

ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

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DOCUMENT	MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VENUE	Town Council Chamber, North Street
DATE AND TIME	Wednesday 29 th . February 2012 start 7.00pm
IN ATTENDANCE	Town Councillors: R Freer, Shaw, Vickers, Barker, L Freer, Singh, Clews, McElhone, Jarvis, Pickard Public: Mr I Gudger, Mr T Sunderland (both Servicom)
APOLOGIES	Town Cllrs: Peat, Macchi, Wright
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Shaw
CLERK	Mr G Day

Item		Actions	Notes
1.	APOLOGIES It was resolved to accept the Town Cllrs apologies as listed above, proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr Barker.		
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To be taken as and when.		
3.	PUBLIC SESSION Mr Gudger and Mr Sunderland gave a presentation on digital radios, suitable for a retail radio scheme. The following points were raised and discussed; Digital radios give greater voice clarity, Radios are encrypted and have an emergency button. The radios are similar to the system used by the Police, and have an increased battery life of 50% compared to the old retail radios. The base station, which would be sited in NWBC, identifies the caller, can tell if individual radios are switched on, and can disable a radio, if lost or stolen. Radios can be switched on remotely, if agreed by the user, and an automatic alarm incorporated if the radio is not used for a set time. The base units can interrupt other callers. There would be a dedicated frequency, with one base unit, but with a repeater unit, 2 frequencies could be used and the coverage extended to Lister Road and Carlyon Road. By connecting through the internet other towns could be covered. If the sets were rented, there would be an upgrade after 3 years if the technology improved . The cost of renting each set was approximately £14.50, with the base unit at £16.00. The repeater unit would cost £3000 to buy. There were smaller radios available, (similar to mobile phones), at more cost. Servicom would carry out coverage trials, prior to any decision. It would take about 4 weeks to introduce a system. P128 2/12		

	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7.55pm to allow for Servicom to pack up and leave the meeting. The meeting re-started at 8.00pm.</p>		
4.	<p>RETAIL RADIOS, TOWN CENTRE SECURITY A discussion took place regarding the presentation from Servicom, It was resolved to organise a joint meeting with NWBC, the local Police and Shopwatch, then report back to the Town Council. Proposed Cllr Singh, seconded Cllr Barker. Cllr R Freer reported that the Airwaves were now open again at Rugby, following intervention from the local MP. Cllr Shaw commented that shops wanting retail radios should also join Shopwatch.</p>		
5.	<p>MARY PORTAS REVIEW PILOTS A discussion took place regarding the possibility of applying to become one of the 12 national Portas Pilots. It was resolved to “keep a watching brief” at this point, proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr McElhone. Cllr Shaw voted against.</p>		
6.	<p>REVIEW OF CEMETERY CHARGES. The clerk presented a comparison of charges against other neighbouring cemeteries, plus a report of costs and income, projected up to the end of March. It was resolved to keep all charges at the same rate, and to publicise this in a press release, which would also incorporate the intention to provide an ashes scattering area. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr R Freer. Cllr Clews reported that she had received an offer to cut the bushes back in the future scattering area, free of charge, but the Council would have to get the arisings taken away. The clerk stated that a willow tree would still have to be removed and he could get costs to remove the tree and all arisings. This was agreed.</p>		
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.40pm.</p>		

Signed Chairman of Atherstone Town Council.