

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 16th July 2019 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chair), C. Batson, J Fowler, F. Nicol, and H. Wilsher.

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

125/19 Apologies

Councillor M. Dyer (Unwell)
Councillor K. Geraghty-Shewan (Holiday)
Councillor P. Stokes (Hospital)
Councillor T. Batson
Councillor E. Mather (Holiday)

126/19 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Nicol declared an interest in agenda Item 9 – Tow Law Community Association. Councillor Fowler declared an interest in agenda item 3 – Community Fund.

127/19 Community Fund

The Clerk read out the following applications:-

- Tow Law Millennium Primary School – contribution towards provision of transport for 4 class trips to Teesmouth Field Centre during the summer term. Members agreed to donate £250 towards this project
- Trex Gym – contribution towards the cost of new gym equipment (techno gym – work bench). Members agreed to donate £250 towards this project.
- St Philip & St James Church – Flower festival. Members agreed to donate £250 towards this project.
- Atoms Education CIC – Provision of workshop in Tow Law Community Centre in the school holidays - “Food from around the world”. Members agreed to donate £145 towards this project.

128/19 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 25th June 2019

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

129/19 Matters Arising - None

130/19 Allotments

Clerk to complete the application form for a water supply to the allotment site rear of Dan’s Castle, members also agreed for a cheque to be raised (£96 plus VAT £19.20 = £115.20) payable to Northumbria Water. Meeting of Allotments Committee to be arranged during the August recess.

- 131/19 Land Rear of High Street, Tow Law**
Awaiting contact details for the Council's Solicitor.
- 132/19 Councillor Vacancy**
The County Council have informed the Council that no requests for an election have been received so the Town Council can proceed with co-option to fill the vacancy as soon as practicable (e-mail dated 15th July 2019). Members agreed to interview the two applications for the vacancy of Councillor, Clerk to arrange the meeting prior to the next Town Council meeting. The applicants are:-
- Paul Eastwood, 123B Dans Castle, Tow Law
 - Jane Heron, 19 Deerness Heights, Stanley Crook.
- 133/19 Tow Law Community Association**
Committee meeting arranged for 22nd July 2019
- 134/19 Police/Pact/Speedwatch Reports**
Councillor Wilsher reported on the following Speedwatch sessions:-
- 04/07 - 77 vehicles, 23 vehicles exceeded speed limit (Smith Street 02.30 – 03.30 pm)
 - 12/07 - 103 vehicles, 10 vehicles exceeded speed limit (Dans Castle 10.30 – 11.30 am)
 - 15/07 – 58 vehicles, 13 vehicles exceeded speed limit (Wolsingham Road 08.30 – 09.30 pm).
- 135/19 County Councillor Report**
County Councillor Manchester reported on the following:-
- Telephone box in High Street
 - Health Watch Consultants
 - DCC Cabinet Meeting
 - Traffic Wardens.
- 136/19 Representation by Residents - None**
- 137/19 Chairman's Report**
The Chair raised the following:-
- Allocation of 106 Funding
 - Pledge to reduce single use plastics (Steve Ragg)
- 138/19 School Crossing Patrol, Tow Law**
The Clerk had returned the Service Level Agreement, awaiting a response from DCC.
- 139/19 Outdoor Gym Equipment on Millennium Green**
Remove from agenda.
- 140/19 CCTV Cameras in Tow Law – No Update**

- 141/19 Planning Matters**
 A) Planning Applications
 DM/19/02165/FPA Application by Mr. A Barras for change of use from residential into office to form an extension to the existing office accommodation in 16/17 Castlebank at 18 Castlebank, Tow Law.
 Decision - No objections.
 B) Neighbourhood Planning - No update.
- 142/19 Accounts for Payments**
 Vouchers 28 to33 in the sum of £1843.56 be approved for payment.
- 143/19 Tow Law Millennium Green**
 No further update.
- 144/19 Bee Hive Coke Ovens**
 No further update.
- 145/19 VE Day 75 Commemorations**
 No further update.
- 146/19 Clerk's Report**
- Removal of telephone box, High Street - Members agreed to purchase the telephone kiosk in High Street from BT for £1.
 - Smoke free play areas
 - The charity Scope – textile recycling banks
 - Citizens Advice County Durham – thank you letter for recent donation from the Town Council (£2500)
 - Information posters – Family Drop-in and Foodbank on Thursday's (12 noon to 2.30 pm) in Tow Law Community Centre have been placed on the Council Notice Boards
- 147/19 Members Reports - None**
- 148/19 Date of next meeting**
 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th September 2019 in the Community Centre at 6.30 pm.

The meeting finished at 7.30 pm.