

ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

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DOCUMENT	MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VENUE	Town Council Chamber, North Street
DATE AND TIME	Wednesday 2 nd . October 2013 start 7.00 pm
IN ATTENDANCE	<p>Town Councillors: Jarvis, Clews, G Davis, M Davis, Shaw, Barker, Singh, Pickard, Peat, Barnard, L Freer, R Freer.</p> <p>Borough Cllr: L & N Dirveiks</p> <p>Public: Mr G Lees (Pegasus Group)</p>
APOLOGIES	<p>Town Cllrs: McElhone</p> <p>County: Cllr Mclauchlan</p> <p>Public: Mrs Clay, Mrs Wrigley</p>
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Singh
CLERK	Mr G Day

Item		Actions	Notes
1.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the Town Council apologies. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr G Davis.</p>		
2.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS FOR DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</p> <p>To be taken as and when.</p>		
3.	<p>PRESENTATION BY PEGASUS GROUP (land near Holly Lane)</p> <p>Mr Lees, a planning consultant for Pegasus Group, acting for Bloor Homes and Merevale Estates, gave a presentation about a proposed housing development either side of Old Holly Lane, near to the Aldi depot.</p> <p>There would be a total of 660 houses built, consisting of low density 2 storey family housing. They would be addressing issues such as traffic, schools provision, and doctors capacity. He was currently working on the outline application.</p> <p>Pegasus would like feedback on the types of housing and any local issues. A public consultation exercise would take place, incorporating an exhibition. Pegasus would like the views of the Town Council as to how/where and when this could be organised.</p> <p>Cllr Barker stated that the railway and canal bridges near to the A5 island were a dangerous bottleneck already.</p> <p>P64 10/13</p>		

	<p>Mr Lees said that they will be discussing this with County Highways and planning.</p> <p>He stated that there would be 40% affordable housing, with a mix of types of houses.</p> <p>Cllr Clews asked whether there would be any bungalows, Mr Lees replied that this was possible.</p> <p>Cllr R Freer asked about “pepper-potting” of the affordable housing, Mr Lees replied that this was always a requirement.</p> <p>Mr Lees stated that the total area was about 60 acres.</p> <p>Cllr Shaw said that there was a flooding issue in the area, Mr Lees replied that there would be a series of holding tanks which would control the run off of water causing flooding on the estate and elsewhere.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis stated that the consultation must be local, accessible, and run into the evening. Mr Lees said that they would usually run from 2pm to 8pm, people would be able to reply through a website, and handbooks would be available incorporating a reply form.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer raised a concern that HGVs would be using the estate roads due to the traffic access problems from the A5.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mr Lees for his presentation and he left the meeting.</p>		
<p>4.</p>	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>Cllr Clews said that scaffolding had been recently been removed from a building in Coleshill Street leaving behind a mess on the pavement and road.</p> <p>Cllr Barnard said that there was a potential traffic issue when leaving the Sheepy Road car park, with large conifer trees obscuring the Croft Road junction.</p> <p>Cllr Barnard asked about the possibility of getting street lights left on all night, County Cllr N Dirveiks said that it was important that people wrote to the County, about the issue prior to a forthcoming review. This could be done through him.</p> <p>Cllr Shaw asked about the cutting of some trees on the path between Holte Road and Friars Gate, which was obscuring the lighting. County Cllr N Dirveiks replied that he was waiting for a reply from NWBC.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer presented a leaflet which had come from the Coventry Solihull and Warwickshire Resilience Team.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer reported that recently it took 1 hour for an ambulance to attend an injured rugby player, who was finally taken in an air ambulance.</p> <p>Cllr Pickard said that he make enquiries, as this was not acceptable.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer said that she had contacted County Cllr McLauchlan about dirty road signs, it was agreed that a letter should be sent to County Highways.</p> <p>Cllr R Freer stated that this was a job that could be done by the local wheelie bin cleaners, with their pressure washers.</p> <p>Borough Cllr L Dirveiks said that the display cases at the station were not waterproof and documents did not last very long.</p> <p>Cllr Shaw reported that the street cleaner, who had been employed on a zero hours contract, was no longer working in the town.</p>		
	<p>P65 10/13</p>		

