



# Sodbury Town Council

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

### 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019

### at 19:30 - Chipping Sodbury Town Hall

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**Present:** Councillors B Allen, J Ball, L Boon, R Creer, S Gibson, C Hays, P Rumney, P Smith, W Whittle, P Whittle & A Williams

Clerk – Cate Davidson  
Assistant Clerk – Jackie Stallard

Members of the Public x 21

**1. Welcome by Chairman Cllr Phil Rumney & Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed all to the Annual Parish Meeting and the Emergency procedure was read out. Cllr James Ball was introduced as the Mayor of Chipping Sodbury.

Apologies received from Cllr O'Rourke

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**Resolved** the Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Reports from the Town Council**

Chairmen of the Town Council Standing Committees presented their reports, summarised as follows:-

Planning and Consultation Committee – Chairman: Cllr C Hays

- *The purpose of the Committee is to review & comment on applications submitted to SGC; To review and comment on emerging planning policies and address enforcement issues and public concerns*
- *The Committee met approximately every 4-6 weeks as business dictated with most applications being of a household nature, eg extensions. In addition, with lots of countryside in the area, applications for agricultural development.*
- *The Joint Spatial Plan for West of England and SGC Local Plan to 2036 were being formulated and could include housing allocations for the Parish.*
- *Cllr Hays thanked fellow Councillors, Cate and Jackie for their support.*

Environment & Leisure Committee – Chairman: Cllr P O'Rourke

- *In Cllr O'Rourke's absence, the Vice Chairman Cllr C Hays reported with regard to the public conveniences in the town which continued to cost the Council a lot of money. The survey recently circulated had generated a lot of interest and it was an important issue for the town. All views would be considered with the final decision going forward to the new Council in May.*
- *The annual playscheme which took place in August each year continued to be a success and would continue for 2019.*
- *Cllr Hays thanked fellow councillors, Cate and Jackie for their support.*

### Markets Committee – Chairman: Cllr A Williams

Cllr Williams reported as follows:-

- *That the bi-annual Mop Fair was closely monitored and ran with few complaints. The Committee continued to liaise with the organisers, W & K N Rowland on a regular basis to ensure the smooth running of the event. Following the fair, a deep clean of the Pitchings took place whilst few cars were on the Pitchings.*
- *A parking sub-committee meeting had been set up to look at ways of alleviating parking problems in the town together with SGC. Plans had been drawn up and matter gone out to consultation with residents and traders but unfortunately the plans could not be taken forward and new proposals were awaited.*
- *A Farmers Market was last held in 2015. The Council had received an approach from a person interested in resurrecting the market and arrangements were being made to meet with Committee members.*
- *Thanks conveyed to all those involved with the Christmas lights in the town, ie the Residents and Traders Assoc (RATS), Paul Tily and his team of helpers and also Cllr P Whittle for maintenance of the lights. They did a great job and the lights always looked fantastic during the Christmas period.*
- *Cllr Williams thanked fellow Councillors, Cate and Jackie for their continued support.*

### The Chairman of Sodbury Town Council: Cllr P Rumney

*The Chairman highlighted the following:-*

- *With regard to the library in Chipping Sodbury and its on-going success since it became volunteer-led under the management of Sodbury TC.*
- *The Sodbury 800 event proved a massive success and thanks conveyed to all those involved, particularly Cate and Jackie for going the extra mile to bring the whole event together.*
- *Congratulations to Sodbury in Bloom. Their hard work and commitment had paid off and they were awarded a Gold Award.*
- *Mention made of the sad loss of Cllr J Gough who would be greatly missed.*
- *Two years as Chairman had been an exciting and fulfilling role and thanked Councillors, Cate and Jackie for their support during this time.*

#### **4. Mayor's Awards**

The Mayor, Cllr Ball, welcome all to the inaugural Mayor's Awards which have been set up to recognise those who do so much in the town.

Many nominations have been received and the awards are presented as follows:

- Mrs Jane Lund for work with Sodbury in Bloom, Parish Plan and the Library. Jane accepted the award and thanked all of the people involved in the teams with which she worked and all for the benefit of the town.
- Mr Brian Fletcher for work with the Lions and the annual Chipping Sodbury Festival. Brian accepted the award on behalf of all the people who were behind these events along with the Rotary Club which organised the banners and bunting for the Festival.
- Mr David Shipp as long serving Chairman of the Chipping Sodbury Town Trust and for giving so much time and energy to the benefit of the town. David accepted the award and thanked all who have been involved in the team which he has been honoured to lead and work with.

The Mayor advised that it is hoped these awards will take place again next year. The main theme has been teamwork and thanks were expressed to all those who work to make Sodbury such a wonderful place to live and work.

**5. Any other Parish Business**

- Following a spate of vandalism and misuse of the public conveniences, the Chairman confirmed a large amount of money was being spent on repair and refurbishment. A Questionnaire had been circulated around the town and an on-line version made available. This had prompted some questions and parishioners were given an opportunity to address Members.
- An Old Sodbury resident and Speedwatch member addressed Members with regard to speeding in the area and that it continued to be a problem. The following points raised:-
  - a resident suggested speed camera at each end of the village
  - tipper trucks travelled in excess of 40mph
  - suggestion for 30mph roundels, similar to St Johns Way. Cllr Creer explained roundels were laid under previous legislation and a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would now be required and this would be considered at “investigation” stage

Cllr Creer confirmed the matter was on the SGC ‘Investigation List’ to find a solution and would be considered in the 2019/2020 financial year.

- A resident spoke with regard to opening up the “road to nowhere” to relieve traffic congestion in Yate. Cllr Boon responded that the matter had been looked into many times before by SGC but would cost in excess of £300,000.
- A Barnhill Road resident spoke with regard to the new homes in that area where problems with the properties had materialised, eg cladding falling off and a grass cutting issue which had been passed to a third party. Cllr Creer confirmed discussions were taking place with SGC Enforcement, the Developer and the third party contractor.

After the conclusion of the formal meeting, an interesting presentation took place by Mr Pete Chaplin. “A Job with Bite” which related to his 20 years as a serving Police dog handler.

**Signed .....** (Chairman)

**Dated .....**