

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN (PART 1 – FOR PUBLICATION)

MEETING: Council – Wednesday 22 July 2015 – 19.00 hrs.
Council Chamber, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Councillors with the exception of those listed at item 1 below.

ALSO PRESENT: Y Tiako (Youth Mayor) and J McCarthy (Youth Council)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor, Councillor H Burrell and Councillors D Cullen, C Latif, R Henry CC, R Parker CC, M Notley, C Saunders and P Stuart.

In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor chaired the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES – ANNUAL COUNCIL – TUESDAY 26 MAY 2015

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Annual Council meeting of 26 May 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Deputy Mayor informed the meeting that due to personal and health reasons, Councillor H Burrell has taken a short leave from his official duties as Mayor. All mayoral engagements had been covered either by the Deputy Mayor or the past year's Mayor-Councillor S Batson.

He wished the Mayor a speedy recovery on behalf of the Council.

The Deputy Mayor highlighted a number of Mayoral engagements which he had undertaken visiting primary schools presenting educational attainment certificates and sports awards. He also welcomed the 'beat the street initiative' which he had personally participated in and hoped it would be an ongoing event as it encouraged residents to engage in activities such as walking, running and cycling over a 6 week period.

He also welcomed the activities of Home Start in supporting vulnerable residents having had the opportunity of meeting and speaking to its clients, staff and volunteers when he attended the Annual General Meeting.

The Deputy Mayor expressed his and the Council's best wishes to Jochebel McCarthy, Chair of the Youth Council as she continues with her studies in university. He acknowledged her regular attendance at Council meetings over the last 7 years and most importantly her positive contribution to debates especially giving a young persons perspective.

Finally the Deputy Mayor extended the Council's condolences to the family of Mrs Connie Rees, a Stevenage resident who had been very active in the community who recently died. A memorial service would be held in September 2015.

4. MAIN DEBATE – 'ENTERPRISING PEOPLE – ENTERPRISING PLACE' – SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENTREPRENEURS, ASSISTING BUSINESS GROWTH & INVESTMENT IN STEVENAGE.

Pam Charman, Chair of the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, Federation of Small Businesses in her presentation highlighted issues common to businesses, and the challenges and opportunities within Stevenage.

After a full debate, which included input from the public gallery, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** :

That the Council supports small business owners, recognising their contribution to the local economy i.e. trading with other business owners, providing goods/services which people need, employing local residents and choosing to both live and have a business in Stevenage. We are particularly keen to support business innovation and growth, to strengthen firms with high growth potential and to encourage new firms to set up. We will work closely

with the Federation of Small Businesses, Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce, Hertfordshire LEP, North Herts College, Hertfordshire University and business support providers to ensure business owners have services/opportunities which are responsive and meet the needs of businesses now and in the future”

5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE YOUTH COUNCIL

None.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None was received.

8. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S UPDATE

The Leader of the Opposition enquired about Council plans to address the car parking issues in and around neighbouring streets off Coreys Mills Lane and in particular Lister hospital.

In response Councillor Taylor acknowledged that car parking was a town wide issue, but in this area problems had increased as a result of the closure of services at Queen Elizabeth II Hospital and its subsequent relocation of staff to Lister hospital, the reduction of bus services to the hospital and the hospital's own green travel plan. She indicated that following a number of discussions with Nick Carver of Lister hospital, it was suggested that that a long term solution would require building of a multi storey car park on site. She also noted that parking restrictions introduced around Ingelside Drive were being monitored by SBC Officers

Council received updates on the following:

- Council's new Work Experience Programme
- Stevenage Skate Park (launch date 8 August 2015)
- Stevenage Day
- Aviva Women's Tour
- Beat the Street
- Ridlins Play Equipment
- Flooding
- Future East
- Housing Enforcers on BBC and Archer Road
- The Chancellor's Emergency Budget, Shared Anti-Fraud Service
- Police Priorities

Members requested their thanks to the Head of Leisure, Community & Childrens Services, Aidan Sanderson and his team, particularly Geoff Caine, be recorded, for organising both Stevenage Day, the Aviva Women's Tour and dealing with the flood at the museum.

9. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS / PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
None.
11. MANDATORY STANDING ORDERS
It was moved, seconded and RESOLVED that amendments to the Officer Employment Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution is noted.
12. OFFICER REPORT- ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2014/2015
It was moved, seconded and RESOLVED that the work undertaken by the Overview Scrutiny Committee and the Select Committees during 2014 / 2015 is noted.
13. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE
It was moved, seconded and RESOLVED that the revised Terms of Reference of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee are approved.
14. OFFICER REPORT – AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES – 23 MARCH 2015
It was moved, seconded and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 23 March 2015 be noted.
15. OFFICER REPORT – DRAFT AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES – 10 JUNE 2015
It was moved, seconded and RESOLVED that the Draft Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 10 June 2015 be noted.
16. 2014/2015 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OUTURN

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED**

1. That the virement of £3.817 million between the Decent Homes budget in 2015/16 and the New Build Programme and the use of £1,635,860 New Build Receipts for the New Build Programme be approved.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – 20:45 PM

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor chaired the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. HONORARY ALDERMAN

The Deputy Mayor stated that there was a typographical error on the motion to confer the title of honorary alderman on former Councillor 'Patrick David Kissane' – not 'David Patrick' as quoted.

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council confers the title of Honorary Alderman on Patrick David Kissane who had rendered over 29 years eminent service as a Councillor representing the people of the Town, particularly in the Symonds Green Ward.