

The Guildhall
Market Place
Salisbury
Wilts
SP1 1JH



Contact: Janine Whitty

Direct Line: 01722 342860

Email: corporate@salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

Web: www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

Minutes

Meeting of : Annual Parish Meeting
Date : Monday 4 March 2019
Meeting held in : The Guildhall, Salisbury
Commencing at : 6:00 pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr Mike Osment, The Mayor of the City of Salisbury

Supported by: Cllr Sven Hocking, Services Committee Chairman and Annie Child, City Clerk

Present:

Councillors 15

Council Officers: Janine Whitty and Annie Scadden

Members of the public: 4

Members of the press: 1

1. Mayor's Welcoming Remarks:

Councillor Mike Osment, The Mayor of the City of Salisbury opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Update on Current Activities:

Councillor Hocking gave the following report on the Council's principle activities during the year 2018/19.

"I'm very pleased to have an opportunity to speak to this Annual Parish Council meeting about what we do as the City Council. We are now nearly two years on since services transferred from WC and exactly a year after the events of last year.

Clean City

We are delivering on our Clean Streets Strategy; we empty the litter bins, we sweep and scrub the pavements, we litter pick and we fine those who drop litter. We are also working with businesses to improve the presentation and management of commercial waste on our city streets. We have made a significant impact on the cleanliness of the city and will maintain this effort, whilst now beginning to work more in areas outside the City Centre. We have new Roving Team who are able to deliver targeted cleaning in specific areas, furthermore the council is investing over 20% of its budget in this area of activity.

Working with the BID

In partnership with the BID we fund £25,000 per annum for CIC City Watch to manage the CCTV on our behalf, and we were delighted to invest £10,000 in the digital radio system which is in use by Shop Watch and others.

Safe City

We are also committed to funding the City Centre Security Guards who are working to diminish antisocial behaviour in the City and work with multi agency partners and with the homeless. The City Council is working in very close liaison with Wiltshire Council and other partners on the recovery programme. This is a complex programme with multiple strands which aims to improve the economic well-being of the City after the events of last year.

Providing Events

We plan over 150 events annually, which include St George's Day, Playdays, Christmas Lights Switch On and a variety of markets.

Recovery

The Charter Market has been affected by the events of last year, as many businesses have, and we are working to support and promote this Market and our other specialist markets. The City Council is looking forward keenly to the redevelopment of the Maltings but is also keen to ensure that the final development meets the needs of the residents of the city going into the future and we will continue to listen to our community views and scrutinise any applications coming forward.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

Though we started this 18 months ago events over the last year has meant we had to redirect a lot of our resources to support not only the post incident clean up but also the recovery. Therefore, part of planning for the future will be the Salisbury Neighbourhood Development Plan. We are beginning the process once again and held an introductory event last Wednesday where 150 people attended from the community and we are keen that members of the public join the Steering Group which will lead the plan's development. Further details are available on our website.

City Parks and Open Spaces

These are an integral part of the green and welcoming offer to tourists and residents form the living background of the city. The new Cemetery on the Avenue near St Peter's Place is a stunning transformation from empty farmland to a beautiful and reflective space for burial. We are delighted to be working in

partnership with Laverstock and Ford Parish Council with regard to ongoing maintenance costs.

We want to provide services for the Community, used by the Community and to be an attractive and cultured City for visitors too.”

3. **Open Forum:**

Questions were asked, Cllrs Osment and Hocking responded :

Question 1 was received by a member of the public present who was concerned with regards to the Maltings redevelopment and number of new shop spaces that will be available, considering that there are approx. 32 vacant shops currently in the city centre.

Answer 1 Unfortunately there are many vacant shops within most city centres, however Salisbury’s amount isn’t that large in comparison to other cities. The Maltings redevelopment plan currently includes a library, cultural quarter, hotel and cinema, therefore only part of this proposed development is for shop units. Cllr Hocking is very optimistic about the project and believes that moderation is crucial to ensure visitors and residents continue to visit the city.

Question 2 was received by a member of the public present who asked where the money was coming from for the Maltings redevelopment.

