

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 21st January 2014 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chairman), A. Blacker, L. Brown, J. Fowler, A. Green, R. Grogan, E. Hindmoor, M. Hird, L. Rowland and P. Stokes.

Also Present: County Councillor J. Hart and G. F. Smith (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor C. Umpelby

001/14 Declaration of interest

Councillor J. Gale – agenda item 18 (b) Clerk's Report

002/14 Minutes of a the Ordinary meeting held on 19th November 2013

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

003/14 Matters arising

i) Donate £250 (N-Power Community Fund) to Castle Bank Home, Tow Law towards outings and entertainment (letter from Mrs H. Doherty, 8 Elm Park Terrace).

ii) Balance in N-Power Fund £2502.11

iii) Councillor Stokes once again raised the issue that the temporary mast at High West Farm was still in place. (County Councillor Hart to report to the relevant DCC Officer).

iv) Christmas Trees – Defer to Finance Committee for further discussion.

v) Staff Security in the Community Centre (Councillor Grogan) – need copies of risk assessments for Community Centre (Councillor Rowland) Internal cctv system and external door access system. (Councillor Fowler) Report to the next Town Council meeting.

004/14 Police Report

No report received.

005/14 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Hart reported on the following:-

- DCC Neighbourhood Warden Service – improve visibility in the Town
- Position of 30mph signs are in correct position to Department of Transport guidelines.
- PB Event held 7th December 2013
- Funding various Tow Law schemes

006/14 Representation by Residents

None

007/14 Planning matters

A) Planning Application

Application 3/2013/0464 by Mr A Nicholson for New entrance, Greenhouse, Polytunnel and storage building at Land to the South East of Highfields, Tow Law.

DECISION: Members agreed to object to the proposed development and for the application to be referred to the Area Planning Committee for determination.

B) Neighbourhood Planning

The Clerk reported on the following:-

- DCC had agreed the Neighbourhood Area Statement and Designated Area.
- Next meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Working Group organised by CDALC was Thursday 30th January 2014 (to be attended by Councillor Rowland and the Clerk). Further update at the next Town Council meeting.

008/14 **Accounts for payment**

That approval be given for the payment of vouchers 73 to 86 in the sum of £3603.25. Copy of report attached to these minutes.

009/14 **Expenditure Report 1st April to 31st December 2013**

Members noted the following details:-

DETAILS	£.P
1. Staff Costs	11836.47
Admin Expenses	437.82
Office Rent	2700.00
2. N-Power Community Fund	1400.00
Audit fees	282.25
Councillor/Staff Training	333.24
Donations	19.25
3. Allotments	1269.10
4. Miscellaneous	2475.88
Christmas Activities	748.74
Holiday Activities	350.00
Grants	1112.00
Sub Total	22964.75
Vat	640.79
Total	23605.54

010/14 **Setting the Precept for 2014/15**

Members agreed to:-

- Accept the draft budget for 2014/15 (estimated figures of £32567.00)
- To look for further cost savings throughout the financial year (work to allotments, Beehive Coke Ovens, strimming paths etc)
- Consider the report prepared by the Clerk showing percentage increases, reduction in DCC Grant and Increase in Tax Base.
- Increase the Precept request from £25063 to £28005.27 plus the DCC Grant of £6424.00, therefore total income of £34429.27.

011/14 **Tow Law Town Plan**

A) Provision of Car Park – County Council Land

The Clerk reported on an e-mail (dated 17th January 2014) from DCC (Jill Angus) "I apologise for the delay in response. The internal consultations still need to be carried out in order to confirm that we are able to offer you a lease on this land. As soon as I have confirmation that we are able to Let I will forward Heads of Terms for the lease. Please note that we will need Cabinet authority in order to grant a lease any longer than 21 years. Please can you confirm that a 25 year lease is still required".

Members agreed that the Clerk should confirm to the County Council that a 25 year lease is still required.

B) Provision of Play Areas

Councillor Rowland brought Members up to date with the progress of this project.

Meeting was held (20th Jan 2014) with Helen Horner (Proludic) to discuss how to deliver a public consultation within the Town

Funding from County Councillor John Hart

Funding from Home Group that was ring fenced

012/14

Sports Recreation Centre

The Clerk reported that no further communication had been received from the County Council.

Members agreed to remove this item from future agendas.

013/14

Area Action Partnership

Date of next AAP Board meeting:-

23rd January 2014 at Crook (Chairman, Vice Chair and Clerk to attend)

Future Meetings:-

13th March 2014 at Crook.

014/14

Millennium Green Trust

Councillor Hird reported on the following:-

- Funding from County Councillor Hart
- DCC Civic Pride Officer ("poop scoops" not to be used by volunteer group)
- Regular contact with DCC Clean and Green team
- Next litter pick session is on 26th January 2014 (subject to weather conditions)

Councillor Rowland reported on the following:-

- Neighbourhood Wardens (DCC) were monitoring the area
- Contact made with Officer (DCC) who empties dog bins in Tow Law (agreed reporting procedure)

015/14

Commemorating Centenary of World War One

a) Renovation and Conservation of War Memorial

b) Community to engage in WW1 Commemorations (ie exhibitions, music, history, plans and community events)

Members agreed to set up a Working Party (consisting of Councillors Gale, Grogan, Hindmoor, Rowland and Stokes) and to report to the next Town Council meeting.

016/14

Chairman's report

No Report

017/14

Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following:-

a) E-mail from Janine Ann Ross- Blakey "I am currently trying to raise a banner group in Tow Law. They should have four banners. Two old ones (Black Prince and West Thornley) which are held at Redhills, but the other two (Inkerman and Hedley Hope) are now sadly gone.

I would like to have a meeting with you".

Members agreed to invite her to the next Town Council meeting (Clerk to make the necessary arrangements).

b) Letter from Tow Law Community Association “The clock at the front of the Community Centre building has been missing a hand for a number of years. A quotation has been received for the repair at a cost of £698.00 plus vat (Smith of Derby Ltd). The Association is able to contribute 50% of the repair. Please can you consider this request for your help”.

Members agreed for the Clerk to place an order with Smith of Derby Ltd to carry out the repairs at a cost of £698.00 plus vat and accept the 50% contribution from the Community Association. Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

c) N-Power Community Fund – Application Forms

Members agreed to defer the following applications for funding to the next Finance Committee for their consideration and report the recommendations to the next Town Council meeting:-

- Support the youth group in making their own skate ramps
- Support a “one act” pantomime to be held in the Community Centre in December 2014.
- Support the Easter play scheme for workshops of sport and dance at the Community Centre.
- Support set-up costs for a textile group which meet every 4th Saturday in the month at the Community Centre.
- Damion Anderson, 5 Atlee Estate to upgrade motor cross bike to complete in local and national rallies.

018/14

Members Reports

CCTV (Councillor Rowland)

Councillor Rowland reported that she had met with County Councillor John Hart and he had agreed to allocate £2000 from the Neighbourhood Budget (DCC) towards the cost of maintaining the cctv system for the Town.

Newsletter – next edition (Councillor Rowland)

Councillor Rowland reported that the deadline for any articles for the next edition of the Council’s newsletter would be the first week in February. Article on the Civic Christmas tree to include thank you to Councillor Hird, Councillor Rowland Richard Batson and Marc Wolfe for their help in erecting the tree and also the idea of decorating the tree of “Remembrance” by Tanya Macfadden,

019/14

Date of next meeting

The next Ordinary meeting of Tow Law Town Council will be held on Tuesday 18th February 2014 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting finished at 8.30pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 4