

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 18th October 2022, commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

PRESENT: Councillors F. Nicol (Chair), T. Ball, C. Batson, M. Craggs, M. Dyer, E. Mather and P. Stokes.

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor R. Manchester and G. F. Smith (Clerk).

230/22 APOLOGIES

Councillor T. Batson (the Clerk informed the meeting that he had visited Councillor Batson on Ward 5 University Hospital Durham and he was very unwell, Members requested that the Clerk should send a get well card).

Also apologies received from Councillors P. Eastwood, J. Fowler and D. Willock.

231/22 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Stokes declared an interest in agenda item no. 11 Tow Law Community Association.

Councillors Craggs and Nicol declared an interest in agenda items no. 11 Tow Law Community Centre and agenda item no. 12 Tow Law Food Bank.

Councillor Craggs also declared an interest in agenda item no. 9 Allotments.

Councillor C. Batson declared an interest in agenda item no. 14 Christmas Trees.

232/22 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2022

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair.

233/22 ACTION LIST

The Action List was circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

234/22 COUNCILLOR VACANCY – Item postponed until the next Town Council Meeting.

235/22 COMMUNITY FUND

The Clerk updated the meeting on a convocation he had with the Fundraising Manager. Members agreed to donate £50.00 towards the running costs of the organisation, from the Council's Reserve Fund.

SIGNED.....Chair

236/22 JOINT REPORT BY THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

- Inspection of trees on the Millennium Green
- Inspection of pond area on Millennium Green – costings to be provided by Councillor Stokes
- AAP Meeting.

237/22 ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

The Clerk reported the Return was sent out to all Councillors on 29th September 2022 via e-mail. Members present agreed to receive the documents and to update the Council's web site.

238/22 ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting response from Northumbrian Water, application form to be re-sent out again (original sent to NWA in December 2021).

239/22 LAND REAR OF HIGH STREET, TOW LAW

Councillor Stokes updated the meeting – Planning Application had been sent to DCC, awaiting response.

240/22 TOW LAW COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor Stokes updated the meeting – Front door to be repaired, 3 youth groups meet regularly in the centre.

241/22 TOW LAW FOOD BANK

Councillor Nicol updated the meeting – still very busy.

242/22 POLICE /PACT/SPEEDWATCH REPORTS

PACT – next meeting Friday 21st October 2022.

SPEEDWATCH – October Details received from Councillor Mather:-

Wolsingham Road Matrix 13 vehicles 6 speeding; Bridge Street Van 116 vehicles 0 speeding;

Dan's Castle Matrix 88 vehicles 16 speeding; Dan's Castle Van 85 vehicles 1 speeding;

Smith Street Matrix 34 vehicles 2 speeding; Smith Street Van 17 vehicles 1 speeding.

243/22 CHRISTMAS TREES

Members agreed for the Town Council to supply Main Tree and smaller other trees, subject to receiving the costs from the supplier (Councillor C Batson to arrange cost details and send to the Clerk to send details to all Councillors).

SIGNED.....Chair

244/22 FACEBOOK

Clerk to contact David Rider and Councillor Craggs to arrange a meeting to progress this matter urgently.

245/22 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor R. Manchester reported on the following:-

- Levelling-up
- Mayoral Arrangements (Devolution)
- Boundary Review
- Budget Setting.

246/22 REPRESENTATION BY RESIDENTS – No Report.

247/22 BANK ACCOUNT (on-line banking) – still awaiting response from Co-op Bank.

248/22 PLANNING MATTERS

a)Planning Applications – None received

b)Neighbourhood Planning – Item to be withdrawn from the agenda until further information received.

249/22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Vouchers 39 to 46 amounting to £7920.23; to be paid.

250/22 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT TOW LAW

Chair to represent the Council at the service on Sunday 13th November 2022. Awaiting details of the Wreath from the local RBL Organiser.

251/22 SEATS

Item to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.

252/22 CCTV IN TOW LAW – No update.

253/22 TOW LAW MILLENNIUM GREEN – No further updates

254/22 BEEHIVE COKE OVENS

Councillor Stokes updated the meeting – No update on the information board and gorse bushes,

255/22 REFUSE COLLECTION IN TOW LAW – Item to be deferred until the next Town Council meeting.

SIGNED.....Chair

256/22 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on the following:-

- CDALC – Parish and Town Councils consultation about DCC's Community Engagement including AAP's on line meeting 1/11/2022 at 6.00pm (large Councils) and 1/11/2022 7.30pm (smaller Councils).
- LGA – Free Civility Web-links (Councillor personal safety and handling online abuse and intimidation 17/10/2022 5.30 to 7.00pm 7/12/2022 1.30 to 3.00pm and 27/10/2022 10.30 to 12.00pm.

257/22 MEMBERS REPORTS

Councillor Mather – Donation of £100.00 towards glass inscription for the Queen's Memorial at Tow Law Community Centre from funding provided by County Councillor Manchester.

258/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15th November 2022 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

The meeting finished at 7.18pm.

SIGNED.....Chair