

Tow Law Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 17th July 2007 in the Community Centre commencing at 6:30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chairman), T. Batson, A. Blacker, J. Day, A. Green, R. Grogan, L. Rowland, G. Stevens and J. Stevens.

Apologies: Councillors P. Graham and County Councillor T. Carroll

Also in Attendance: Councillor C. Hayton, PC. J. Blair, PCSO ??? and G.F. Smith (Clerk)

097/07 Declaration of Interest

None received

098/07 Police Report

Copy of crime and incident figures for June 2007 were circulated at the meeting (copy attached to the minutes). Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Chief Constable congratulating the division of the low figures and the work that is on going in the area.

099/07 Representation by Residents

Mr Steve Morallee was unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments. Members agreed for the Clerk to write to Mr Morallee informing him of the next Council Meeting (Tuesday 18th September 2007).

100/07 Minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2007

It was agreed that the minutes be approved as a true record, signed by the Chairman.

101/07 County Councillor's Report

No report received

102/07 District Councillors Reports

1. Councillor Hayton report:-

- a) Regional Spatial Strategy- policy document.
- b) Local Government review.
- c) Local development framework.
- d) Wear Valley District- health profile.

2. Councillor Grogan reported:-
- a) Recreation ground- area marked out.
 - b) Extension plans have been "drawn-up" for the sports centre.
 - c) 3 dog fouling bins have been ordered for Alpine Way.
 - d) Cattle Mart- no further progress
 - e) Old Barclays Bank premises- no further progress.
 - f) CCTV cameras.

3. Councillor Gale
Reported under chairman's report

103/07 Baths Bus 2007

- a) Order placed with Rayner Coaches to provide transport
- b) Possible problem with supervision of children (due to injury of volunteer adult supervisor).

104/07 Casual Vacancies

Following the elections in May 2007 two vacancies for Councillors exists on the Town Council. Following advice from the Legal Section of Wear Valley District Council Members agreed to:-

- a) Display a public note inviting nominations from eligible residents.
- b) Candidates to be interviewed by the full Town Council.

105/ 07 Play Equipment at Alpine Way

Members agreed to make no decision on this project

106/07 Planning matters

- a) Application 3/2007/0382 at Fell View, Smith Street item withdrawn
- b) Application 3/2007/0298 (amended details) at 4b Thornley Road. Members agreed to raise no objections.
- c) Application 3/2007/0410 at 82 High Street. Members agreed to raise no objections.
- d) Application 3/2007/0508 at sports centre, Ironworks Road. Members agreed to raise no objections.

107/07 Accounts for Payment

That approval given for the payment of invoice number 011 to 017 in the sum of £2023.22

Members raised concerns regarding the delivery of the Tatler (some properties not receiving a copy), it was agreed for the clerk to investigate alternative methods of delivery and costs and to report on the next Town Council meeting.

108/ 07 Accounts for year ended 31st March 2007- Submission of the Annual Return

The clerk reported that due to his illness the annual report was not ready to present to members (Internal Auditor had completed his section on 17th July 2007). It was agreed to hold a special meeting of the Finance and General-Purpose Committee and also a special Town Council meeting in August 2007 in order to complete the Annual Return in time to forward to the External Auditor.

109/07 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reminded Members that the Code of Conduct will be agended in September, it is important that this is agreed and adopted by the Town Council.

110/07 Clerks Report

1. Members agreed to confirm the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to contribute £250.00 (from N-Power Community Fund) towards the cost of the millennium festival held on 1st July, organised by the Tow Law Partnership.
2. August recess- members agreed to delegate powers to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk to deal with any urgent matters and report to the September meeting of the Town Council.

3. Correspondence

- a) Members agreed to contribute £250.00 (from N-Power Community Fund) towards the roofing insulation at St Philip and St James Parish Church.
- b) Members agreed to contribute £250.00 (from N-Power Community Fund) towards the costs of the family learning fun day on 24th July 2007 organised by Tow Law Community Association.
- c) Durham County Council- Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2006/07
- d) Wear Valley District Council- local development framework adoption of the statement of community involvement.

Clerk to circulate copy of the document to all Council Members for their consideration and comments.

- e) Wear Valley District Council- old Barclays Bank building, High Street- update.
- f) Wear Valley District Council- 3 Copies of questionnaire "Your Parish Councils relationship with WVDC".
- g) Tow Law Millennium Primary School- thank you letter re; donation from the N-Power Community Fund
- h) Smith Roddam Solicitors, Land at Tow Law- request to re-date cheque issued 7th December 2006 to enable to be complete.

Members agreed for the date to be changed to the 17th July 2007 and for the cheque signatories to initial the changes.



Signed by the Chairman

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- i) Mr Ken Cuddereford, 49 Cornmoor Road, Whickham - update regarding the old Barclays Bank building, High Street.
- j) County Association of the Local Councils- Newsletter June 2007; issue 13.
- k) Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust- formal consultation on plans to become a NHS Foundation Trust.

Clerk to copy the document and to circulate to all Town Council Members for their consideration and comments.

111/07 Members Reports

Discussion took place on the roles of the Community Association and the partnership with the Town Council.

Members agreed to postpone the garden show until next year.

112/07/ date of the next meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 18th September 2007 commencing at 6:30pm.

The meeting finished at 8:30 pm