

ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

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DOCUMENT	MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VENUE	Town Council Chamber, North Street
DATE AND TIME	Wednesday 4th. December 2013 start 7.00 pm
IN ATTENDANCE	Town Councillors: G Davis, Barker, L Freer, R Freer, Barnard, Pickard, Clews, Jarvis, Peat, Singh, M Davis. Public: R Taylor Borough Cllr: L Dirveiks County Cllr: N Dirveiks
APOLOGIES	Town Cllrs: Shaw, McElhone. Borough & County Cllr: McLauchlan
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Singh
CLERK	Mr G Day

Item		Actions	Notes
1.	APOLOGIES It was resolved to accept the Town Council apologies. Proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr G Davis.		
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS FOR DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST To be taken as and when.		
3.	PUBLIC SESSION Cllr Jarvis said that there were still problems with the assisted collections for wheelie bins. Cllr M Davis and County Cllr N Dirveiks said that NWBC were still working on the re-organisation of the rounds, including assisted collections. Cllr L Freer said that the experienced personnel should have been used to cover around the areas. Cllr Clews stated that green bin collections had happened correctly, in her area, but red top ones had not. Cllr N Dirveiks said that in proportion to the large amount of collections, the errors were reasonably low. Cllr L Freer said that the red top bins may have been better used with cardboard in the bottom and glass in the top. Cllr Clews said that a bollard outside NFU had fallen over, on Dickens Night, when someone had leaned on it. Cllr Singh said how well Dicken's Night had gone, and his civic guests had been very happy. P92 12/13		

	<p>Cllr L Freer said that it had been a wonderful night. She commented that the alleyway from the bus station to Long Street was very dark and narrow. It was agreed to put this on a future agenda.</p>		
<p>4.</p>	<p>REPORTS FROM POLICE, BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</p> <p>A written report had been received from County Cllr McLauchlan, this was circulated and noted.</p> <p>County Cllr N Dirveiks reported that he had been dealing with traffic and lighting issues, there were issues with lighting for shift workers changing and travelling. There was a problem still at Friar's Gate where trees were blocking the lighting, although better now the leaves had started falling. The temporary repair of the kerbs, at Carlyon Road was lasting well, and would be extended towards the A5 next year.</p> <p>Borough Cllr L Dirveiks reported that the waste collections rounds were completely new, the recycling previously being done by contractors. There was a lot more recycling taking place than had been expected. Flats and multi-occupancy were a problem, and terraced houses, where there was limited space for bin storage.</p> <p>County Cllr N Dirveiks said that there was a problem at the junction of the A5 and Merevale Road, where the height restriction sign could only be seen when approaching from Tamworth, this caused HGVs to have to reverse back from the low bridge, he was contacting the Highways Authority. R Taylor said that Satnavs guided people that way.</p> <p>Cllr Dirveiks reported that the excessive speed of cars coming from the A5 slip road into Long Street, was an issue and he was investigating the position of the speed restriction change.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis said that there were still lights not working around the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>Cllr L Dirveiks said how good Dicken's Night had been.</p> <p>Cllr M Davis said that the ice rink had been very well used, he also stated that the major issue locally would be the new development.</p> <p>Cllr L Freer said the ice rink had been very good and should be used again.</p>		
<p>5.</p>	<p>ARCADE SHOPS UPDATE (RACHEL TAYLOR FROM GARNER CANNING IN ATTENDANCE)</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>Details of the terms of contracts for the acquisition or disposal of property, and Conditions and Terms of Employment</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 Barker, seconded Cllr R Freer.</p> <p>Rachel Taylor circulated a report and explained the main points, she said that the exchange of contracts may be delayed, by a few days, but the completion date should still be possible. Rachel to check that the duration of the reporting of community use was to be 5 years. It was resolved to proceed with the purchase and to authorise the Chairman and Vice-chairman to sign on behalf of the Council.</p> <p>P93 12/13</p>		

