

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING FOR BURY ST EDMUNDS
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 MAY 2016 AT 6.00 PM
AT 7 ANGEL HILL, BURY ST EDMUNDS**

PRESENT: Town Councillors Speed (Town Council Chairman – in the Chair), Augustine, Barrett, Chung, Hailstone, D Hind, K Hind, Hopfensperger, Murray, Rayner, Springett, Thompson, F Warby, P Warby and Williamson.

Representatives from the Bury In Bloom, Bury St Edmunds Fairtrade Partnership (3), Bury St Edmunds Water Meadows Group (2), Ourburystedmunds, Moreton Hall Residents' Association (2), Newbury Community Centre, Suffolk Police Safer Neighbourhood Team for Bury St Edmunds, East Anglian Daily Times and 6 residents.

Town Council staff: Julia Dyball (Town Clerk), Sue Hindry (Assistant Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer), Julie Sturgeon (Allotments and Administration Assistant).

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 22 MAY 2015

The vote to adopt the minutes was carried.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE YEAR IN OFFICE

The Chairman noted that last year was his first year as Town Council Chairman and that the Town Council aims to be an active partner in Town Centre service and delivery and it is only limited by the ambition of its residents and councillors and the money available to it via the precept. He briefly mentioned devolution and finally thanked his fellow Town Councillors who, after all, are volunteers, for attending meetings and ploughing through the paperwork.

3. REPORTS IF ANY FROM RECIPIENTS OF TOWN COUNCIL FUNDING

Suffolk Police Safer Neighbourhood Team for Bury St Edmunds

Sgt Anna Whybro of the Suffolk Police Safer Neighbourhood Team for Bury St Edmunds gave a report on Police Community Support Officer recruitment, the recent Force restructuring and the 3 Policing priorities set for the Town. Other matters discussed were Community Speedwatch and Vehicle Activated Signage [both of which are about education not policing], drug dealing in St Olaves precinct and illegal parking. Sgt Whybro emphasised that everything is assessed on its level of threat/harm/risk and this determines its level of priority.

Bury St Edmunds Fairtrade Partnership

A representative from Bury St Edmunds Fairtrade Partnership advised that its application to make Bury St Edmunds a Fairtrade Town last year had been successful and since then an increasing number of shops and businesses are selling Fairtrade products (a directory will be published shortly). The highlight of the year had been hosting a visit from a tea grower and the Partnership plans to hold events with other Fairtrade Towns. It has drawn up a business plan in support of renewing the Fairtrade Town status and hopes that Suffolk may become a Fairtrade County. Further support was sought from the Town Council by way of a commitment to serve Fairtrade wines at its Civic events.

Bury In Bloom

Bury In Bloom's co-ordinator outlined its 30th anniversary 'Love where you live' project and thanked the Town Council for its sponsorship of the Lark & Linnett bollard trail.

Ourburystedmunds

Ourburystedmunds Chief Executive thanked the Town Council for its financial support for projects such as the Wolf Trail and the Ice Rink and for the Clerk's involvement which had worked well.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS APPERTAINING TO TOWN AFFAIRS

Matters discussed included the Community Governance Review (in relation to the new homes on Moreton Hall) and the possible relocation of the main Post Office into WHSmith. A resident suggested that the annual carnival be brought back to raise funds for various charities. It was noted that the project to re-create St Edmundsbury Cathedral out of 'Lego' bricks would start later that week.

The meeting closed at 6.53 pm.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

ATTENDANCE LIST APPENDED HERETO