5.	<p>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</p> <p>County Cllr N Dirveiks reported that would be meeting at Carlyon Road, with Highways, accompanied by Cllr Pickard.</p> <p>Borough Cllr L Dirveiks reported that NWBC were responding to requests about hedge cutting and falling leaves.</p> <p>Cllr M Davis reported that the new recycling bins were now being distributed.</p> <p>Cllr Pickard stated that every household should have received a copy of the special North Talk. Cllr Jarvis asked that copies be obtained and made available in the office. Cllr Pickard said that the clerk should contact Karen Barrow.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer proposed that the Town Council should write to R Dobbs at NWBC stating how good a job the street cleaner had been doing, who had pride in his work. This was seconded by Cllr R Freer and approved.</p> <p>Cllr Shaw asked that County Cllr N Dirveiks investigated the position of £60k of approved projects in the town from his last year as County Cllr.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer said that yellow zig-zag lines should have been put in Margaret Road because of parking issues by the school.</p>		
6.	<p>Cllr Barker took the chair.</p> <p>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 18th. SEPTEMBER 2013</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the minutes. Proposed Cllr Shaw, seconded Cllr Davis.</p>		
7.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 18th. SEPTEMBER 2013.</p> <p>Item 7, E11. Tree at Barnsley Close photograph taken and e-mail from complainant. It was resolved to contact the Piecemaster to define the boundaries of the play area, and clarify responsibility. Proposed Cllr Singh, seconded Cllr M Davis. Reply to be sent.</p> <p>Item 9 (4). Market Treasure Hunt. Outwoods School had been visited by Cllr Clews and the deputy clerk for prize-giving on 27.9.13.</p> <p>Item 16. Nomad camera, weight issues had been raised by County Lighting, it was resolved to ask County Lighting to provide a new higher lamp post, ATC to share the costs. Proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr Singh.</p>		
8.	<p>INVOICES FOR APPROVAL AND CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE</p> <p>List of cheques presented, numbers 106319 to 106333 for approval.</p> <p>The clerk reported that there was a query over cheque number 106326, for the treatment of the cemetery shelter, as the roof had not been done, it was agreed that the cheque would not be signed until this was investigated.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis stated that the cemetery gates had not been locked at the correct time on several recent occasions, it was resolved that the gatekeepers cheque would be with held, pending the receipt of an explanation. Proposed Cllr G Davis, seconded Cllr Barker.</p> <p>P66 10/13</p>		

	<p><i>List of cheques above £500.00</i></p> <p>Employees salaries £2473.33 Warks County Council (pensions) £769.32 HMRC £2249.90 Harvey Pointon £870.00 Atherstone Theatre Workshop £652.91 Atherstone Common Rights Proprietors £665.38</p>		
9.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</p> <p>1. Atherstone & Mancetter Churches, request to use the Market Square for carol service on 21st December. It was resolved to approve this subject to the normal conditions of proof of insurance and clean up any mess afterwards. Proposed Cllr Clews, seconded M Davis. Clerk to ask if they needed any help with advertising.</p> <p>E4. Flooding pressure group, it was agreed to reply making an expression of interest.</p> <p>E41. Funding request reply from Atherstone Town FC. It was resolved to write back asking them to use the correct documentation and provide the proof of insurance cover and last approved accounts. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr M Davis.</p> <p>E53. Cemetery complaint, regarding grass cutting and topping up of graves. The clerk said he had explained the decision already taken by the Council about the grass cutting. He recommended that in future topping up of graves should only take place from the direction of the clerks, who would check them afterwards. This was agreed, clerk to send reply.</p> <p>E58. The clerk to explained that he had been invited to attend an officers meeting at WALC, regarding the Local Councils Charter. It was resolved that the clerk should attend, proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr G Davis.</p> <p>E63. Condition of cemetery benches The clerk circulated a report, it was agreed that bench number 1 should be repaired, and bench 17 should be removed, with the family being informed.</p>		
10.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE ISSUED (available in office)</p>		
11.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>a) Planning Lists –P53 09/13</p> <p>b) Consultations</p> <p>PAP/2013/0439: Aldi Foodstore Ltd, Holly Lane - Proposed temporary parking for 90 spaces.</p> <p>P67 10/13</p>		

