

ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

PO Box 2000, Atherstone, Warwickshire, CV9 1YN
 Communications: Telephone and Fax 01827 720829
 Email clerk@atherstone-tc.gov.uk

DOCUMENT	MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VENUE	Town Council Chamber, North Street
DATE AND TIME	Wednesday 18 th . January 2012 start 7.00pm
IN ATTENDANCE	Town Councillors: Shaw, Wright, Vickers, Singh, McElhone, Jarvis, Clews, L Freer, R Freer, Pickard, Members of the public:, Mrs Clay, Mrs Wrigley,
APOLOGIES	Town Cllrs: G Davis, M Davis, Macchi
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Shaw
CLERK	Mr G Day

Item		Actions	Notes
1.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the Town Cllrs apologies as listed above, proposed Cllr Vickers, seconded Cllr Wright.</p>		
2.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>To be taken as and when.</p>		
3.	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Mrs Clay, to the meeting, and wished her a Happy Birthday.</p> <p>Cllr Vickers presented a poster, to the meeting, regarding an open day on the canal, due for the next day.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis commented on the current police presence, in the town, and the recent amount of robberies.</p> <p>Cllr Wright stated that he believed that there are presently extra officers, including plain clothes ones, in the area.</p> <p>Cllr Singh asked how many shops still had retail radios.</p> <p>Cllr Wright replied that the police were looking for funding for the repair of many of the radios.</p> <p>Cllr Pickard stated that, at the Area Forum, the police had stated that their presence in the town was going to be better, but the public wanted to see a uniformed presence.</p> <p>Cllr R Freer stated that as a ratepayer he was not satisfied with the police performance, and that he believed that they took every chance to withdraw from meeting the public.</p> <p>Cllr R Freer asked if the recent robbery was caught on CCTV, Cllr Shaw replied that a PCSO was in the monitoring room at the time, and the pictures were sent directly to police HQ.</p> <p>Cllr R Freer stated that there were 23 retail radios, purchased by the Town Council, he asked that as they were not being used, that Cllr Shaw should ask for them to be returned.</p> <p>Cllr Wright stated that most of the shops now wanted radios.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer stated that, since the closure of the police station, crime had increased, she asked that this be put on a future agenda, she added</p> <p>P107 1/12</p>		

	<p>that the public wanted conspicuous policing. Cllr R Freer asked that the subject of retail radios be put on a future agenda. Cllr Jarvis noted that there were always police to be seen in Nuneaton. Cllr Clews reported that there was a large tree at Westwood Road that had fallen over the fencing. Cllr R Freer said that he would investigate and liaise with the clerk. Cllr Wright noted that the police station is still actually operational. Cllr Pickard asked if it was still open to the public, Cllr Shaw replied that the public should go to the one-stop-shop.</p>		
4.	<p>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 4th. January 2012 It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Vickers, seconded Cllr Singh. Cllr R Freer abstained.</p>		
5.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 4th. January 2012. P103, item 6 Cemetery working group arranged for Wednesday 25th January at 8.00pm. P103, item 9, E20, reply received, E63 Correspondence. P104, item 12b, leak now repaired in Cemetery (under path in Old section) P104, item 12b, report received from Merlin Lighting, cheque sent. P104, item 13, reply re. electrical cables on Market Square, E42 correspondence. Cllr Jarvis noted that on the recent market cables were not protected adequately, It was resolved to send the reply to Hinckley Council and report that holes were not covered when the bollards were removed. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Vickers.</p>		
6.	<p>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4th. January 2012 It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Vickers, seconded Cllr Jarvis.</p>		
7.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4th. January 2012. There were no matters arising.</p>		
8.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED Item 8, Mrs Wrigley, history of Ball Game, to be distributed with next pack. Item 10, Cllr Shaw noted that he attended the Annual Meeting, and that other Parishes had issues with dog fouling. E3. Cllr Jarvis stated that the Jubilee Committee had applied for a beacon. E42. Market Square electrics, it was resolved to get costs for the Church lights from the contractor mentioned. Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr Shaw.</p>		
9.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS a) Planning Lists – 50, 51 P108 1/12</p>		