	<p>Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr G Davis. The copies of the contracts were then signed.</p> <p>The clerk reported that relief on NDR was not applicable even if alterations were being made.</p> <p>The clerk reported that the prospective tenant could not start until the completion date unless arranged by NWBC.</p> <p>The clerk asked who should meet with NWBC and the new employees, it was agreed that the 2 clerks would attend.</p> <p>It was agreed that a joint press release would be brought to the Town Council meeting of 18th. December for ratification.</p> <p>The meeting resumed open session.</p>		
6.	<p>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 20th. November 2013</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the minutes. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Pickard.</p>		
7.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 20th. November 2013.</p> <p>P90. Land at Holly Lane, reply received from Jeff Brown. Results of any consultation should be included when application presented, and use of another venue would be considered.</p> <p>P91. Agreement from NWBC for Airwaves Licence, ATC to pay one third and NWBC to pay two thirds for forthcoming year.</p>		
8.	<p>INVOICES FOR APPROVAL AND CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE</p> <p>Approval of old cheque 106239, correct invoice received.</p> <p>Approval of list of cheques, numbers 106375 to 106400.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis asked for cheques 106395 and 106396 to be discussed separately, it was resolved to approve the cheques 106329, 106375 to 106393, and 106396 to 106400, proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr Pickard. It was resolved to approve cheques 106394 and 106395, proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr Pickard, Cllr Jarvis asked for a named vote. Cllrs Jarvis and Clews voted against, all other Cllrs voted in favour.</p> <p><i>List of cheques over £500</i></p> <p><i>Employment (2) £2473.93</i></p> <p><i>Warks County Council Pensions £769.32</i></p> <p><i>Jubilee Fireworks £2400.00</i></p> <p><i>Smithy Farm Shop £3170.80 (5 cheques)</i></p> <p><i>NWBC £795.55</i></p> <p><i>NWBC £10000.00</i></p> <p><i>Garner Canning £94555.00</i></p> <p>Cllr Singh then left the meeting, and Cllr Barker took the chair, 8.30pm.</p>		
9.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</p> <p>E23.Council Tax Support Grant</p> <p>E42. The clerk reported that budget setting would take place in January, this would be independent of the support grant, the amount requested being adjusted when details of the grant and tax base were received.</p> <p>P94 12/13</p>		

	<p>E46. VAT Assurance visit E61. The clerk reported that HMRC were visiting on the 11th. December for an assurance visit.</p> <p>E52. Complaint regarding election material. It was agreed to respond that the complaint should be made to the local Labour group.</p>		
10.	CORRESPONDENCE ISSUED (available in office)		
11.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>a) Planning Lists – 45</p> <p>b) Consultations PAP/2013/0554, Mythe Bridge Farm, Ratcliffe Road, CV9 1DA Alterations to existing farmhouse to form two dwellings, conversion of existing agricultural brick built barns to residential dwellings, including demolition of surplus agricultural buildings. It was resolved that there was no objection to this application, proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr R Freer.</p> <p>PAP/2013/0543, 30 Margaret Road, CV9 1EF Single storey side extension and detached garage. The Town Council previously objected to this application, on the grounds of the scale of the development. The Council also asks that any successful application should have the condition included that no business can be carried out. Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr R Freer.</p> <p>PAP/2013/0545, 11 Oakfield Gardens, CV91SA Works to trees protected by a tree preservation order. It was resolved that there was no objection if outside of the nesting season. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p> <p>PAP/2013/0534, Hill House, 217 Long Street, CV9 1AH Works to trees protected by a tree preservation order. It was resolved that there was no objection if outside of the nesting season. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p> <p>c) Decisions None at time of compilation</p> <p>d) Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings None at time of compilation</p> <p>e) Other Letter from NWBC, extended parking times at ALDI, it was noted that the times had been changed as requested by the Town Council.</p> <p>f) Licensing Matters TEN, Red Lion, Dickens Night.</p> <p>P95 12/13</p>		

