

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 21st March 2017 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chair), A. Blacker, M. Hird, F. Nicol and P. Stokes.

Also Present: County Councillor J. Hart, R. Manchester (Resident) and G. F. Smith (Clerk)

041/17 Apologies

Councillor J. Fowler (holiday)
Councillor R. Grogan (unwell)
Councillor T. McFadden (family reason)

042/17 Declaration of interest

None

043/17 Minutes of a the Ordinary meeting held on 21st February 2017

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

044/17 Matters Arising

- **Tow Law Play Area** - Still awaiting response from Natural England
- **CCTV in Tow Law** – work to commence early April 2017
- **Land at Tow Law** - No further progress (DCC)
- Newsletter to be delivered by the end of the week

045/17 Community Fund

The Clerk read out the following applications for funding: -

- 1st Tow Law Rainbows and Brownies
Contributions towards Insurance costs for the group (30 girls across 2 units) Members agreed to donate £250 to the group from the N-Power Community Fund.
- St. Philips and St. James Parish Church
Contributions towards the cost of producing a flower festival called Once upon a time to be held on the weekend of the 4th to 7th April 2017. Members agreed to donate £250 to the Parish Church from the N-Power Community Fund.

046/17 Police/PACT Report – No report received

County Councillor Hart reported that a change in PCSO (Mike Grasey)

047/17 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Hart report on the following: -

- Use of Neighbourhood budget to fix lights/boiler at the Community Centre
- Bus Shelter in Smith Street to be removed

As this is County Councillor's Hart last Town Council meeting the Members wished to record their thanks to John for the support he has given to many organisations in the Town and wished him success in his new venture.

048/17 Representation by Residents – None

- 049/17 Chairman's Report**
- County Durham Community Foundation Annual review 2016 (funds and grants) – copy handed to Councillor Hird for use on Millennium Green
 - Letter of resignation from Councillor Ashleigh Lamb
- 050/17 Planning matters**
- A) Planning Application DM/17/00450/FPA by Mr P. Batson for a garage and annex and additional bay window at 2 Princes Court, Tow Law.**
Decision – No objections
- B) Neighbourhood Planning (setting up a workshop)**
 Agreed to defer until after the elections in May 2017
- 051/17 Accounts for payment**
 Members gave approval for the payment of vouchers 81 to 88 in the Sum of £3183.28
- 052/17 Christmas Activities 2017 – Defer to the next Town Council Meeting.**
- 053/17 Play areas in Tow Law (legal position) - Defer to the next Town Council Meeting.**
- 054/17 Tow Law Millennium Green**
- Councillor Hird reported on the following: -
 - Water table problems (Clerk to chase up National Coal Board and Northumbrian Water)
 - Dead trees on the site
 - Ditches to clear (awaiting price from local contractor)
 - Big Spring Clean – 19th April 2017
 - Peacock seat to be repaired 10/13th April from 10 am – 4pm
- 055/17 Clerk's Report**
- Notice of Election 4th May 2017, including nomination packs.
 - Clerk's new salary from 1st April 2017 (1% increase)
- 056/17 Members Reports**
- Councillor Hird: -**
- Cutting of grass at the Beehive Coke Ovens site (Clerk to chase up contractor)
- Councillor Stokes: -**
- Doctors Surgery contact details (North Durham/Dales?)
- 057/17 Date of next meeting**
 The next Ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th April 2017 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

The meeting finished at 7.10pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 2