

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 21st June 2022, commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

Present: Councillors F. Nicol (Chair), C. Batson, M. Craggs, M. Dyer, P. Eastwood, J. Fowler
E. Mather, P. Stokes and D. Willock.

Also Present: County Councillor R. Manchester and G. F. Smith (Clerk).

139/22 Apologies

Councillors: T. Ball and T. Batson.

140/22 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Stokes declared an interest in Agenda item No. 11 Tow Law Community Association.

Councillors Craggs, Nicol and D. Willock declared an interest in agenda item 11 – Tow Law Community Association and item 12 – Tow Law Food Bank.

Councillor D. Willock also declared an interest in agenda item No. 22 – Seats.

141/22 Minutes of the Meeting of Electors dated 17th May 2022

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

142/22 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17th May 2022

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

143/22 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 17th May 2022

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

144/22 Action List

Action List

The Clerk reported that he had received proposed dates for Councillor Training from Steve Ragg, CDALC. Details to be circulated to all Councillors. Members agreed to update the list.

145/22 Community Fund

The Clerk read out an e-mail from Jenny Mountain that included further details on this proposed project “Mens Group Porter Cabin Conversion”.

Members agreed to donate £250.00 from the N-Power Community Fund towards this project.

Signed.....Chairman

146/22 Joint Report by the Chairman and Vice Chair

- Lighting of Beacon for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Event, which was well attended.
Thanks to Brian Fowler for assisting with banners, lighting of beacon etc
Thanks to County Councillor Manchester for lighting the Beacon
- Family Theme Activities.

147 /22 Allotments

Councillor Stokes raised concerns regarding the delays in getting a water supply into the allotment site.

148/22 Land rear of High Street, Tow Law

Councillor Stokes reported on the following:-

- Complete Planning Application forms.
- Drawings for Planning Department.

149/22 Tow Law Community Association

Councillor Stokes reported on the following:-

- Community Centre still very busy.
- Review of Precept/Expenditure figures, deferred until next Council meeting.

150/22 Tow Law Food Bank

The Chair reported on the following:-

- The numbers visiting the food bank continues to be very busy, running short of some foods.

151/22 Annual Return documents for the Year Ended 31st March 2022

Members agreed to accept/agree the following documents:-

A)Section One – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

Answering YES to questions 1 to 8 and answer N/A to question 9

B)Section Two Accounting Statement 2021/22

Details	£
Balance b/f	25192
Precept	36260
Total other receipts	7970

Signed.....Chairman

Staff costs	17797
Loan Interest	nil
All other payments	32026
Balance c/f	19599
Total Fixed Assets	47576
Total borrowings	nil

C)Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22

Form completed by Mr Gavin Richards, accepted by Members.

D)Statement of Accounts 1/4/21 to 31/3/22

Copy circulated to all Councillors (Balance as at 31/3/2022 £19599.53).

Copy attached to these minutes

152/22 Police/Pact/Speed Watch Reports

Speed watch next week

Next PACT meeting to discuss speeding; parking

153/22 Section 106 Allocation of Funds - no update

154/22 Facebook – no update

155/22 County Councillors Report

County Councillor Richard Manchester reported on the following:-

- Weardale Crescent/Coronation Avenue – complaints
- Bus services

156/22 Representation by Residents - None

157/22 Bank Account (online banking)

Councillor T. Batson is unwell but suggested that he would meet up with the Clerk next week at the Co-operative Bank PLC at Chester-le-Street to progress this matter.

Forms completed by all cheque signatories.

Signed.....Chairman

158/22 Planning Matters

A) Planning Applications – none received

B) Neighbourhood Planning – no update

159/22 Accounts for Payment

May Vouchers 6 to 12 amounting to £3621.48 to be paid.

June Vouchers 13 to 17 amounting to £2873.05 to be paid.

160/22 Seats

Councillor Willock to update at the next Town Council meeting.

161/22 CCTV in Tow Law

Members agreed to the following:-

- Clerk to provide financial update at the next Town Council meeting.
- Possible camera updates (cost etc).
- Possible funding from Windmill Site on Tow Law Fell?

162/22 Tow Law Millennium Green

Councillor Stokes to meet with contractors, to obtain quotations etc.

163/22 Beehive Coke Ovens

- Funding from Historical England?
- Repair to Information board (outstanding) (County Councillor Manchester to contact DCC Printing Section)

164/22 Play Areas in Tow Law – no update.

165/22 Platinum Jubilee Event

Response to school – outstanding, Clerk to respond.

Signed.....Chairman

166/22 Clerks Report

The Clerk read out an e-mail from Councillor Fowler who wishes to stand down as Vice Chair.

Clerk to place the vacancy on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting.

The Clerk also read out an e-mail from Councillor Geraghty-Shewan who wishes to step down as a Councillor with immediate effect.

Clerk to contact the Returning Officer at DCC to advertise the vacancy.

167/22 Members Reports

Councillor Craggs – missing from meetings due to her husband’s health problems.

Councillor Fowler – Path repairs (outstanding)

- Parking problems on Wolsigham Road – report to PACTY meeting?

Councillor Nicol – Town Walkabout

- Tow Law in Bloom (planting of planters in the Town)

Councillor Stokes – Phone Box in High Street (Flowers?)

168/22 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th July 2022 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

The meeting finished at 7.45pm.

Signed.....Chairman