

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 21st April 2026, commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

PRESENT: Councillors F. Nicol (Chair), T. Bland, M. Craggs, M. Dyer, P. Eastwood, V. Fets, J. Fowler and P. Stokes.

ALSO PRESENT: G. F. Smith (Clerk), County Councillor A. Savoury

ALSO: Simon Kelly (UK Albion South), Doug Wilson (Smithy House Associates) and Mike Robinson (Sunniside) , Liz Mather (Sunniside)

069/26 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors A. Walsh, M.Dyer and County Councillor J. Shuttleworth.

070/26 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Nicol declared an interest in agenda items No. 9 Tow Law Community Association and item No.10 Tow Law Food Bank and agenda item 19 Pride in Place Programme – Local Neighbourhood Board.

Councillor Craggs declared an interest in agendas items Nos 8 Allotments, No 9 Tow Law Community Association and item No.10 Tow Law Food Bank.

Councillor Stokes declared an interest in agenda item No. 9 Tow Law Community Association.

Councillor Eastwood declared an interest in agenda item No. 8 Allotments.

Councillor Bland declared an interest in agenda items No. 8 Allotments.

071/26 PRESENTATION ON UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENTS AT TOW LAW WIND FARM

The presentation included :-

- Tow Law Wind Farm background/history.
- High Hedley Hill Farm.
- Tow Law Repower – 7 Wind Turbines up to 149.9 meters in height.
- Tow Law Decommissioning – work to commence on sit May 2026 to be completed by early June 2026.

SignedChair

072/26 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17th March 2026

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair.

073/26 ACTION LIST March 2026

The list was circulated to Councillors before the meeting. Members agreed the list.

074/26 COMMUNITY FUND

- 1) Tow Law Craft Club – Flower Festival 2026
Members agreed to donate £250.00 from the Community Fund . Funds to be transferred by BACS.
- 2) Tow Law Millennium Primary School Reading Shed
Members agreed to donate £250.00 from the Community Fund to this project. Funds to be transferred by BACS.

075/26 REPORT BY THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

- Pride in Place Funding 63% Capital Expenditure 37% Revenue Expenditure.
- Monthly Litter Pick.
- Additional Activities in the Community Centre
- Problems/complaints regarding the Children’s Home – lack of staffing cover at weekends?
Not 24 hour cover? Drinking/ASB , Police are aware.

098/26 ALLOTMENTS

Allotment Rents Outstanding:-

RIDLEY TERRACE

TT002/003 – tenant has moved house reissue the notice/warning letter. Rent due.

Dans Castle

TC 6 (£6.97)

TC 7 (£6.56)

077/26 TOW LAW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Councillor Nicol reported that the Community Centre is still very busy (many new activities).

Mainly due to the new Manager Hayley.

078/26 TOW LAW FOOD BANK

Councillor Nicol/Craggs reported that demand for the service is still very high.

Signed.....Chair

079/26 POLICE/PACT/SPEEDWATCH – Councillor Nicol reported :-

- PACT – incidents of ASB (off-road bikes).
- SPEEDWATCH – 231 vehicles 14 speeding
Car parking on yellow parking lines
Underage drinking.

080/26 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Savoury reported on the following:-

- Fly tipping removed.
- Rubbish at Campbell Street.
- Car Parking sign.
- Funding for The Brwnies.
- Grass/wild flowers at Deerness Estate (Councillor Stokes).

081/26 BANK ACCOUNT (on-line banking) – Digital banking service replacing all physical security tokens with new and improved versions. No date for change over.

082/26 PLANNING MATTERS – Planning Application DM/26/00840/FPA for proposed extension to existing garage at The Farmhouse, Bounder Copse, Tow Law by Technik Control System. Not in Town Council's boundary. NO COMMENT.

083/26 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk reported the following:-

- payments vouchers 01 to 03 sum of £1600.88..

Members agreed to pay the above accounts.

084/26 BEEHIVE COKE OVENS

The Chair had visited the site (18th March) and reported that the sign is in need of maintaining/upgrading. Grass had recently been cut.

085/26 TOW LAW MILLENNIUM GREEN

Response to the Charity Commission (outstanding) to be completed as soon as possible(Clerk).

Councillor Eastwood to check safety measures around the pond area and report to the next Town Council meeting(outstanding).

Peacock Seat removed from the site (Health & safety matter) by BF Property Services

Signed.....Chair

Complaint received about the slide (to be checked out and the necessary alterations required to be carried out as soon as possible.

085/26 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Further progress to be made as soon as possible, all Councillors to assist with searching funding streams.

086/26 PRIDE IN PLACE PROGRAMME

Members agreed to Councillor Nicol as the Board Member and Councillor Craggs as the deputy.

Mary Hall had been appointed as Chair of the Board.

087/26 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on the following:-

Grass Cutting Contract 2026 to be awarded to Cut and Strim Garden and Property Services of Tow Law . No change to contract price.

088/26 MEMBERS REPORTS

Councillor Fowler :-

- Christmas Tree lights – refer to Local Network Board for consideration.
- Flower Planter at entrance to Tow Law (A68)

Councillor Stokes:-

- Rubbish next to Greggs Shop (increasing) report to County Councillor Savoury.

Councillor Bland

- Representative on Local Neighbourhood Board ?
- Memorial Seat (Councillor Hayton) DCC installed seat base, awaiting delivery of seat from manufacturers.

Councillor Eastwood

- Street Lighting still not working (reported to County Councillor Savoury).

089/26 REPRESENTATION BY RESIDENTS – NONE

090/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19th May 2026 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

The meeting finished at 7.40pm

Signed.....Chair