

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2007 in the Community Centre @ 6.30pm.

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

Apologies: Councillors R. Grogan and J. Stevens

Also in attendance: Councillors C. Hayton and G.F. Smith (Clerk)

### 113/07 ONE MINUTE SILENCE

Members observed one minutes silence in respect following the death of Catherine Reed (Ex-Town Clerk).

### 114/07 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor J. Gale declared an Interest in item 7 Planning Matters.  
Councillor T. Batson declared an Interest in item 7a and 7c Planning Matters.

### 115/07 STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS- ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 ' MARCH 2007

Members agreed to Approve the following;-

- a) The Statements of Accounts and for the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer to Sign and Date the Document.
- b) The Annual Governance Statement and that each question be answered with a yes and for the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer to Sign and Date the Document
- c) The report of the Internal Auditor and note that a Risk Assessment Statement and Financial Risk Assessment Reports are still outstanding. Clerk to report to an appropriate Town Council Meeting.
- d) The appointment of Mr M. Ackroyd to carry out a mid-term review of the Town Council's Accounting Procedures and the regular end of year internal audit at a fee to be agreed by the Town Council.

### 116/07 REPORT OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2007

The Clerk reported that only two members of the committee attended the Meeting. One urgent item required the attention of the Town Council; which was the proposed trip to the 'Wet n Wild' water park on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2007. Members agreed to financially support this event subject to a £3 contribution per person attending (Adult and child) being collected prior to the visit.

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN .... :::



**117/07 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD** \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL TO 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY  
**2007**

Members agreed to:-

- a) Accept the report
- b) For the Clerk to transfer up to £18,000 from the current account into a high interest savings account, transferring £1,500 each month (30 days notice) from the high savings account to the current account to cover monthly outgoings. Clerk to update at the next Town Council meeting.

**118/07 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS**

That approval be given for payment of Invoice Numbers 018 to 023 in the sum of £1434.94.

Councillor Gale left the Meeting while the following items were discussed. Members agreed for Councillor Hayton to act as Chairman for the following Agenda item

**119/07 PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) Application 3/2007/0601 at Fell View, Smith Street - item withdrawn
- b) Application 3/2007/0576 at 10 Deerness Estate. Members agreed to raise no objections.
- c) Application 3/2007/0419 at Land adjacent to 5 Inkerman Road. Members agreed to raise no objections.
- d) Application 3/2007/0532 at 6 Ironworks Road. Members agreed to raise no objections.
- e) Application 3/2007/0534 at plot 3, Smith Street. Members agreed to raise no objections.

Councillor Hayton stood down as Chairman.

Councillor Gale returned to the Meeting and resumed his position as Chairman **120/07 NOTICE OF VACANCY IN OFFICE OF TOWN COUNCILLORS** The Chairman updated the meeting that twenty three Electors had requested an Election to fill the two vacancies for Councillors. If an Election is called it will take place no later than 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007 (Awaiting confirmation from the Returning Officer). Estimated Costs if an Election is to be held will be £4000 (approx). If an Election is not held the Vacancies will be filled by co-option.

**121/07 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

No Report

**SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN**

**122/07 CLERK'S REPORT**

a) Members had previously been circulated with a copy of Wear Valley District Council's Consultation on the Local Development Framework. Members requested the Clerk to arrange for an Officer from WVDC to attend a Special Meeting to discuss the LDF and answer any questions from the Town Council Members. Date to be agreed with the Chairman.

b) A letter had been received from Durham County Council regarding Highway works on the B6297 Wolsingham Road which commenced on 20<sup>th</sup> August and would last for one week.

**123/07 MEMBERS REPORTS**

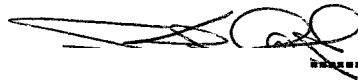
a) Councillor Hayton reported on his Meeting with the Hilltop Villages and the possibility of a Clustering arrangement to include other surrounding Villages (re Sunnyside, Thornley and Satley etc).

b) Members agreed to review the membership of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. It was further agreed that Councillors Day, Graham, Green, Rowland and G Stevens would serve on the Committee,

**124/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007 commencing at 6.30pm.

The Meeting Finished at 7.40pm



SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN .....