

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors J. Gale (Chairman), J. Fowler, R. Grogan, M. Hird, T. McFadden, P. Stokes and C. A. Wilson

**Also Present:** G F Smith (Clerk),

- 109/16 Apologies**  
County Councillor J. Hart
- 110/16 Declaration of interest**  
Councillor Stokes declared an interest in agenda item 16 – telephone kiosk, Inkerman Road, Tow Law  
Councillor Fowler declared an interest in agenda item 15 – Trex Gymnasium  
And agenda item 19 – Council notice boards  
Councillor Hird declared an interest in item 17 – Millennium Green
- 111/16 Community Fund**  
Application  
**Tow Law Skills Club**  
The Clerk read out an application from the above for the start-up costs of a skills share club and a basic set of tools. This would enable placements and volunteers based in the Community Centre to get together on a Tuesday (10am to 1.30pm) to do and learn from “Do it yourself” projects, initially doing centre based projects.  
**Members agreed** to donate **£250** from the N-Power Community Fund
- 112/16 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016**  
Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 113/16 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016**  
Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 114/16 Minutes of a the Ordinary meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016**  
Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 115/16 Matters Arising**  
Neighbourhood Planning – Special Town Council meeting  
Clerk to arrange a Special Town Council meeting prior to the August Recess to discuss the progress of Neighbourhood Planning and future funding.

- 116/16 Police /Pact Report**  
 Copy of a letter from Inspector Kevin Tuck (Weardale and Teesdale) regarding the future of PACT Meetings (no meetings in Tow Law) Had been circulated prior the meeting.  
 Members agreed to object to these proposals and offer alternative meeting place (Community centre) for PACT meetings to take place in Tow law. County Councillor Hart and Councillor Stokes had sent a letter to the Chief Constable objecting to the proposals. An acknowledgement letter had been received.  
 Members requested that the Clerk write to the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the proposals to stop PACT meetings at Tow Law.
- 117/16 County Councillor Report**
- No Report (Clerk to forward the report onto all Councillors when sent to him by Councillor Hart).
- 118/16 Representation by Residents - None**
- 119/16 Chairman's Report**  
 Concerns raised regarding the recent speed watch scheme held in Tow Law
- 120/16 Planning matters**  
 1) Planning Applications  
**DM/16/00798/FPA** by Alternative Energy Contracting Ltd for proposed new build development providing a workshop, storage and offices at land South of Alternative Energy Contracting, Inkerman Road, Tow Law  
**Decision – No objections**  
 2) Neighbourhood Planning – No update on funding
- 121/16 Accounts for payment**  
 A) Members gave approval for the payment of vouchers 11 to 26 in the sum of £6449.17. Copy of report attached to these minutes.
- 122/16 Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**  
**Members agreed:-**
- To accept and approve section two – Accounting statements 2015/16 balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 £37980.41
  - To receive the Annual Internal Audit Report 2015/16 no issues to bring to the attention of the Town Council. Chair and Clerk to sign the documents and to be forwarded to the Council's External Auditor.
- 123/16 Tow Law Trex Gymnasium**  
 Councillor Fowler/Clerk no further update; Clerk to contact DCC (George Richardson) for a response and report to the next Town Council meeting.
- 124/16 Telephone Kiosk, Inkerman Road**  
 The Planning Officer required a GPS position (Councillor Hird to obtain details on her mobile phone) and send details to the Clerk.

- 125/16 Tow Law Millennium Green**  
**Councillor Hird reported on the following**
- Still awaiting bio-diversity report
  - Damage to wood frame at the pond area (repairs to be carried out)
  - Carry out another litter pick (weekday/evening), inviting PCSO to attend
- 126/16 Proposed car park area in Tow Law**  
 County Councillor Hart chasing up responses from the relevant County Council Officer.
- 127/16 Council Notice Boards**  
**Councillor Fowler reported:-**  
 Cost of notice boards £2128.80 (Inc vat)  
 Design proof required  
 6/8 weeks delivery period  
**Members agreed the costs**
- 128/16 Clerk's Report**
- Council meeting dates 2016/17 circulated at the meeting
  - 2016/2018 National Salary Award as follows:-
- 1) New pay scales for 2016/17 to be implemented immediately and backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016
  - 2) New pay scales for 2017/18 to be implemented from April 2017
- 129/16 Members Reports**  
 Councillor Grogan – At the last AAP meeting Councillor Hird was awarded a Certificate of recognition for services to the community (nomination for the Chairman's Medal).  
 Councillor Fowler – any update on the proposed move of the Post Office in Tow Law (Awaiting Planning Approval for new premises)
- 130/16 Date of next meeting**  
 The next Ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

The meeting finished at 7.22pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 3