	<p>b) Consultations PAP/2011/0648, Meadow Street Park and Gardens, Meadow Street, Atherstone Works to trees protected by a tree preservation order. It was resolved that the Town Council had no objection to this application, if outside of the nesting season. Proposed Cllr Clews, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p> <p>PAP/2011/0653, 30 Margaret Road, Atherstone Replacement double garage including DIY area. Cllr Jarvis presented a petition received by him, regarding the application. Cllr L Freer asked for a copy to be sent to her. It was resolved to object to this application, on the grounds of the scale of the development, namely the footprint of the proposed garage compared to that of the property. The Council also asked that any successful application should have the condition included that no business can be carried out, and ask that the use of the area for DIY be defined. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Jarvis</p> <p>c) Decisions PAP/2011/0523, Whetstone Bros Ltd. Manor Road, Mancetter, 12 months extension to existing permission-granted PAP/2011/0533, 3 Bracebridge Road, Atherstone Two storey extension to rear-granted PAP/2011/0583, Unit 16D Carlyon Road, Atherstone Change of use to leisure-temporary grant of permission PAP/2011/0579, 137 Royal Meadow Drive, Atherstone Side and rear single and two storey extension-granted</p> <p>d) Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings None</p> <p>e) Other Reply from Jeff Brown , shop fronts and roller shutters. It was resolved that Cllr McElhone would assist the clerk to reply to the letter, as the roller shutter was not a lattice design, and the housing box had been replaced, not as stated in the report. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Clews</p> <p>f) Licensing Matters None</p>		
10.	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>a) Clerks Report The clerk stated that a report on the hedgelaying had to be sent to the funder by 1st April. It was resolved to commission a phase 1 wildlife survey, to finish the project, and assess the next phase. (cost £800). Proposed Cllr Clews, seconded Cllr Singh. The clerk reported that at the request of the chair, he had started issuing a weekly diary of Council meetings and events, to be circulated on Fridays or Monday morning. The clerk presented a draft reply from NWBC, regarding support for the Diamond Jubilee. The clerk reported that he had been requested to have an informal officials meeting , with Martin Gibbins, of Warks County Council, this was agreed.</p> <p>P109 1/12</p>		

	<p>b) Representatives Reports Cllr Shaw presented a draft list of work for his area, Atherstone Division, from County. Cllr R Freer stated that part of the problem with the Watling Street footpath, was that the County did not cut back the hedges, he added that this path used to be a way for the Fire Service to the back of the industrial estate. Cllr L Freer added that it also used to give access to a farm. It was resolved to contact the County and ask for the hedges to be cut. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer. Cllr Shaw gave a review of the current year, for the area, Atherstone Division, including; Dropped crossings and V-A Signs in Coleshill Road, review and installation of Freight Quality Partnership signing scheme, lighting Mythe View/ Lancaster Close, speed limit reduction Sheepy Road.</p>		
11.	<p>CEMETERY MATTERS a) Memorial applications approved by clerk E1230 Sarah Bartlam additional inscription RC E534 Rosa and Thomas Haynes add inscription and kerbs</p> <p>b) Recent Burials in Atherstone Cemetery Arthur Holland E632 re-open to double depth Molly Joyce Challis B180 new triple Coral Sarson A217 – re open for ashes</p>		
12.	<p>CONTRACT MATTERS Play areas monthly inspection reports There were no major issues.</p>		
13.	<p>MARKET SQUARE It was agreed to contact Hinckley & Bosworth Council, for a current market report, and to arrange a meeting to discuss the current status.</p>		
14.	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FUNDING GROUP The Funding working group was not held due to an insufficient quorum, the next meeting is Thursday 9th. February at 11.00am. The clerk gave an update regarding the parents group for Westwood Road. It had been determined that the applicant at Ridge Lane had been NWBC, with help on the consultation from a parents group, in this case the Town Council would be the applicant. It was resolved to ask the Piecemaster if the area could be purchased by the Town Council, prior to any further action, Cllrs L Freer and R Freer declared an interest and left the meeting. Proposed Cllr Shaw, seconded Cllr Jarvis.</p>		
15.	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM APPRAISAL GROUP It had been recommended that training be provided for all Councillors and the clerk presented a proposal from WALC, to be carried out at the Town Council offices. Cllr Pickard stated that no appraisals should be carried out until after training, and that the whole system should be reviewed. It was resolved to arrange the training and refer back to the working group after the completion. Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr Clews. Voting was 6 for and 2 against. P110 1/12</p>		

