

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 15th November 2016 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chair), T. Batson, A. Blacker, J. Fowler, M. Hird, A. Lamb, F. Nicol, P. Stokes and C. A. Wilson

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

197/16 Apologies

Councillor R. Grogan (unwell)
Councillor T. McFadden (Family Reasons)

198/16 Declaration of interest

Councillor **Stokes** declared an interest in agenda item 14 – telephone kiosk
Councillor **Hird** declared an interest in item 15 – Millennium Green
Councillor **Fowler** declared an interest in agenda items 13 – Trex gym and 17 Council Notice Boards
Councillor **lamb** declared an interest in agenda items 5 application for funding, item 12 Christmas activities and 20 Members reports

199/16 Minutes of a the Ordinary meeting held on 18th October 2016

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

200/16 Matters Arising

- **Tow Law Play Area** – confirmation that planning permission is not required.
- **Tow Law Millennium Green** – request form completed to Natural England, no response as yet.
- **Neighbourhood Planning** – Michael Lowe (DCC) not available to attend tonight's meeting, date to be arranged.
- **CCTV** – County Councillor Hart had obtained permission to site cameras on two properties, one outstanding.

201/16 N- Power Community Fund

The Clerk read out the following applications for funding:-

- Tow Law Millennium primary School – contributions towards the school's sleeping beauty pantomime. The event had recently taken place, Clerk to contact the school and discuss the financial implications for this event for the school.
- Weardale holiday activity planning group – contribution towards the cost of providing a bus for Tow law residents to visit Bowes Museum/Santa's grotto.
Members agreed to donate £250 from the N Power Community Fund as a contribution towards the cost of transport for the event on 17thDecember 2016.
- North Eastern Prison After Care Society – application towards cost of the society. Members decided not to support this application.

- Tow Law Community Association (Jenny Mountain/Ashleigh Lamb) – contribution towards the costs of providing a Christmas dinner in December for invited people/organisations to help forge stronger working relationships between service providers, users and Businesses in Tow Law.
Members agreed to donate £250 from the N power Community fund as a contribution towards the event in December.

202/16 Police /Pact Report – No further updates
Councillor Hird reported on the following: -

- Speeding on Wolsingham Road
- Millennium Green (groups of youths)
- CCTV New system
- No reports of ASB relating to fireworks

203/16 County Councillor Report

The Clerk read out the report of County Councillor Hart which included the following:-

- Bonds site in Tow law (meeting with Management)
- Progressing outstanding items for cctv and play area
- Associated costs for purchase of land (proposed car park area)
- Attended fireworks evening and remembrance day service at Tow Law.
- Councillor Stokes had some outstanding questions for Councillor Hart relating to 81a High Street.

204/16 Representation by Residents - None

205/16 Chairman's Report

Councillor Gale reported on the following:-

- Encourage Councillors to report on actions they have taken during meetings to help residents understand the workings of the Town Council. Clerk to look at the following to help with communications:-
Web site (review with website manager)
Face book (contact other Councils that are using Face book)
Council Newsletter (input from Councillors)
Donations – better communications of Council's responses to applications for funding re notice of donations to be placed on Council web site and notice boards

206/16 Planning matters

- 1) Planning Applications
DM/16/03399/FPA from Mr C Spinks for change of use of land to residential garden at 46 Highfields, Tow Law
DECISION – Majority agreed to no objections
- 2) Neighbourhood Planning
The Clerk to arrange for the DCC Officer to attend the next Town Council meeting and also for the Clerk to check the paper work relating to the funding from the Locality unit.

- 207/16 Accounts for payment**
Members gave approval for the payment of vouchers 53 to 62 in the sum of £1931.34
- 208/16 Christmas Activities**
The Clerk reported that the tree would be delivered on Monday 28th November.
The Clerk reported (on behalf of Councillor McFadden) on the proposed “lighting- up” ceremony on Friday 16th December and the organisation for the tree lights etc.
- 209/16 Tow Law Trex Gymnasium**
Councillor Fowler reported that the Committee was awaiting an update on the cctv/extra lighting from DCC.
Members agreed to remove this item from the agenda unless there is any progress to report.
- 210/16 Telephone Kiosk, Inkerman Road**
Awaiting response from DCC.
Members agreed to remove this item from the agenda unless there is any progress to report.
- 211/16 Tow Law Millennium Green**
Councillor Hird had nothing to report
- 212/16 Proposed car park area in Tow Law**
No further communications from DCC.
Members agreed to remove this item from the agenda unless there is any progress to report.
- 213/16 Council Notice Boards**
Councillor Fowler reported that two notice boards had been installed (community centre and North Point) outstanding two to be installed as soon as possible.
Members agreed to remove this item unless there is any progress to report.
- 214/16 Councillor Vacancy – No further Progress**
- 215/16 Clerk’s Report**
The Clerk reported on:-
- Changes to the current account at the Co-operative Bank
- 216/16 Members Reports**
Councillor Lamb:-
- Community Engagement (Needs Assessment Survey) must be approved by the Town Council
 - Christmas Dinner Invitations
 - Use of Face book (Town Council)
 - “Inspiring Communities (Government Publication)
Clerk to obtain a copy
- Councillor Fowler: -**
Car Parking around co-op store

Councillor Hird: -

Remembrance service – laying of the wreath (Town Council)
Members agreed for this item to be placed on the agenda for the October 2017 meeting.

Good Councillor Guide Book

Clerk to obtain copies from Steve Ragg (CDALC) for each Councillor
Councillor Blacker:-

Allotment rents:- Letters to be sent out on 28th November.

217/16

Date of next meeting

The next Ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, Tow Law.

The meeting finished at 8.35pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 4