

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors P. Stokes (Chair), J. Fowler, E. Hindmoor and M. Hird

**Also Present:** G F Smith (Clerk), Mr A Abley (Salamander Tackwando), Anne Gladwin (Durham Wildlife Trust), B. Batson, Tanya McFadden, Angela Suddes, D. Batson, C. Batson (Residents), Rachael Conner (Northern Echo) and County Councillor J. Hart

**149/15 Apologies**

Councillor Blacker (Family)  
Councillor Gale (Family)  
Councillor Green (unwell)  
Councillor Grogan (Unwell)  
Councillor Rowland (Unwell)  
Councillor Umpelby (Family)

**150/15 Declaration of interest**

Councillor Stokes declared an interest in agenda item 15 – Town Council Office accommodation  
Councillor Hindmoor declared an interest in Agenda item 7 – Feedback report from the working group.  
Councillor Hird declared an interest in agenda item 4 – Durham Wildlife Trust

**151/15 Community Fund**

Application by Salamander Tackwando Tow Law  
Mr Abley apologised for his son who was carrying out a training session at another centre.  
He gave an excellent presentation on the work done by the local group that meets in the community centre, including recently raising £660 towards the club funds. In order to progress  
The club would benefit hugely from having a ring sized matted area.  
Mr Abley left the meeting whilst members discussed possible funding.  
Members agreed to donate £250 from the N Power Community Fund towards equipment and mats for the club.  
Mr Abley returned to the meeting and was informed of the Council's decision, for which he thanked them. The cheque would be presented at a later date.

**152/15 Durham Wildlife Trust**

Presentation by Anne Gladwin on the project proposal to re-grade a 60 metre section of footpath from the Tow Law entrance onto Hedley Hope fell and build 150 metres of Boardwalk.  
Councillor Stokes requested a copy of the location on an ordnance survey map (Anne would supply this to the Clerk).  
The Chairman thanked Anne for her presentation and confirmed that the Town Council would support this application.

- 153/15 Minutes of a the Ordinary meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015**  
Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 154/15 Matters Arising – None**
- 155/15 Feedback from Working Group**  
Councillor Hindmoor reported on the following:-
- Group will be know as “Friends of Tow Law Group”
  - Fund raising towards lights, motifs for lampposts
  - Both Schools to produce tree decorations
  - Opening Ceremony (including music from the Salvation Army Band, mince pies and mulled wine)
  - £1331 funds raised
  - Bank account to be opened
  - Work with Officer from DCC regarding constitution etc
- 156/15 Representation by Residents**  
Miss McFadden raised a number of her concerns regarding the following:-
- Date for opening ceremony this year (11<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm, Salvation Army Band booked).
  - Out of date notices on the Council’s Notice Boards
  - Details required of Miscellaneous expenditure
  - Funding from the Town Council/AAP etc
- 157/15 Police/Pact Report – No update**
- 158/15 County Councillor Report**  
County Councillor John Hart reported on the following:-
- North East Combined Authority (update)
  - 106 Funding (successful) for play areas in Tow Law
- 159/15 Chair’s Report – No report**
- 160/15 Planning matters**  
1) Planning Applications - None received  
2) Neighbourhood Planning – No update
- 161/15 Accounts for payment**  
Members gave approval for the payment of vouchers 58 to 64 in the sum of £1900.58. Copy of report attached to these minutes.
- 162/15 Christmas Activities 2015**  
**Members agreed the following:-**  
Trees ordered, delivery week commencing 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
Richard Batson (erection of Civic tree to be arranged)
- 163/15 Town Council Accommodation – No Report**

- 164/15 Telephone Kiosk, Inkerman Road**  
Councillor Stokes circulated a report on suggestions for use of the telephone kiosk. Deferred to the next Town Council meeting.
- 165/15 Councillor Vacancy**  
The Clerk updated the meeting on the following:-
- Public notice in various locations, closing date for requests for an election is 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015
  - Clerk to prepare a report on the above for the next Town Council meeting (No call for election would allow for the Council to appoint by co-option)
  - Two residents have applied for the vacancy, names have been received.
- 166/15 Public Work Loan Board**  
Clerk had circulated details to all Councillors, deferred to the next Town Council meeting
- 167/15 Play areas in Tow Law**  
Deferred to the next Town Council meeting
- 168/15 Clerk's Report – No report**
- 169/15 Members Reports**  
Councillor Hird reported on the following:-
- Quotes required for drainage works at the Millennium Green
- 170/15 Date of next meeting**  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm

The meeting finished at 7.30pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 3