hickmott, Ms D King, S Loader, G Miners and M Wakefield (Cllr Mrs King left the meeting at 20.20).
Other Council Members in Attendance:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO) Mrs K Miners (SAO)
Others in Attendance	
Councillors Absent with apologies:	Cllrs W Mallard, D Morgan, Mrs V Lawrence-Rose,
Councillors Absent without apologies:	Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf (DVC), Mrs N Misy
Other Apologies:	

1.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> See above.
2.	<u>Declaration of interests</u> Cllr Hickmott Agenda Item 11 – Payment for services.
3.	<u>Report from the Neighbourhood Police Team</u> The Council members had received an E-Watch report prior to the meeting.
4.	<u>County Councillor's Report</u> None received.
5.	<u>Councillors Training</u> Conducted from Chair to Councillors. A copy of the Power point presentation to be emailed to councillors.
6.	<u>Questions from the Public</u> Pursuant to Standing Order 3 e & g Members of the public may make representation, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes.
7.	<u>To resolve the Minutes of the Full Council held on 10th December 2024 (pp 98-101) and Special Full Council held on 9th January 2025 (pp102-103) are a correct record.</u>
1371	<b>RESOLVED</b> to accept that the minutes are a true record of the Full Council held on 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 (pp 98-101) and Special Full Council held on 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 (pp102-103) are a correct record.  Signed .....

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8.	<u>To receive reports and recommendations of Council Committees</u>	
8.1	Planning and Environment	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 (pp104-105)
8.2	Amenities and Recreation	21 <sup>st</sup> January 2025 (pp105-110)
9.	<u>Reports from Borough Councillors</u>  Cllr Hickmott and Cllr Mrs Bell reported on the Government white paper on Devolution regarding the amalgamation of TMBC and KCC to create a Unity Authority.  Cllr Hickmott reported on the following – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the appointment of a new independent person to the Standards Committee</li> <li>• TMBC had agreed to a pay increase on the lowest paid people of 2.9%.</li> <li>• Cllr David Davies – proposing royal British legion Industries to be given Freedom of the Borough.</li> </ul>	
10.	<u>Town Councillors items to be brought to the attention of the Council</u>  Cllr Lettington– Met with Men’s mind, which was really productive, some suggestions have been put forward regarding advertising for the Allotments which will be discussed at the Amenities and Recreation meeting. Further discussions regarding the use of MG Suite, most of the project’s money goes to therapies and referrals. A request for council support will be discussed at the Policy and Finance meeting.  Cllr Lettington – Went to the allotments, regarding the use of cement fibre board. This will be brought to an Amenities and Recreation meeting in due course.  Cllr Miners – Christmas Eve Sleigh – want to thank the council office this year who were involved with the collating of the Christmas Eve sleigh forms. Updates were put on Facebook which helped to raise the council’s profile. Cllr Miners was grateful to the CEO for allowing the staff to help.  Cllr Miners - Museum – Have attended recently and would like to bring to the next Amenities meeting to discuss the long term vision, including current operations, future plans, and opportunities for improvement.  Cllr Miners - Scout meeting – attended Brooklands with Cllr Morgan, CEO and SAO. The area had been all tidied. This was a positive evening meeting, to see what the lighting would be like. The Scouts will have a further meeting regarding taking the lease on and will update STC.  Cllr Miners – Meeting regarding fencing at Potyns. Attended with CEO and SAO to look at the fencing options (roadside) between Paddlesworth Road and Potyns Car Parks. Also, looked at fencing option between football pitch and pump track.  Cllr Miners – Attended the meeting at the Allotments with Cllr Lettington and CEO.  Cllr Miners –Changed Clocktower to purple, to remember and honor the lives lost during the Holocaust. It was a pleasure and an honor.	
11.	<u>To receive details of Payments and transfers from 5th December 2024 to 21 January 2025 from Unity Bank totaling £5968.46 and Nat West Bank totaling £80699.81 which includes BACS Payment lists pages 1924-1926,1935-1936,1946-1948.</u>	

