

Minutes of a meeting of the Soham Town Council held at the Pavilion, Soham, on Monday 11 September 2017.

To members of the public: I should like to make clear that this is a Statutory meeting to which you have access. The only right you have to speak is under the Council's Standing Orders or at the Chairman's discretion. In either event this right extends to Making comments about the Agenda items which will inform the Council in its decision making. If you wish to speak about anything else you must give written notice 3 clear days before the meeting of the issues you wish to speak about but it should be noted there can be no decision taken by the council where items are not published on the agenda.

If you wish to challenge this council or make a complaint against a member or staff there is a legal process outside of this formal meeting which must be followed. The details of this process can be obtained from the Clerk or Chairman. If you have questions, comments or complaints about District or County Councillors you will need to contact the appropriate council.

Fellow Councillors: I would like to remind members of this council that this is a Statutory meeting and there is an expectation that we will conduct our meetings to high standards, focussing on the matters in front of us. While we want to encourage debate it must be conducted professionally and be conducive to making sound decisions. Every councillor is entitled to express a view on any item but there will be no use of unnecessary personal comments aimed at members, staff or anyone else. If this happens I have the right to suspend the meeting.

This council has a duty to ensure that its Statutory Meetings proceed without disruption and any attempt to interfere with the Statutory process may result in my having no option but to consider it an attempt to disrupt a Statutory Meeting which constitutes a public (dis) order offence.

I am sorry to sound so officious but our Town Council meetings have become a little Too relaxed lately and we need to get them back on a more formal basis so that our discussions and decisions are made according to our Standing Orders. I do NOT want to stifle any comments or discussions which will improve our decision making.

The statement, as highlighted herein the official record by ***bold italics***, will form part of the Policies for Soham Town Council that may be read out, relied and acted on by

the

Chairman at his/her discretion at subsequent meetings: