

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 20 February 2018 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

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

Also Present: County Councillor R. Manchester, Mr D. Blinkhorn (Resident) and G. F. Smith (Clerk)

028/18 Apologies

Councillor J Fowler (Unwell)
Councillor R. Grogan (Family Reason)
Councillor E. Mather

029/18 Declaration of interest

Councillors P. Stokes, F Nicol and H. Wilsher declared and interest in agenda item No. 3 - Community Fund.
Councillors J. Gale, F. Nicol and P. Stokes declared and interest in agenda item No. 6 - Tow Law Community Association.

030/18 Community Fund

a) Tow Law Community Baby and Toddler Group

The Clerk read out an application from the above group which meet in the Community Centre for a donation to purchase more equipment for the group (including sensory lighting). Members agreed to donate £250.00 to the group from the N-Power Community Fund.

b) The Hilltop Archaeological Project

Councillor Stokes presented an application from the above group to fund a garden/allotment survey and equipment for excavations to be carried out in DCCs Tow Law Ward. Local Schools, organisations and the public will be involved. Members agreed to donate £250.00 to the group from the N-Power Community Fund.

031/18 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 16th January 2018

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

032/18 Matters Arising

- Christmas activities – report delayed until next meeting
- Commemorative event - 11th November 2018 “Battle’s Over a Nation’s Tribute” – item to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

033/18 Tow Law Community Association

Councillor Stokes updated the meeting on the donation made by the Town Council to the Community Association for this financial year. Further updates at a future Town Council meeting.

- 034/18 Police/Pact/Speedwatch Reports**
- Councillor Stokes provided a print out from the Police website (www.police.uk) for December 2016 and 2017.
 - Councillor Wilsher reported on the following Speedwatch sessions:-
 - 1) 8th February, Dan's Castle
92 vehicles; 15 vehicles exceeded the speed limit
 - 2) 20th February, Woosingham Road
22 vehicles; 5 vehicles exceeded the speed limit
 - 3) 20th February, Dan's Castle
42 vehicles; 4 vehicles exceeded the speed limit.
- 035/18 County Councillor Report**
County Councillor Manchester reported on the following: -
- Development in Durham (History Centre at Mount Oswald Manor House)
 - Food Bank in Tow Law
 - No Stopping Area; Blessed John Duckett School
 - Sustainable Energy Project for Tow Law – Agenda for next meeting
 - School Crossing Patrol, Tow Law - Agenda for next meeting
 - Outdoor Gym Equipment (Proludic) on Millennium Green - Agenda for next meeting
- 036/18 Representation by Residents**
- Refuse vehicle damage to kerbs, grassed area and vehicles at Weardale Crescent.
 - Art Group requests a Community Fund Application Form (Clerk to arrange)
- 037/18 Chairman's Report**
Members wished to record their condolences following the death of Alma Gale (Wife of the Chairman).
- 038/18 Planning Matters**
A) Planning Applications - None
B) Neighbourhood Planning
Use of Questionnaire – permission required from original author at DCC (County Councillor Manchester to arrange), before releasing the form.
- 039/18 Accounts for payments**
Vouchers 86 to 94 in the sum of £4765.49 approved for payment.
- 040/18 County Durham Skill Mill**
Clerk to arrange a meeting with the scheme co-ordinator and inform all Councillors of the agreed date.

041/18 Tow Law Millennium Green

Fencing still outstanding.

042/18 Bee Hive Coke Ovens

County Councillor Manchester had spoken to staff at Historic England who confirmed no paperwork had been received. Clerk to complete forms as a matter of urgency.

043/18 Clerk's Report

- CCTV Cameras – faults at one of the premises, Clerk to contact DCC regarding re-siting the camera and to report to the next Town Council meeting.
- Internal Audit Report – Risk Management, Control and Governance Processes to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Request for weblink to “Jobcentre near me”. Members agreed for the link to be arranged, Clerk to process.
- Meeting with NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG (Tina Balbach) – Engagement with Stakeholders. Clerk to arrange and inform all Councillors of the meeting date.
- Lighting at Bridge Street/North Road
Councillors to send responses to the Clerk.
Clerk to contact Kevin Robson, Senior Projects Manager DCC regarding the comments/objections.

044/18 Members Report

Councillor Heminway reported on a training session “No-dig” allotments. Clerk to circulate the report.

045/18 Date of next meeting

The next Ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th March 2018, commencing at 6.00 pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

The meeting finished at 8.30 pm.