

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - 19th June 2007

Present:

Councillors T. Batson, A. Blacker, J. Day, P. Graham, A. Green, R. Grogan (Chair) L. Rowland (note taker)

Also in attendance:

County Councillor T. Carroll District Councillor C. Hayton Pc F. Hewison Pcso R. Strong Wvds L. Hodkinson Bob Plews (resident)

Apologies for absence:

J. Abbot acting Clerk, J. Gale (Chair) Judith Stevens Greg Stevens  
In the absence of Councillor J. Gale (Chairman) Councillor R. Crogan (Vice **Chairman**) took the chair.

(COUNCILLOR R. CROGAN IN THE CHAIR)

078/07 Declaration of Interest:

Councillor T. Batson declaration of interest re planning Application 14(b)

079/07 Acting Clerk to the Council

In the absence through illness of Mr John Abbot, acting clerk to the council, it was agreed that Councillor L. Rowland be authorised to take notes of the meeting in accordance with procedural regulations.

080/07 Police Report

PC315 F. Hewison presented the Crime report figures for the month of May (copy attached to minutes) one main concern was bogus official preying on the elderly in the village but on this occasion they left empty handed. Also anti - social behaviour had dropped tremendously.

The Pcso R. Strong reported on 2 weekend patrols carried out in the village on Friday and Saturday evenings no anti- social behaviour at all. He seized 1 motor bike and 1 quad bike last month

Councillor R. Crogan asked the Police to keep watch down at the wow gym as resurfacing equipment was left bagged due to the weather also cctv would be left on all night.

081/07 Minutes Annual Meeting 2007

It was noted that as a result of the clerk indisposition the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the council held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May had been circulated in hand written form. It was agreed that the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

Signed by the Chairman .....Page 1

082/07 Report of the County Councillor T. Carroll

Eco systems (boiler fuel) recycle wooden pallets. Councillor Carroll explain that you would only need to fill up once a day, it would have controlled drafts to hot it would switch off, huge potential. County hall have 2 in use and one on standby. Carbon neutral no charge when the new carbon tax comes in. Delivery would not be a problem. Scrap pallets costs £80 per ton compared to coal which is £140 per ton. There is going to be 4 new schools built using this system. Councillor P. Graham said you couldn't grow enough wood in the country. This would be left to a people choose. T. Carroll left the meeting j 7 o'clock.

083/07 Representation by resident: (Mr Bob Plews)

He talked about the problem of not having a dog bin in Alpine way he also talked about a play area for the local children. Ron explain this was an ongoing matter re play area and to speak to the environment team at Wear Valley District Council about getting some more dog bins and making sure they are emptied regular.

084/07 District Councillors ReportCouncillor C. Havton reported

New council structure a strain for officers and ourselves. four major departments in which R. Crogan, C. Havton, J Gale shares three of them. Bayonet on the monument to be replaced again a lengthily discussion took place i.e. the cost, weather as we know it can get extremely windy at the monument, Councillor J. Day did not know nothing about this and Mary bell who are the interested party, Councillor A. Blacker suggested the above item be done for him to get intouch with Heritage lottery, monument society, fundraising Councillor P. Graham supported the idea. They were no objections needs permission of Mary Bell and J. Day as long as the above work together and it is done properly.

Councillor Ron Grogan reported

Resurfacing progress, CCTV in operation at the wow gym, Barclay bank Mr Cudderford to get back to him. If Ron was to get compulsive purchase order on the bank it would take 18 months and cost £1000.00. Ron spoke about Geoff Smith Clerk to the council was still in hospital and that the acting Clerk John Abbot went early as he wasn't feeling unwell. P. Graham had called into to see John he was really upset. Ron read out John letter copy of which is attached. Ron said he would ring Mr Steve Ragg at DALC for advice on situation regarding the correct Town Council Procedure for the Town Clerks situation.

085/07 Clerk to the Council

The Chairman reported that as a result of the Clerks admission to hospital shortly following the May Meeting he had consulted with the Chairman of the Council as to what steps could be taken to ensure the continuation of the Council Administration. It had been decided that an approach be made to Mr Abbot (recently retired Clerk) to seek his agreement to act in a temporally capacity. Mr Abbot agreed to this suggestion and was now carrying out duties on a one day a week basis. It was agreed that the action of the Chairman and Vice Chairman in this matter be approved.

**086/07 Casual vacancies**

**Ron Grogan stated he would consult with the Wear Valley District Council Legal department as to the correct procedure for filling these casual vacancies position and will bring back a report at the next Town Council meeting.**

**087/07 Bath Bus**

**They were no objections from members same timetables as previous year. Due to the relatively short time for making the necessary arrangements, it was agreed that the normal tendering procedure be waved on this occasion and that the acting clerk negotiates with Rayners Coaches the cost of the Crook coach remained the same as £70.00 per trip, while the Wet n Wild trip would increase by £10 to £160.00. It was agreed that approval be given for the action taken in this matter.**

**088/07 Play equipment — Alpine Way**

**Long discussion took place that the item be deferred to July Meeting.**

**089/07 Road Safety**

**Passed this matter on to Highways department Safety Plan needs to be in place.**

**090/07 Community Fund application:**

**Baby Toddler group £250.00 (Approved)**

**Tow Law Millennium Primary School £250.00 (Approved)**

**St Philips and St James Church (Letter to be sent out more information needed)**

**091/07 Planning Application**

**Proposed log store at Fell View Smith Street for Mr. G. Batson passed on to next meeting.**

**Tow law Auction mart for 28 units and creation of an additional 14 units**

**Ron explained housing situation in detail. Members agreed to raise no objections.**

**092/07 Accounts for payment**

**That approval be given for the payment of invoice numbers 007 to 010 in the sum of £1201.54.**

**093/07 Chairman Report**

**Chairman was not in attendance**

**094/07 CHEQUE SIGNATURES**

**Not knowing if the bank had received new signature for signing of cheques T Batson agreed to sign until this matter was resolved.**

**095/07 Members Reports**

**Councillor Blacker reported an approach by local people to seek repairs to the War Memorial. The acting Clerk had provided him with details of War memorial maintenance and various sources of finance. Lengthy discussion took place, and it was pointed out that Town and Parish Councils had the necessary powers to carry out this function.**

**Signed by the Chairman ..... Page 3**

096/07 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007 commencing 6.30 p.m.