16.	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE GROUP</p> <p>A draft budget had been circulated, as revised at the working group, (to be finalised after year end). It had been recommended that the Precept remained at £182,510.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Jarvis and seconded by Cllr Vickers that the draft budget and the Precept figure be accepted, a counter proposal was made by Cllr R Freer and seconded by Cllr Pickard, that this was held over until the next meeting. The counter proposal was defeated by 4 votes to 3, the original proposal was carried by 6 votes to 2.</p>		
17.	<p>REPORT FROM BALL GAME MEETING</p> <p>Cllr Wright reported that he had joined the Ball Game Committee, as an individual. It was agreed that Cllrs Vickers and Singh would attend as non-executive representatives. Cllr Vickers reported that there had been some Health & Safety issues, but the game was going ahead, with less police presence and more stewards</p>		
18.	<p>ANNUAL DINNER</p> <p>The clerk reported that Ruby Chambers had accepted the nomination for Honorary Citizen.</p> <p>Cllr Shaw stated that he was working on the list of attendees.</p>		
19.	<p>FLORAL DISPLAYS, ORDERS FOR YEAR</p> <p>The clerk reported that the present contractor had suggested a summer planting of red, white and blue flowers, at this stage to cost no more than last year, planting costs to remain the same, and watering to rise by £3 per visit (fuel costs). It was decided to suspend Standing Orders (Financial Regs), at the next meeting, in order to consider the one quotation.</p>		
20.	<p>CARNIVAL COMMITTEE, REQUEST FOR FUNDING</p> <p>The clerk reported that the support documentation had not been received, it was agreed to wait until it was supplied.</p>		
21.	<p>TICKET MACHINE, ATHERSTONE RAILWAY STATION</p> <p>Cllr R Freer stated that he agreed with the e-mail sent by Cllr Jarvis, regarding the problems with the machine and loss of revenue. It was resolved to forward the document to Network Rail. Proposed Cllr Shaw, seconded Cllr Singh.</p>		
22.	<p>WARWICKSHIRE, SUPERFAST BROADBAND</p> <p>Cllr Shaw presented a briefing note from Area Committee regarding Superfast Broadband, and urged Cllrs to persuade people to sign up as champions. It was agreed to put up a notice and display on the website.</p>		
23.	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>It was resolved to refer this to the General Policy Committee to call a working group. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p>		
24.	<p>ALLOTMENT MATTERS</p> <p>The clerk reported that waste was being dumped on the car park area at Gypsy Lane. It was agreed that if the car park was not completed, by the</p> <p>P111 1/12</p>		

	<p>end of the month a cost be obtained from Peter Richards.</p> <p>A request had been received to erect a poly tunnel on a plot at Gypsy Lane, it was agreed to allow this, subject to standard conditions.</p> <p>Several complaints had been received about a tenant, at Gypsy Lane, having a bonfire and drinking 'party', after dark. It was resolved to send a warning letter, proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Vickers.</p> <p>The clerk reported that a substantial amount of soil and debris had been produced at Merevale, while clearing the new area, it could be spread around the remaining area of trees, or a mound created in front of the canal bridge to improve site security. This would cost an extra £300 to hire machinery, it was resolved to approve the extra cost and create the mound. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Clews.</p> <p>The clerk noted that the next allotment group meeting was on Thursday 16th. February, at 11.00am, starting with the Bracebridge Association. It was agreed to find all likely costs of a lease for the site to the association.</p> <p>The clerk noted that the North Warks Allotment Federation, was to be held at the Rose Inn, Baxterley, on 26th. January at 7.30pm. It was agreed that all Cllrs could attend.</p>		
25.	<p>1921 BALL GAME, CIRCULATED INFORMATION</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Cllr R Freer for providing the historical information. It was suggested that an information board could be erected in the Cemetery and the Market Square. It was agreed that further information should be collected and referred to the General Policy Committee to call a working group.</p>		
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.00pm.</p>		

Signed Chairman of Atherstone Town Council.