	<p>It was resolved to object to this application and to state that the surface should be of a permeable nature due to lack of drainage in the area Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p> <p>PAP/2013/0449: Land at Rowland Way, Atherstone – variation of condition no’s 2, 9 & 11 of planning permission PAP/2012/0297 relating to updated plan and house types; in respect of residential development for 88 dwellings with associated areas of landscaping and open space It was resolved that there was no comment on this application. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr Singh.</p> <p>PAP/2013/0475: 99 Witherley Road, Atherstone – Single storey front extension Cllrs L Freer and R Freer asked for a dispensation to remain in the meeting but not take part in the discussion and voting, this was agreed. It was resolved to approve this application if acceptable to the neighbours. Proposed Cllr M Davis, seconded Cllr Pickard.</p> <p>c) Decisions PAP/2013/0362, 2 Bracebridge Road, Double storey extension to rear and conservatory – granted.</p> <p>PAP/2013/0356, HSBC, 110 Long Street – works to fell trees in a conservation area – no objection to works.</p> <p>PAP/2012/0297, Land at Rowland Way, residential development for 88 dwellings with associated areas of landscaping and open space – granted.</p> <p>Additional decision SNN-0212013, street names and numbers – land at Lister Road/York Avenue – approved.</p> <p>d) Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings None at time of compilation</p> <p>e) Other None at time of compilation</p> <p>f) Licensing Matters None at time of compilation</p>		
12.	<p>REPORTS Financial Report (for information only)</p> <p>The clerk presented a draft budget report and bank reconciliation, for September. It was resolved that the grant to the Canal & River Trust should be booked against the normal grants section. Proposed Cllr Pickard, seconded Cllr Shaw.</p> <p>P68 10/13</p>		

The clerk reported that the annual audit return had been approved by the new external auditor. The conclusion notice would be displayed.

Clerk's Report

Request received from Mr Lakin plots 5c and 5d at Gypsy Lane allotments wanting permission to remove 2 dead trees, this was agreed but stating that it was at his own responsibility and all arisings should be correctly disposed of.

Pest Control, request from Mr Webster, to give Mr Ball a permit, and to add long netting to the permits. It was resolved to approve this but to stipulate both should be present when any activities took place, and they should provide copies of their insurance. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr R Freer. Cllr Clews abstained.

The clerk presented an offer received from Xmas lights installer, to hold prices for the next 3 years year, it was resolved to accept this offer, proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr Shaw.

The clerk reported that he had asked Steve Maxey about the promised meeting about the money from the Portas Fund. It had now been arranged for the 9th. October, starting at 5.30pm at the NWBC offices. Cllr Barker said that he would not be able to attend, due to a prior commitment.

The clerk presented a report from Cllrs Singh and Shaw, listing the current Christmas light positions and suggesting taking the number in Long Street up to 14. Clerk to contact the property owners. It was agreed to have a tree outside St Marys Church, clerk to liaise with the church and NWBC, and to make enquires to Merevale Estate and the Smithy Farm Shop for provision/cost of a tree. Costs to be obtained for the new crossings, including a "Welcome to Atherstone" sign, and white lights for the tree.

d) Representative's Reports

Cllr Clews stated that she had not had any information from the Charities meeting at St Marys.

Cllr Jarvis stated that the Car Show had been very successful.

Cllr Peat stated that all was OK at Gramer Cottages.

