

SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council meeting held on
Tuesday 26th March 2024
at 7.00pm
at Champions Manor Hall

Present:

Councillor D Eley (Mayor)
Councillor Perham Lake (Deputy Mayor)

Councillor Price	Councillor Shearring
Councillor Birch	Councillor Kelly
Councillor O Brien	Councillor Piesse
Councillor Bentley	Councillor Sherlock
Councillor Thompson	Councillor Naslund
Councillor Wilson	Councillor Massey
Councillor Roberts	

In attendance: Town Clerk

C608 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** from Councillor Crosbie, John, Humphrey and Ferry

Absent: Councillor Sismey

7.03pm Councillor Thompson joined the meeting

C609 Dispensation Considerations

None received.

C610 Declarations of Interest

None received.

C611 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed: Councillor O Brien

Seconded: Councillor Kelly

Vote: **Carried**

2 Abstain

C612 Public Questions

No public in attendance.

C613 Mid & South Essex Integrated Care Consultation

Council thanked Councillor Price and Sherlock for attending the working party and producing the report.

Proposal: To agree the response to the public consultation from the Town Council.

When considering the future of St. Peter's hospital the medical needs of the current population plus the needs of future residents must be taken into account.

The planned construction of 1200 homes in South Woodham Ferrers together with a further 500, recommended in the Chelmsford local plan will result in a great increase in the town's population. This together with the extensive developments in Chelmsford, Maldon and the Dengie peninsular will place a huge burden on Broomfield and Braintree hospitals where some services are already running at capacity.

It is vital that Other Patient Services [outpatient appointments, blood tests, x-ray appointments, ultrasound examinations] remain in Maldon or within a close distance. With the restructuring taking place the opportunity to bring some of these services to South Woodham Ferrers should not be missed. The vacant Tylers Ride site and the Crouch Vale Medical Centre or other suitable premises in South Woodham Ferrers should be exploited to the maximum extent possible, not only for the town's residents but also those living in the Dengie Peninsular.

The maternity unit at St. Peters Hospital is a much valued service and re-siting these facilities at Braintree will result in a long and unpredictable journey possibly putting mothers and babies at risk.

The proposals put forward will not meet the needs of the current population and have failed to consider the needs of future residents. It is essential that St. Peter's Hospital should not be closed until all the services it provides are sited within easy reach of all residents.

Proposed: Councillor Bentley

Seconded: Councillor Perham Lake

In line with Standing Order 3s Councillor Thompson requested a recorded vote.

Vote for the Proposal: Councillors Eley, Perham Lake, Price, Birch, O'Brien, Bentley, Thompson, Wilson, Roberts, Shearring, Kelly, Piesse, Sherlock and Naslund.

Vote: All in Favour

7.14pm Councillor Massey joined the meeting.

C614 Sub Committee Terms of Reference

Proposal: To set up a working party including non councillors to investigate and report all options for a Club House at Champions Manor Hall and all recommendations to be reported to Council.

Proposed: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Sherlock

Vote: Carried

2 abstain

1 against

Proposal: In line with Standing Order 7a and recommendation from the Town Clerk Council agreed to reverse by special motion minute reference C595 agreed at the 19th March Council meeting to set up a Sub Committee.

Proposed: Councillor Bentley

Seconded: Councillor O Brien

Vote: All in Favour

Town Clerk to complete Working Party Terms of Reference for review at the Annual Council meeting on the 14th May 2024.

C615 Media Release

- Town Council response to the Mid & South Essex Integrated Care Consultation

C616 Next Meeting

Next meeting is Annual Council to be held 14th May 2024 at 7.30pm

There being no further business to discuss the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.29pm.

Signed
(Chairman of the Meeting)

Date: 14th May 2024