

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 20th November 2007 in the Community Centre at 6.30pm.

Present Councillors: R, Grogan (Chairman) T. Batson, A. Blacker, J. Day, A. Green, H. Hail, L. Rowland, G. Stevens, J. Stevens and L. Taylor.

**Also Present: Pc Blair, Sgt Lyle, Pcs0 Strong (Durham Police) R Caulfield, G Wigley, Cath Nicholes, Peter Nicholes and Robert Plews (Residents)
G F Smith (Clerk)**

Apologies: Councillor J. Gale and P. Graham

164/07 Declaration of Interest

No declaration received.

165/07 Police Report

Pc Blair circulated a copy of the monthly statistics (Copy attached to the Minutes) followed by a question and answer session. He also circulated a proposal for cctv for Tow Law. The Chairman proposed a second motion stating that PC Blair should come back with further costings and that this should then be passed onto the Town Council Finance Committee this proposal being voted in 6 votes to 2. The Chairman asked Pc Blair to come back to the Meeting with further costs and to keep the Clerk updated with any developments.

Councillor Batson left the Meeting (due to him being unhappy with how the meeting was being chaired).

166/07 Representation by Residents

Mr Plews raised concerns regarding Policing Matters (Pc Blair noted his comments) Mr Caulfield raised concerns about the proposed work at the BMX Track. The Chairman stated he would invite Mr Caulfield to a Meeting when the proposal was to be discussed.

167/07 Update from the Community Partnership

As Mrs Pearson was unable to attend the Meeting her report would be attached to the Minutes.

168/07 Minutes of the Meeting held 16th October 2007

Amendment:-

Page 1 – Apologies

“Councillors asked” should read “only one councillor raised the subject with the clerk”. Subject to the above amendment the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

169/07 Matters Arising

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151/07 Representation by Residents

Dog Bins at Alpine Way

Wear Valley District Council has ordered a further supply of dog bins and will sort it out as soon as they take delivery.

127/07 Tow Law Football Club

Meeting to be arranged, Clerk to report to the next appropriate Town Council Meeting.

117/07 Statements of Accounts

d) Banking arrangements

Awaiting documents from the Co-operative Bank, Clerk to report to the next appropriate Town Council Meeting.

154/07 Finance and General Purposes Committee

e) Precept 2008/09 – “Things to do list”

Awaiting the return of Councillor Graham to arrange a Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (December/early January) to report to the next Town Council Meeting(15th January 2008).

f) Christmas Trees

Trees ordered (at £10.00 each) and are to be delivered by the end of November. Trees to be installed within the first week of December.

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158/07 Accounts for Payment

Tattler - not being delivered

Clerk had spoken to Mrs Flynn and this should be put right for the delivery in December.

161/07 Clerk’s Report

d) Request for a donation from Mr Russell Bell

The Clerk had discussed the application with Mr Bell and representatives from the two local schools.

Members agreed to donate (from the N-Power Community Fund) £200 to Tow Law Millennium Primary School and £200 to the Blessed John Duckett RC Primary School to cover costs of providing transport to take children to the conservation site supporting curriculum delivery.

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161/07 Clerk’s Report

e) Bank’s Development – Inkerman Road Development The Clerk had taken advice from the Monitoring Officer at Wear Valley District Council and the County Durham

Item

Association of Local Council regarding Consultation meeting with Developers.
A meeting has been arranged for Thursday 29th November 2007 to commence at 6.30pm. The Chairman advised the members that the proposed outline application was subject to amendments. Members therefore agreed to cancel the proposed Meeting on the 29th November.

f) County Durham & Cleveland Training Partnership Councillors Training Sessions to commence in January 2008. Clerk to advise all members of the dates.

162/07 Members Reports

Possible name change

It was agreed to defer this item until further notice.

170/07 County Councillor Report

No Report

171/07 District Councillors Report

Councillor Hayton – No Report

Councillor Gale – No Report

Councillor Grogan Reported:-

- a) Update into the asbestos at Woodhouse Close
- b) Allocation of 106 Funding /Sale of Assets

172/07 Planning Matters

a) Application 3/2007/0705 at 26 Wolsingham Road, Members agreed to raise no objections.

b) Application 3/2007/0783 at 26 Dan's Castle, members agreed to raise no objections.

c) Application 3/2007/0766 at Fell View. Smith Street, Members agreed to raise no objections.

d) Application 3/2007/0778 at land rear of 32 Campbell Street, Members agreed to raise no objections.

e) Application 3/2007/0773 Item withdrawn

173/07 Accounts for payments

That approval be given for the payment of voucher Number 34 to 37 in the sum of £903.05. Members also agreed for payments to be made during December recess and to be reported to the next Town Council Meeting(15th January 2008).

174/07 Chairman's report

No Report

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 3

175/07 Clerk's report

- a) Members agreed to donate £250.00 (from the N-Power Community Fund) to Tow Law Community Association – Community Gymnastics Club (Nicola Roche) to purchase mats and other gymnastics equipment to support and encourage the growth of the new club.
- b) Members agreed to donate £250.00 (from the N-Power Community Fund) to Tow Law Community Association towards the cost of providing food and drink for the annual Pensioners 'Party to be held on Friday 14th December 2007.
- c) Members agreed to donate £250.00 (from the N-Power Community Fund) to the Blessed John Duckett RC Primary School towards the cost of hiring a Theatre Company to perform a Pantomime to the School Children, The event took place on Wednesday 7th November 2007.
- d) Letter received from Mrs M Grayson 20 Harrison Street – copy of letter to be sent to the Police.
- e) Letter received from residents of 1, 2, 3 and 4 Northside Court – Members noted the comments.
- f) Wear Valley District Council – precept 2008/09 Members noted that the form should be returned by Friday 18th January 2008.
- g) Wear Valley District Council – Strategic Flood risk Assessment Questionnaire
- h) Wear Valley District Council – Review of the Polling district/places, final draft proposals.
- i) Durham County Council – National Tree Week 21st November to 2nd December 2007. Clerk to discuss with Councillor Judith Stevens and complete the application form.
- j) Durham County Council – consultation on 2008/09 Budget Proposals
- k) Campaign to protect Rural England – Newsletter, winter 2007
- l) Durham Rural Community Council – Newsletter, summer 2007
- m) Durham County Council –Building Schools for the future – newsletter; November 2007 the Clerk left the Meeting whilst the following item was discussed.
- n) National Joint Council for Local Government Services Agreement for 2.475% pay increase as from 1st April 2007. Members agreed that the Clerk's monthly salary would increase from £623.30 to £638.75, the new rate payable from 1st December 2007 and back pay from the 1/4/07 to 30/11/07 amounting to £123.60 (8 months @ £15.45 p/m)
The Clerk returned to the Meeting.
- o) Quality Town and Parish Council Status – Members agreed for the portfolio to be completed by Friday 13th June 2008 and to be presented to the Accreditation Panel on Monday 30th June 2008.
- p) Hilltop Community Partnership – the Clerk updated members on a Meeting he attended on behalf of the Town Council's Chairman (Councillor Gale). The Partnership were keen to discuss the proposal for joining with the Town Council and reviewing the Boundaries an informal meeting will be arranged for early 2008 (date to be confirmed)
- q) Greater Willington Council – visit by the Town Council's Chairman to the Inaugural Ceremony / Meeting.
- r) Community Safety Roadshow (PC John Raw) Tuesday 18th December 2007; 1pm to 3pm in the Community Centre.

176/07 Members Reports

No Reports

177/07 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Tuesday 15th January 2008 commencing at 6.30pm

The Meeting Finished at 7.50pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 5