<p>12.</p>	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>Financial Report The clerk presented a copy of the budget report and bank reconciliation for November, it was resolved to accept the report, proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr Jarvis.</p> <p>Clerks Report The clerk gave an update on the Christmas Lights installation, it was agreed that next year the lights must be completed 2 weeks before Dicken’s night, with a trial switch on and left on for a short period for snagging.</p> <p>The clerk reported that a meeting with the allotment tenant, for cultivation problems, could not be arranged due to his work commitments, it was agreed that a Saturday morning could be agreed.</p> <p>The clerk reported that a Public Scrutiny meeting between the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable, would take place at the NWBC Chambers next Monday at 10.00am. This had only been discovered when someone had queried the venue. It was stated that the Area Forum had stated that the Memorial Hall would be used. Clerk to check and advise all Cllrs.</p> <p>It was resolved to contact The Commissioner and ask that the meeting be postponed due to the inadequate notice given to organisations, such as the Council and to the public generally. Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr R Freer.</p> <p>The clerk reported that a complaint had been made about a mattress in the brook at Merevale allotments, near to the culvert under the canal. It was agreed to have it removed and disposed of.</p> <p>Representative’s Reports The clerk reported that Cllr Singh had received thanks from the High Sherriff for Dicken’s Night. He would also be attending the Italian Market.</p> <p>Cllr Barker reported that the draft bill for HS2 had been released but contained some errors.</p> <p>The clerk reported that Cllr Singh had attended the WW1 meeting, it was resolved that Cllr Singh and Clews would be the Town Council representatives, proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr M Davis.</p>		
<p>13.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ELECTIONS All nominations stand as published.</p>		
<p>14.</p>	<p>MARKET SQUARE Anti-social behaviour , e-mail received from NWBC. The clerk reported that a request had been received from the Scouts to use the Square for a recruitment presentation in February or April 2014. It was resolved to allow this, proposed Cllr M Davis, seconded Cllr L Freer, clerk to ask if there would be any music.</p> <p>P96 12/13</p>		

15.	<p>DICKEN'S NIGHT STALLS</p> <p>It was resolved to write to the chairman regarding the concerns of shopkeepers over the road closure and the effect on their trade, plus the attitude shown to them. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer. Clerk to point out that the Town Council is a statutory consultee.</p>		
16.	<p>REVIEW OF CEMETERY REGULATIONS</p> <p>The clerk presented a draft copy of the reviewed regulations, changes to item 13. replacement benches, change to item 26, determination of ownership, change to item 46. certificates.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the draft document, proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p>		
17.	<p>OLD ALLOTMENT GARDENS</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>		
18.	<p>REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS</p> <p>clerk presented a draft copy of the reviewed regulations, some small changes to item 11.1, contract/orders, and an addition to 11.1, dealing with contracts/orders of £100 or less. It was resolved to approve the draft document, proposed Cllr M Davis, seconded Cllr R Freer.</p>		
19.	<p>HONORARY CITIZEN NOMINATIONS</p> <p>From correspondence item 1, Mr Kelvin Irons, proposed by Cllr L Freer, seconded by Cllr Jarvis. Lorna Dirveiks was proposed by Cllr Pickard, there was no seconder. Mr Irons was chosen as the Honorary Citizen.</p>		
20.	<p>CHURCH UPLIGHTERS</p> <p>The clerk reported that there had been no more replies from the Diocese specialist. It was resolved to investigate, in conjunction with the Diocese, the possibility of having roof lighting shining on the tower, at the expense of the Town Council. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p>		
21.	<p>ALLOTMENT RENT REVIEW</p> <p>The clerk circulated costings for 1 waste skip at each site per year, it was agreed to increase the rents to £20 per year at Merevale and £19 per year at Gypsy Lane (half plots).</p>		
	<p>The meeting went back into Private & Confidential</p>		
22.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (confidential)</p> <p>E45. Fibre Optic break E63. It was agreed to ask again for testing results on the repairs.</p>		
23.	<p>QUOTATIONS RECEIVED</p> <p>The clerk presented costings for waste collections at the Arcade Shops, NWBC, Briers and Tom White, It was resolved to appoint Tom White, clerk to determine length of contract, proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr M Davis.</p> <p>P97 12/13</p>		

	<p>The clerk presented costs for cleaning all cemetery paths and treating with moss killer. It was resolved to approve Atherstone Landscapes, proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr M Davis.</p> <p>The clerk presented a cost for cutting the trees at Westwood Road, it was resolved to appoint Atherstone Landscapes, proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr Barker.</p>		
24.	<p>EMPLOYMENT MATTERS</p> <p>The clerk presented advice received from WALC, regarding pensions for new employees, it was resolved to offer the existing pension scheme, proposed Cllr L Freer, seconded Cllr Jarvis.</p>		
	The meeting closed at 9.40pm.		

Signed Chairman of Atherstone Town Council