

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 18th July 2017 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chair), J. Fowler, K. Geraghty - Shewan, C. Hemingway, F. Nicol, P. Stokes and H. Wilsher.

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

104/17 Apologies

Cllr T. Batson (family reason)
Cllr R. Grogan (unwell)

105/17 Declaration of interest

Cllr Fowler declared an interest in agenda item no 13 – Accounts for payment – Tow Law Gym.
Councillors Hemingway and Wilsher declared an interest in agenda item no 3 – Community fund – Speedwatch Scheme.
Councillors Gale, Nichol and Stokes declared an interest in agenda item 19 - Tow Law Community Association; request for donation.

106/17 Community Fund

- Tow Law Salamander Tackwondo – to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.
- Speedwatch Scheme (Wear Valley area) to be discussed at the next meeting.

107/17 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on 27th June 2017

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

108/17 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th June 2017

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

109/17 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 27th June 2017

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

110/17 Matters Arising

- Fixed Asset Register for year ended 31st March 2017 report circulated at the meeting (total £10,162.00); Members agreed the report; Clerk to forward details to Auditor.
- Risk Assessment Statement 2017/18 and 2016/17 (review) report circulated at the meeting; members agreed the report; Clerk to forward details to Auditor.
- Expenditure detailed report 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017:-

<u>Staff Cost</u>	<u>£.p</u>
Clerk's Salary	11717.53
HMRC	<u>4549.18</u>
Total	<u>16266.71</u>

<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>£.p</u>
Insurance	633.32
CDALC Subs	285.39
Notice boards	1774.00
Printer	24.99
Clerk's Membership fees	197.00
cctv contract monitoring	<u>625.00</u>
Total	<u>3539.70</u>

<u>Environment</u>	
Grass cutting	500.00
Dog scoop bags	205.46
Planting tubs	<u>80.00</u>
Total	<u>785.46</u>

<u>Donations</u>	
Millennium School	
Holiday activities	250.00
British legion poppy	19.25
TLCA Art group	<u>250.00</u>
Total	<u>519.25</u>

111/17 Police/Pact Report – No report received

112/17 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Manchester reported on the following: -

- Millennium Green-awaiting response from Natural England
- Meeting with Town Councillors
- Other matters are agenda items (Neighbourhood Planning and Cattle Mart site)

113/17 Representation by Residents – None

114/17 Chairman's Report

- List of donations made to various organisations 2016/17

115/17 Planning Matters

A)Planning Application - None

B) Neighbourhood Planning

- Invite officers of DCC to a Town Council meeting (County Councillor Manchester)
- Use template (recent e-mail from Steve Ragg)
- Collecting details from residents – stall at the Celebrations event on Millennium Green 20th August 2017 (Councillor Stokes)

116/17 Accounts for payments

Vouchers 6 to 25 in the sum of £8787.92 be approved for payment

117/17 Bus shelter near Park Terrace, Tow Law

The present shelter is in a very poor state and is in need of repairs/replacement.

County Councillor Manchester reported that Officers from DCC had visited the site and proposed replacing and improving the bus stand.

Members agreed to donate £1000 towards the costs.

- 118/17 Cattle Mart site**
 County Councillor Manchester updated members on the present situation of the site and Cattle Mart.
 Members agreed to a partnership arrangement with Durham County Council to (pursue) a compulsory purchase scheme to improve the site, as soon as possible. County Councillor Manchester to report to the next Town Council meeting.
- 119/17 Millennium Green**
- Water board – ongoing investigations
 - Coal Authority – no update/response
 - Natural England (County Councillor Manchester) – awaiting confirmation of agreement (with conditions)
- 120/17 Councillor Vacancies (three)**
 The Clerk reported that he had not received any further nominations. Councillor Batson had nominated Mr Gary Tye rs of 3 Inkerman Road, Tow Law. Councillor Wilsher nominated Elizabeth Mather, 10 Gladstone Terrace, Sunnyside.
 (After the meeting) County Councillor Richard Manchester wished to be considered for the vacancy, if no other person comes forward. This matter to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.
- 121/17 Bee Hive Coke Oven Site**
 The grass on the site was cut on 17th July 2017 by a local contractor. Clerk to contact the contractor to agree a cutting programme for this year. Other outstanding matters to be discussed with Historic England (Lee McFarlane) and to be treated as urgent.
 Direction sign on A68 to be replaced (DCC)
 Sign on site to be relocated (DCC)
- 122/17 Clerk's Report**
 The Clerk reported on the following: -
- 2017 environment awards (DCC)
 - TLCA – request for donation matter to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.
 - Planters to entrances of Tow Law – Clerk to arrange for the work to be carried out by Roy Hillary asap.
 - Trees on allotment site, reported by Mr Jeff Hindmoor – matter being dealt with by DCC
 - CDALC nomination for Vice President – Members agreed to nominate Cllr T Batson
 - Good Councillors Guide on Finance and Transparency – Clerk to order 12 copies from CDALC
 - CDALC Secretarial proposal for 2018/19 onwards – members agreed to support the recommendation of the Executive Committee

123/17 **Members Report**
Councillor Stokes – trimming of shrubs etc entrance to Church lane (DCC)

124/17 **Date of next meeting**
The next Ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th September 2017 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

The meeting finished at 8.55pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 4