

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm.

**Present:** Councillors J. Gale (Chair), C. Batson, T. Batson, M. Dyer, K. Geraghty-Shewan, C. Hemingway, E. Mather, F. Nicol, P. Stokes, G. Tyers and H. Wilsher.

**Also Present:** County Councillor R. Manchester and G. F. Smith (Clerk)

- 242/18 Apologies**  
Councillor J Fowler
- 243/18 Declaration of Interest**  
Councillor Stokes declared an interest in agenda items 6 - Remembrance Service at Tow Law, 10 - Tow Law Community Association and agenda item 15 Commemorative Event – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018; “Battle over a Nation’s Tribute”  
Councillor Nicol declared an interest in agenda item 10 - Tow Law Community Association.  
Councillor T. Batson and Councillor C. Batson declared an interest in agenda item 20 – Planning Application.
- 244/18 Community Fund**  
The Clerk read out an application from Tow Law Town AFC for updating/modernising toilet facilities in the Clubhouse. Members agreed to fund this application. £250 from the N-Power Community Fund and £150 from Council reserves, total £400.
- 245/18 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 246/18 Matters Arising**  
Letter received from County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Sue Jacques, Chief Executive). No decision has been made to close Ward 6 at Bishop Auckland hospital. Members agreed for the copy letter to be placed on the Council’s noticeboard and website.
- 247/18 Remembrance Service at Tow Law**  
Councillor Stokes updated the meeting, well attended at the Church and War Memorial (£60 cash paid to the bugler – donated by the Town Council).
- 248/18 Allotments**  
No further update, Councillor Wilshire requested that the Clerk give this matter some urgency.
- 249/18 Land Rear of High Street, Tow Law**  
Awaiting response from DCC (details of Council’s Solicitor passed onto DCC Officer).

- 250/18 Sustainable Energy Project for Tow Law**  
No update.
- 251/18 Tow Law Community Association**  
No update.
- 252/18 Police/Pact/Speedwatch Reports**  
Councillor Mather reported:-
- Recent Speedwatch sessions 5<sup>th</sup> November (2.10 to 3.10 pm) at Smith Street - 82 vehicles, 21 exceeded the speed limit. 12<sup>th</sup> November (09.30 to 10.30 am) at Dan's Castle 142 vehicles, 26 exceeded the speed limit.
- 253/18 County Councillor Report**  
County Councillor Manchester reported on the following:-
- Work to War Memorial complete
  - Water supply to Dan's Castle Cemetery – ongoing investigation
  - Parking bays by Church – ongoing investigation
  - Home Group – Weardale Crescent letters to tenants regarding demolitions/improvements.
  - Park Wall site
  - School Crossing Patrol – no applications
  - Millennium School parking problems (passed to Police PCSO)
  - Outdoor Gym Equipment (update)
  - Community Centre Play Equipment (update)
  - School parking at Blessed John Primary School (update)
  - "Time to Shine" course attended by 22 ladies (7 from Tow Law)
- 254/18 Chairman's Report – No Report**
- 255/18 Former Mart Site, Tow Law**  
Nothing further to report
- 256/18 Commemorative event - 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 "Battle's Over a Nation's Tribute"**  
Councillor Stokes updated the meeting on this very successful event
- 257/18 School Crossing Patrol, Tow Law**  
Councillor Dyer produced a School Travel Survey Sheet, members agreed that this form can be used to gather information.
- 258/18 Outdoor Gym Equipment on Millennium Green**  
Councillor Manchester is waiting for a form from the Clerk.
- 259/18 CCTV Cameras**  
No update.

- 260/18 Planning Matters**  
A) Planning Application  
DM/18/03212/TPO by R. B. Tree and Landscape Ltd. for felling of 3 Sycamore trees and 1 Ash tree at the Old Plant Yard, Smith Street, Tow Law.  
Decision – No objections.  
B) Neighbourhood Planning – No further update.
- 261/18 Accounts for Payments**  
Vouchers 59 to 73 in the sum of £4406.65 be approved for payment.
- 262/18 County Durham Skill Mill**  
Clerk to arrange for local contractors to repair the decking. Letter received from pupils of Tow Law Millennium Primary School “We are writing to inform you about some damage to the decking at the Millennium Green. Unfortunately, someone has burnt the decking and made it unsafe for people to use. We hope you can fix this because we enjoy going to the Millennium Green with the school and our families at home”.
- 263/18 Bee Hive Coke Ovens**  
No further update
- 264/18 Christmas Activities**  
Councillor C. Batson updated the meeting, trees to be erected week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018 by R.B. Tree and Landscapes Ltd and dismantled for recycling, week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019. £10.00 contribution towards the tree, brackets can be supplied at an additional cost of £28.00 (supply and fitting). Information sheets will be delivered to all properties in the town.
- 265/18 Clerk’s Report**
- Bulb planting event 7<sup>th</sup> November with pupils from Millennium Primary (subject to weather conditions) – Dean Henry, Durham County Council
  - Insurance advice - tree liabilities  
Clerk to obtain further information (Tree management strategy and framework).
- 266/18 Members Reports – None**
- 267/18 Date of next meeting**  
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in the Community Centre at 6.30 pm.

The meeting finished at 8.15 pm.