

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL RESIDENTS TOWN MEETING FOR BURY ST EDMUNDS
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH AT 7PM
AT THE GUILDHALL, BURY ST EDMUNDS**

The meeting was preceded by an informal assembly allowing members of the public to meet with representatives from many local groups and societies.

PRESENT:

Town Councillors: Cllrs Hind (Mayor) Cllr Higgins (Deputy Mayor) Chung, Ionelli Popham, Mager, Cllr Roger Dicker

Representatives from: Abbeycroft Leisure, Bury in Bloom, Bury Society, Bury Bike Train, Bury Abbey Rotary Club, Bury Town Trust, Citizens Advice, The Guildhall, Girl Guiding, Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership, Fair Trade Partnership, Crafty Foxes, Bury, River Lark Catchment Partnership, Suffolk Flower Flash, Southgate Community Centre, Hardwick Primary School, Suffolk Police, NHS My Wish other residents of Bury St Edmunds, plus The Press. We welcomed a further 53 attendees to the meeting.

Town Council staff: Jodie Budd (Town Clerk), Jacqueline Howells (Assistant Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer), Julie Sturgeon (Allotments and Administrative Assistant) and Beverley Kipling (Civic Projects Assistant)

1. INTRODUCTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR CLLR HIND

The Town Clerk introduced Deputy Mayor Cllr Diane Hind.

2. WELCOME BY DEPUTY MAYOR CLLR HIND

Cllr Hind welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked both Councillors and Council Officers on a very successful year.

Cllr Hind welcomed everyone to the Annual Town Meeting and talked about what a successful year the Town Council had.

3. CLLR HIND INTRODUCED THE CHAIR OF WEST SUFFOLK COUNCIL, CLLR ROGER DICKER.

Cllr Dicker, thanked the Mayor for the invitation to the Annual meeting, he continued to talk a little about the work he has done in the last year and then welcomed questions from the floor. Most questions revolved around the current state of the roads in Suffolk and although Cllr Dicker could not answer specific questions, he did recommend that residents contact Suffolk Highways using the online reporting tool.

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON 25th MAY 2022

The minutes from the meeting on 10 May 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record.

5. REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL

The Town Clerk reported on the work carried out by the Town Council during the year, being new in post the Town Clerk talked about some of the projects the Town Council were hoping to achieve in the next year.

The Town Council has supported many worthy projects through its Grant Funding and Locality Budget initiatives. Several groups who have benefitted are represented here tonight.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS, TOWN ORGANISATIONS AND RECIPIENTS OF TOWN COUNCIL FUNDING

Representatives from the following organisations presented reports about their activities during the previous year: Abbeycroft Leisure, Bury in Bloom, Bury Society, Bury Town Trust, Rotary

Club, Royal British Legion, River Lark Catchment Partnership, Girl Guiding, My Wish Charity, Crafty Foxes Gatehouse, Eco Carriers, Southgate Community Partnership, Heritage Partnership, Suffolk Constabulary and Vivian Gainsborough Foot from the Churchgate Society.

7. OPEN FORUM – RESIDENTS MAY RAISE ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE TOWN

No issues raised.

8. THE PCSO MADE A REPORT.

PCSO Mark Ellis gave a verbal report regarding crime figures and advised residents on how to report concerns and crimes and the importance of reporting them to ensure figures were accurate and incidents could be investigated. He opened the floor to questions. A resident raised a query about the 20 mph speed limit on Westgate Street not being adhered to, PCSO disputed this and advised that the 20mph speed limit ended at the Theatre Royal going down to Westgate Street. (at subsequent Town Council meeting PCSO Mark Ellis apologised that his information was incorrect).

8. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The Mayor and Town Clerk thanked everyone for attending and were looking forward to another successful year, any issues either from Councillors or members of the public relating to the Town of Bury St Edmunds should be forwarded to the Town Clerk.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed: _____ Dated: _____