Cllr Shaw said that he was due to attend the annual meeting of WCR250 on 17th. October. He proposed that a letter be sent to Steve Maxey requesting funding to hold the next years meeting in Atherstone, this was seconded by Cllr M Davis and approved. Cllr Barker abstained. Cllr Singh reported that he had attended the Car Show, the Scouts AGM, and presented some of the allotment prizes, on site, on behalf of the Council.

Cllr Shaw said that there were many children wishing to join the Scouts etc. but they were very short of adult supervision.

13.	<p>RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR</p> <p>The clerk presented an e-mail received from Cllr Macchi and a letter from Cllr P Davies giving notice of their resignations, both quoting work commitments.</p> <p>The clerk reported that Dave Harris (NWBC) had been informed, following the formal presentation at this meeting a notice would be displayed, for 14 days asking if 10 electors wanted to claim an election. It was agreed to send a reply to P Davies.</p>		
14.	<p>MARKET SQUARE</p> <p>The clerk presented a request from Cllr Jarvis to use the Square for 2 Summer in the Square events, Cllr Jarvis asked for dispensation to remain in the meeting but not take part in the discussion and vote. It was resolved to approve the dispensation and the request, subject to the normal conditions of proof of insurance and clean up, proposed Cllr Singh, seconded Cllr G Davis.</p> <p>The clerk presented a request to use the Square for marching band practice, it was resolved to reply asking for clarification of dates and times, and requiring them to carry out a consultation with the residents around the Square, with the replies being submitted to the Council. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr R Freer, Cllr Shaw abstained.</p> <p>The clerk presented an e-mail from Dickens Night requesting funding and permission for a primary school pupil to help the Mayor switch on the lights. It was agreed to reply instructing them to use the Council's application form, with the usual proof of insurance and completed accounts.</p> <p>Cllr Shaw asked that Hinckley and Bosworth be contacted regarding a Christmas Market, this was agreed.</p> <p>Reply received from traders, this was noted.</p>		
	<p>It was agreed that, under Section 100A of the local Government Act 1972, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (<i>Prospective employees, details of the terms of contracts for the acquisition or disposal of property, or for the supply of goods or services, action to be taken in connection of the prevention of crime</i>), it is advisable in the public interest, as if members of the public were present during the consideration of such business, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act, that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr G Davis, seconded Cllr Pickard.</p>		
15.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (confidential)</p> <p>E54. Report received from an independent source regarding fibre optic repair. It was agreed to chase the requested testing results, and send to the independent company, clerk to follow up the original resolution requesting access to the NWBC site by Quadrant and the Town Council CCTV representatives.</p>		
<p>P70 10/13</p>			

16.	<p>ARCADE SHOPS UPDATE</p> <p>The clerk gave a short report on the latest correspondence from NWBC and Garner Canning.</p> <p>It was resolved that ATC would take over the employees on the contract date, NWBC would accept any liabilities up to that date, eg. holidays and outstanding claims. ATC would accept all liabilities from that date eg. length of service, redundancy entitlement. This to be recorded in the sale contract. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr M Davis.</p>		
17.	<p>QUOTE FOR WAR MEMORIAL FLORAL DISPLAYS</p> <p>The clerk reported the increased costs from the contractor to add the above, it was agreed to add this to the summer and winter planting, and the watering requirement. Proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr Singh.</p>		
18.	<p>QUOTE FOR CLEARING VACANT ALLOTMENT PLOTS</p> <p>The quote had not been received.</p>		
12.	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>Clerks Report (cont)</p> <p>The clerk reported costs given for the replacement of the church uplighters, Cllr Pickard asked for a dispensation to remain in the meeting but not take part in the discussion and voting, this was agreed. The clerk was asked to determine the maximum cost (for the next meeting) if all the work was required, to include protective grills for the lights, and to inform NWBC and the church of the proposed works.</p> <p>Quote for refurbishment of office ridge tiles, not yet received.</p>		
<p>The meeting closed at 9.20pm.</p>			

Signed Chairman of Atherstone Town Council