

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 15th May 2018 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.45 pm.**

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

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

**098/18 Apologies**

Councillor C. Hemingway  
Councillor E. Mather  
Councillor H. Wilsher  
County Councillor R. Manchester

**099/18 Declaration of Interest**

Councillors J. Gale, F. Nicol and P. Stokes declared an interest in agenda item No. 8 - Tow Law Community Association.

**100/18 Community Fund**

The Clerk read out an application form from Tow Law Millennium Primary School for a memorial stage in memory of a Lunchtime Supervisor (Mrs Lane). Members agreed to donate £250.00 from the N-Power Community Fund to this project.

**101/18 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 17th April 2018**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**102/18 Matters Arising**

Wolsingham School – Awaiting response from Andrea Wakefield, reminder sent.

**103/18 Land Rear of High Street, Tow Law**

E-mail received from Sam Elliott, Senior Surveyor, Durham County Council “Apologies for the delay, we are currently down a number of staff in the team. I am waiting on official plans to put forward with a report for delegated approval”.

**104/18 Sustainable Energy Project for Tow Law**

Application form submitted on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

**105/18 Tow Law Community Association**

Committee meeting tomorrow night. Councillor T. Batson reported broken play equipment in the play area at the rear of the Community Centre (Councillor Nicol noted).

- 106/18 Police/Pact/Speedwatch Reports – No Update**
- 107/18 County Councillor Report – No Update**
- 108/18 Representation by Residents - None**
- 109/18 Chairman’s Report – No further updates**
- 110/18 Street Lighting – Proposed Removal, Bridge Street/North Road**  
 Letter from DCC dated 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (Joanne Wakefield)
- Removal of 4 columns in Bridge Street
  - Removal of 6 Columns in North Road
  - Clean down existing traffic signage
  - Provide 40 mph speed repeater signage
- Chair to meet with Clerk to provide suitable response to DCC
- 111/18 Commemorative event - 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 “Battle’s Over a Nation’s Tribute”**  
 Councillor Stokes updated the meeting, as follows:-
- Planning consent not required (confirmed)
  - Natural England consent required
  - Children to read out the 92 names; use of battery operated tree-lights (to be donated by Councillor C. Batson).
- 112/18 School Crossing Patrol, Tow Law**  
 No further update.
- 113/18 Outdoor Gym Equipment on Millennium Green**  
 No further update.
- 114/18 CCTV Cameras**  
 Chair and Clerk had met the owner of The Pantry and agreement has been reached regarding the transfer of the cameras. DCC to arrange a survey etc.
- 115/18 Councillor Vacancy**  
 Notice dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 placed on the Council notice boards and the website, closing date 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- 116/18 Planning Matters**  
 A) Planning Applications - None  
 B) Neighbourhood Planning  
 Councillor Stokes updated the meeting; questionnaire to be amended.
- 117/18 Accounts for Payments**  
 Vouchers 06 to 15 in the sum of £5031.90 be approved for payment.
- 118/18 County Durham Skill Mill**  
 Reminder sent to Keith Appleton regarding meeting.

- 119/18      Tow Law Millennium Green**  
No further update.
- 120/18      Bee Hive Coke Ovens**  
Clerk reported:-
- Application form almost complete
  - 1<sup>st</sup> grass cut 24<sup>th</sup> April
  - Grass to be cut on a two week basis.
- 121/18      Clerk's Report**
- Thank you letter from Blessed John Duckett RC Primary School for recent Council donation (School garden)
  - Wear Valley Community Action Group are organising an event around energy advice, benefits, free boilers, recycling and other areas on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in the Community Centre
  - Email from Nigel Douthwaite (DCC) "Expression of interest in asset transfer of Trex Gym to Tow Law Town Council". Members agreed to respond in a positive manner.
- 122/18      Members Report**  
Councillor Nicol reported on the following:-
- Concerns from residents of Weardale Crescent and Coronation Avenue (empty properties, fridges/freezers dumped in the gardens)
- Councillor Stokes reported on the following:-
- Attending Willington VC ceremony
  - Steam machine visiting Willington on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018
  - Rubbish on "Cattle Mart" site
- 123/18      Date of next meeting**  
The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 in the Community Centre at 6.30 pm.
- 124/18      In Private**

The meeting finished at 8.05 pm.