

Minutes

of the

Alton Town Meeting

Held at the Alton Town Hall, Market Square, on Thursday 15 May 1997

Present: Councillors J M J Janes - Chairman
 R Andrews
 R Booker
 P Bradford
 A B Chick
 D G Farr
 P J Legg
 Mrs J Martin
 P M G Whitmarsh

Twenty-two members of the public attended.

1. Minutes

~~The minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 1996, which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record.~~

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P V Mendham and J Slack.

3. Public Participation

A resident of Waterside Court asked about the progress being made with the King's Pond Restoration, and particularly requested the early removal of the unsightly barrier preventing access to the path beside the lagoon. The Chairman confirmed that, with a dry summer, the lagoon would hopefully be ready for seeding in the early autumn: the path beside the lagoon was closed for safety reasons and the matter would be kept under review.

Mr M P Wilson asked whether the Town Council would undertake the role of co-ordinating residents' concerns with regard to inter-agency problems. Mr Wilson was advised that the Council fulfilled this role to a degree already and that elected Councillors were always ready to help residents pursue any problematic issue.

Mr M Kirby reported that the A339 at the junction with the Mill Lane Industrial Estate often needed remedial action in the same location to fill in a pothole; action was again needed. Mr Kirby was assured that the Area Surveyor would be asked to keep the matter under review.



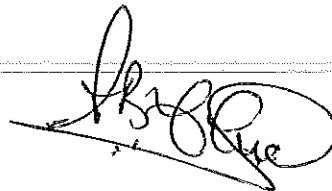
4. Town Mayor's Address

The Town Mayor, Councillor Janes, recalled a number of notable matters which had occurred in the town, and to him personally, during his term of office, and in particular referred to the following matters:

1. Night duty with Alton Police.
2. Health Centre issues.
3. Youth provision.
4. Rehab Unit, Chawton Park Road.
5. Alton & Local Parishes Fund - charity status.

He said it had been an honour to serve the town as Mayor and then paid tribute to the following:

All groups and societies in the town.
Council employees.
Fellow councillors.
Reverend I Bowley, Chaplain.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'I. Bowley', written over a horizontal line.