Answer 2 The redevelopment is not funded by SCC, however some from Wiltshire Council. Cllr Walsh, also a Wiltshire Council councillor who was present, agreed to explain further following the meeting.

Question 3 Cllr Walsh asked that now that the BID has been voted to continue, has it been decided how SCC will work in partnership with them in future and in particular the plans for the Christmas Market.

Answer 3 The BID are due to have a Christmas Market wash up meeting on 20 March, following which SCC should receive further information. Cllr Baber confirmed that the CIC City watch CCTV partnership between SCC and the BID is working very well. City watch also assisted in the investigation following the incident last March and are currently seeking more volunteers to assist with CCTV coverage.

Question 4 was received by Mr Duller who has concerns with regards to the move of the library, the demolishing and building of new ones within the city centre and that developers many not have the city and residents’ in its best interest when doing so.

Answer 4 It was agreed that any development should be within the city and residents’ interest. SCC’s planning committee are a consultee with regards to Salisbury city planning applications submitted to Wiltshire Council.

Question 5 was received by a member of the public present who felt that the High Street currently looks a disgrace and as a medieval city it should be maintained and restored.

Answer 5 It was agreed that it any development should be done so sensitively and within keeping with the city’s character to ensure its integrity is maintained.

Question 6 was received by Mr Duller with regards to the Spitfire monument potentially going to be located at the Rugby Club and its naming.

Answer 6 This project is being managed by an independent individual, however if successful will be located on SCC land. The Clerk will pass on Mr Duller's comments to the project manager regarding this monument being named correctly as Supermarine Spitfire.

Question 7 was received by a member of the public present who asked if the Maltings redevelopment of the library will have as many facilities as the current location, including reading for young people etc.

Answer 7 SCC's planning committee recently rejected Wiltshire Council's planning application for phase 1 of this redevelopment. The development is still a moving picture and despite the plans for the new library indicate that the site will be smaller than the current location, the nearby cultural quarter will ensure that the same, if not more services, will be provided.

Question 8 Cllr Hoque asked that now a year has passed since last year's incident would the council consider identifying a location to display a plaque or memorial to remember those effected. Also if SCC would consider reducing the rent for two properties currently vacant to assist with occupying them with tenants.

Answer 8 Cllr Hoque was invited to formally submit a memorial proposal to the council if he wished. These two properties are currently under review and progress being made towards letting them.

Question 9 Cllr Corbin expressed her concern that both the City Hall and Playhouse shows and events seem to not be selling to capacity currently and therefore wondered if there was a way in which SCC could assist them.

Answer 9 SCC currently list both venues events on the SCC website. The cities recovery programme also includes a strand that focuses on cultural activities.

Question 10 was from a member of the public with regards to street cleaning and that SCC spends approx. 20% of its budget on this service. Does this budget include paying for the enforcement officers, are they value for money and what does any excess budget pay for.

Answer 10 The enforcement officers are not included in this budget, they are paid for by the income made from the fixed penalty notice payments received. The enforcement officers are provided by public body, East Hants District Council, and therefore not for profit. Any surplus made is put back into the programme and can't be spent on any other SCC services. SCC work with the BID to ensure businesses are managing their rubbish and collections correctly.

Question 11 was received by Mr Duller with regards to the City Hall and to remind all that this location is registered as a war memorial and should be noted if any redevelopment is proposed for this area.

Answer 11 SCC is aware that this site is a register war memorial and that the site is owned by Wiltshire Council.

Question 12 was from a member of the public with regards to the use for the house at the entrance to the crematorium.

Answer 12 This house is owned by SCC and is privately rented out to a family.

Question 13 was from a member of the public who wanted to comment on how good all the flowers looked around the city this summer.

Answer 13 Thank you for these positive comments and this will be passed on to the appropriate team.

When no further questions were forthcoming, therefore The Mayor thanked all for attending and for their questions, also encouraging members of the public to contact their ward councillor if they have any further questions in future.

The meeting closed at 6:47pm

To be signed as a correct record at the 2020 Annual Parish meeting.

Signed:.....

Date:.....