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1372	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> to accept details of Payments and transfers from 5th December 2024 to 21 January 2025 from Unity Bank totaling £5968.46 and Nat West Bank totaling £80699.81 which includes BACS Payment lists pages 1924-1926,1935-1936,1946-1948.</p>
12.	<p><u>Report and proposals relating to Paddlesworth Road car park development</u></p> <p>The CEO reported on the current position relating to Paddlesworth Road Car Park (a copy of the report is on file).</p> <p>The council reviewed the current situation regarding the redevelopment of Paddlesworth Road Car Park, used by Snodland Town Football Club and Townsend Hook Bowls Club. With increased pump track usage, the car park could also serve additional users. The estimated redevelopment cost is £200,000–£225,000, significantly exceeding the available capital reserve of £48,946. The car park is in poor condition, with potholes and an unusable grass area in wet weather.</p> <p>Potential solutions include full resurfacing, phased resurfacing, or temporary measures. Funding options include contributions from the football and bowls clubs, with the FA as a potential source. A schedule of work, costing approximately £700-£800 plus VAT, is required for more accurate tender pricing. However, following a meeting with a contractor, they indicated that they could provide a tender specification.</p> <p>The CEO also met with the drainage engineer, to look at drainage solutions for Potyns car park, this will include CCTV connectivity surveys. This may also be a potential solution to drainage connectivity in the Paddlesworth Road Car Park.</p> <p>The CEO asked to consider this agenda item along with an item from the CEO report relating to an evaluation of the use of Potyns Sportsground enhancing the functionality of the site.</p> <p>An evaluation of potential improvements at Potyns Sportsground was suggested, focusing on functionality and inclusivity. The site is heavily used on weekends, with increased demand for parking and facilities. The original Paddlesworth Road car park resurfacing project has expanded into a broader plan for a multifunctional parking area.</p> <p>Key proposals include installing a fence from Paddlesworth Road Car Park to Potyns Car Park, addressing the poor condition of the hedgerow, and repurposing the unused area west of the pump track as a viewing and picnic space. Safety concerns over the bund being used as an informal jump were raised, with suggestions to replace it with bollards or a fence. A fence and pathway between the pump track and football pitch were also proposed to improve safety and connectivity.</p> <p>Site visits for councillors are scheduled for 8 February at 10.15am to assess proposals before further discussions are made at Amenities and Recreation.</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ask for the football and bowls club to attend on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February.</li> </ul>

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13.	<p><u>To receive information regarding the use of Body worn videos</u></p> <p>The Council received a report on Body worn videos and discussed the pro's and cons. Many of which were covered in the report (a copy is available on file).</p> <p><b>Chairman Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try preventative measures providing additional cones, possible traffic management company, more high viz, leaflet drops and review in a year's time before committing to the purchase of body worn videos.</li> </ul> <p><b>SECONDED Cllr Mrs Bell</b></p> <p><b>Vote:</b> 8 – Agreed 1 – against</p> <p><b>1373 RESOLVED</b> Try preventative measures providing additional cones, possible traffic management company, more high viz, leaflet drops and review in a year's time before committing to the purchase of body worn videos.</p>
14.	<p><u>Report from the Chief Executive Officer</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that she is currently carrying out Carbon literacy training to understand environmental issues and to reduce carbon emissions. It is interesting to learn that the lowest amount of greenhouse gases emitted as a result of consumption habits, the carbon footprint essentially measures the environmental impact of one's lifestyle through consumption patterns. Snodland uses the lowest amount of Carbon dioxide amongst neighbouring communities.</p> <p>The outcome of the training will be how are we going to reduce our carbon footprint, how are we going to achieve net zero and how are we going to encourage our residents to do the same.</p> <p>Cllr Hickmott advised that TMBC have a heat seeking camera which can monitor how much energy is being wasted. It was suggested that we should contact the Borough to see if the device can be used for Snodland.</p> <p>It was also suggested that the housing providers should be contacted to ascertain what level of work is being carried out on their properties.</p> <p>Should we be considering the environmental impact whenever we make a decision in planning applications.</p>
15.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>Inappropriate signs in the café. Council agreed that 2 of the signs were deemed as inappropriate language and as this is a council building, tenants will be asked to remove the signs.</p>

being no other business, the meeting closed at 21:20