

**SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023 AT 6.30PM**

---

PRESENT: Ms E Murphy – Chair

Mr N Bennett  
Mr S Hall  
Mr A Osborne  
Miss A Owen  
Mr T Regester

Mr C Griffin – Town Clerk  
Mrs J Budd – Deputy Town Clerk  
Mr Z Shah – Pharmacist  
Ms K Taylor (by video) – Senior Pastor Stour Valley Vineyard Church  
Mr T Burrows – Stour Valley Vineyard and Churches Together

1. **SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES**

**Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ms Carter.**

**Councillor P Faircloth-Mutton was absent, but no apologies had been received.**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

**Councillors Mr Osborne and Miss Owen declared that they were Babergh District Councillors.**

3. **DECLARATION OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**

**No declarations of gifts or hospitality were received.**

4. **REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

**No requests for dispensation had been received.**

5. **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

**That the minutes of the Leisure & Environment Committee meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record.**

6. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

A list of actions is shown at minute page 191.

**RESOLVED**

**That the report be noted.**

7. PHARMACY IN THE SUDBURY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

The Town Clerk advised members that the Town Council were not required by law to comment on pharmacy applications, but that it was open to the Council to form an opinion and make a recommendation on behalf of the town.

Mr Zahid Shah attended the meeting to explain the need for a pharmacy within the Sudbury Community Health Centre (SCHC). Mr Shah practices as a locum Pharmacist within Sudbury Town Centre and has identified the need for a pharmacy on the SCHC site. Sainsbury's had recently closed their instore pharmacy and patient numbers at Siam Surgery had increased from about 7,000 to 12,000 since opening.

The original plans for SCHC included a pharmacy and this was built but the space had never been occupied by a pharmacy. Mr Shah now had an agreement with NHS Properties to use this purpose-built space for a pharmacy and asked the Council to support the case for establishing a pharmacy on this site.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Town Clerk draft and send a letter of support on behalf of the Town Council for the provision of a pharmacy within the Sudbury Community Health Centre.**

8. STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD

Following on from the previous meeting, members of the Stour Valley Vineyard Church attended the meeting to help explain what 'Healing on the streets' involved.

Ms Taylor advised the committee that they would offer prayers for members of the public in one place. They would also interact with members of the public as they walk through the Market.

Mr Burrows explained that this initiative has the full support of Churches Together. It would not be 'in your face' and if people just want to sit and talk this would be fine.

Some Councillors raised concerns that this would be a distraction from the core purpose of the Market as a place for buying and selling goods and services.

**RESOLVED**

**That the committee refuse the request from the Stour Valley Vineyard.**

9. SUDBURY COMMON LANDS CHARITY

Members were requested to approve a 10% uplift in the charges for the Sudbury Common Lands Charity management of the Valley Trail and Ranger Services, from £7,363.69 to £8,100.06 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

The Town Clerk confirmed that this increase was within the allocated budget for FY2023-2024.

**RESOLVED**

**That members approve the 10% increase in the charges for the Sudbury Common Lands Charity services.**

10. PUBLIC TOILETS – GAOL LANE

Members were advised that Babergh District Council had re-submitted the tender for works to the public toilets in Gaol Lane. The closing date was the 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Local estimates were also being sought. No decisions would be made before the elections.

**RESOLVED**

**That the report be noted.**

11. SUFFOLK REGISTRARS

The Town Clerk advised both parties had agreed a text for the draft lease agreement. Suffolk County Council had paid last year's rent in full.

The Mayor's Parlour was being used regularly for weddings, with very positive feedback.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Town Clerk's report is noted.**

**NOTES**

The Town Clerk advised members of the following:-

- Suffolk County Council had commissioned a film promoting local walking trails across the county and this would include Sudbury. A creative content agency would be filming on the Valley Walk for a couple of hours on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May and would use their own models. This would help promote tourism in Sudbury via the 'Discover Suffolk' website.
- Due to the ongoing road works in Sudbury, many market traders had commented on their loss of earnings during the last few Thursdays. The Town Clerk suggested that, if the traffic chaos remained the same on the coming Thursday, he could

allow all traders a 50% reduction on their rent for this Thursday only, as the loss of income would be within his delegated authority. However, before exercising this delegation, he wanted to consult members and take their views into account.

**Members agreed with this proposal.**

- Members asked that officers request Suffolk County Council Highways to keep Sudbury Town Council informed of any road closures, emergency or planned. If there was an emergency closure, could planned works be postponed if they would disrupt the diversion.

The meeting concluded at 7.22 pm

.....  
Chairman

## **Actions.**

Party in the Park – budget was discussed by full council and approved.

Refurbishment of Gaol Lane toilets – BDC have resubmitted the application for tenders for this work. Applications close on the 9<sup>th</sup> May.

No mow areas are starting to establish.

Healing on the Streets – this will be discussed within the agenda.

Bench from the junction of Acton Lane has been removed and a new bench installed. The area has been weeded. The old bench will be repaired by the wardens and placed on Ballingdon Hill.