

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Thursday 21st June 2018 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chair), C. Batson, T. Batson, J Fowler, C. Hemingway, E. Mather, P. Stokes and H. Wilsher.

Also Present: County Councillor R. Manchester, M. Dyer (resident) and G. F. Smith (Clerk)

125/18 Apologies

Councillor K. Geraghty-Shewan
Councillor F. Nicol
Councillor G. Tyers

126/18 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Mather, Wiltshire and Stokes declared an interest in agenda item 3 Community Fund (Hilltop Community Projects).
Councillor Stokes declared an interest in agenda item 14 - Tow Law Community Association and agenda item 20 Commemorative Event.

127/18 Community Fund

The Clerk read out an application form from the Hilltop Community Projects (Jenny Mountain) for a start-up fee. Members agreed to defer until the next meeting in order for the Clerk to obtain clarification on donation request.

128/18 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on 15th May 2018

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

129/18 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th May 2018

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

130/18 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 15th May 2018

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

131/18 Matters Arising – None

132/18 Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2018

Members agreed to the following:-

- Answer yes to questions 1-9
- Chairman and Clerk to sign the form
- Clerk to send the completed form to the External Auditor by the 6th July 2018

133/18 Internal Auditors Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2018

Members agreed to the following:-

- To accept the report and for the Clerk to send the report to the External Auditor by the 6th July 2018

134/18 Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2018

Balance B/F	£58686
Precept	£32825
Other Receipts	£30296
Staff Costs	£16434
Loans	Nil
Other Payments	£71536
Balance as at 31/3/2018	£33837
Fixed Assets	£32008
Sole Trustee	Yes

Members agreed to the following:-

- For the Chairman and Clerk to sign the form
- Clerk to send the completed form to the External Auditor by the 6th July 2018

135/18 Financial Reports

Members agreed the following reports:-

- Expenditure 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018
- Income 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018
- Statement of Accounts 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018
- Fixed Asset Register for the year ended 31st March 2018

136/18 Allotments

Following an update report on the allotment sites, members agreed to arrange an allotment inspection meeting within the next few weeks (Clerk to arrange). Committee to consist of Councillors Wilsher, Hemingway, Nicol, Mather, Geraghty-Shewan and the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Copy of Tenancy Agreements to be sent to the above Councillors.

137/18 Land Rear of High Street, Tow Law

Awaiting terms from DCC (Clerk to circulate when received)

138/18 Sustainable Energy Project for Tow Law

Funding application unsuccessful.

139/18 Tow Law Community Association

Councillor Stokes reported that the Association had been successful with a funding application for painting of Main Hall and replacement of flooring

- 140/18 Police/Pact/Speedwatch Reports**
Councillor Mather reported the following Speedwatch Sessions:-
7th May 92 vehicles; 25 exceeded speed limit
28th May 88 vehicles; 15 exceeded speed limit
7th June 102 vehicles; 10 exceeded speed limit
21st June 117 vehicles; 20 exceeded speed limit
- 141/18 County Councillor Report**
County Councillor Manchester reported on the following:-
- County Durham Plan (consultation meetings)
 - Home Group
 - Fly tipping removed from Cattle Mart site.
- 142/18 Representation by Residents - None**
- 143/18 Street Lighting – Proposed Removal, Bridge Street/North Road**
- No further update
 - Councillor Mather commented that the middle light appears to be on at all times?
- 144/18 Chairman’s Report**
- Attended Speedwatch sessions
 - Attended Guides/Brownies/Rainbow event
 - DCC checking garage plots
- 145/18 Commemorative event - 11th November 2018 “Battle’s Over a Nation’s Tribute”**
Councillor Stokes reported on:-
- Awaiting permission from Natural England.
- 146/18 School Crossing Patrol, Tow Law**
No further update.
- 147/18 Outdoor Gym Equipment on Millennium Green**
Awaiting quotation from Proludic Ltd.
- 148/18 CCTV Cameras**
Clerk to chase up response from DCC.
- 149/18 Councillor Vacancy**
M/s M. Dyer was asked to leave the meeting while the matter was discussed. The Clerk had received two applications for the vacancy:-
- 1) Mo Dyer, 32 Wolsingham Road, Tow Law
 - 2) Jane Heron, 19 Deerness Heights, Stanley Crook
- Members agreed to interview the above candidates prior to the next Town Council meeting (Clerk to arrange). M/s Dyer re-joined the meeting.

- 150/18 Planning Matters**
 A) Planning Applications
 1. DM/18/01572/FPA by Ladycraft for builders' storage building and yard at site of former Inkerman Colliery, Inkerman Road, Tow Law.
 Decision – No objection
 B) Neighbourhood Planning
 Members agreed to approve the questionnaire prepared by Councillor Stokes.
- 151/18 Accounts for Payments**
 Vouchers 16 to 25 in the sum of £10,107.89 be approved for payment.
- 152/18 County Durham Skill Mill**
 The Chairman and Clerk have met with Mr Appleton regarding work at Millennium Green, Beehive Coke Ovens and BMX Track, awaiting response.
- 153/18 Tow Law Millennium Green**
 No further update.
- 154/18 Bee Hive Coke Ovens**
- Form to complete for Historic England
 - Grass cutting in progress.
- 155/18 Clerk's Report**
- Meeting with Nigel Douthwaite – Trex Gym (Councillor Fowler informed the meeting that an agreement had been signed)
 - Armed Forces Outreach Service (poster to be placed on Council notice boards)
 - Tow Law Millennium Green Trust – letter from NWG Business joint venture with Anglian Water Business (for information only)
 - Merchant Navy Day 3rd September (for information only).
- 156/18 Members Report - None**
- 157/18 Date of next meeting**
 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th July 2018 in the Community Centre at 6.30 pm.

The meeting finished at 8.40 pm.