

GREATER WILLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting
1st April 2015

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Tinsley, Councillor Henfrey, Councillor Cogdon,
Councillor Todd, Councillor Bennett
Emma Mennouni, Community Services Officer
Helen Cogdon Town Clerk,

1. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Graham, Councillor Carr, Councillor Greensmith, Councillor Etherington and County Councillor Gunn.

Acceptance of apologies were proposed by Councillor Cogdon and seconded by Councillor Henfrey

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

As stated.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Janet Slootweg (Resident) said she had visited Spectrum Leisure and met with

Alison and Nigel Hirst. They are willing to cooperate in the South Dene project.

With regard to the work needed to improve the steps and the handrail. Spectrum have replaced the rail twice in the past.

Mrs Slootweg had said that the Environment Group would be willing to provide a new handrail for the steps.

Mrs Slootweg is now Chair of the Greater Willington Environmental Improvement Group.

Mr Ian Hirst, Spectrum CEO has said that when D.C.C start work they must gain permission to park in the Spectrum Car Park.

Councillor Cogdon said he would like clarification on who owns and is therefore responsible for the safety aspects of the steps.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING ON THE

4th MARCH 2015

The minutes of the 4th March 2015 as printed and circulated were approved and taken as a true record.

Proposed Councillor Todd
Seconded Councillor Cogdon

Matters arising (for information only)

Councillor Tinsley said with regard to Councillor Greensmith's report at the last meeting. Following subsequent meetings with additional information she appeared happy with the proposals to transfer the Breast Screening Services from Bishop Auckland to Darlington Hospital.

Councillor Tinsley said the Cricket Club Free Draw event had been well received with over three hundred people attending.
Chris Hardy had been awarded the Cricket Grounds Sponsorship for the year.

Funding from County Councillor Gunn to provide mobile CCTV equipment had been approved fairly quickly and would be used in hotspots around the area.

Councillor Todd said with regard to Item 6 John McKean was misspelt.

5. TO CONSIDER THE ALLOTMENT REPORT

Councillor Graham had asked Emma Mennouni, Community Services Officer, to present the allotment report as he was unable to attend this evening.
Emma Mennouni, Community Services Officer said;
Staff had written the Allotment Newsletter and wished to thank Councillor Etherington for his design work. The Newsletter had been distributed with the Allotment Invoices to all G.W.T.C tenants.
The majority of rents have been paid for Oakenshaw and Park Top.
Springfield Association rent are being collected by Bert Smith.
Reminder letters will be sent next Tuesday giving tenants a further seven days to pay.
Following hedge cutting by Gro Green Landscapes at Oakenshaw a skip has been provided for the removal of the cuttings. The hedge cuttings will be skipped by the allotment tenants.
A skip has been booked for Springfield tenants on the 10th April 2015.
Two plots at Oakenshaw have been relet. One Plot at Springfield has been relet.

6. TO RECEIVE TOWN COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Bennett said she was working on a fly tipping complaint next to Portland House at the former Cold Storage site.

Councillor Todd said that daffodils that were planted last year had been topped during the recent grass cutting.

Councillor Henfrey said The Pound Plus Shop were advertising E cigarettes on the gable end.

He said thankyou to staff for organising the Bollard that is now fixed to the rear of Mill Street. There has only been one objection arising from the consultation that was undertaken before it was sited.

Councillor Cogdon said he declared an interest in the following information as he was employed by Durham County Council.

The Local Motion Project has secured funding from the Sustainable Transport Fund to work in Willington, Crook, Spennymoor and Ferryhill. Recently employed Travel Advisers will be visiting residents at home to talk to them about how they travel.

Three Local Motion Travel Rangers and two Sustrans staff will also be working throughout these areas to promote sustainable travel options and travel planning. These staff will also introduce the project and its associated activities into Schools.

Councillor Cogdon said he had started mapping three new walks.

Councillor Tinsley said the Clerk was still waiting for formal confirmation of funding for the South Dene project from D.C.C Chief Executive staff. This may mean rescheduling the planned activities.

Councillor Tinsley said he is meeting with D.C.C Assets with regard to the Town Square. The option to provide one way route on the Highway has received a favourable response from Highways Officers, The option to purchase the land is not available.

Councillor Tinsley thanked Ron Hogg for attending the council and PACT meetings. The policing priorities identified recently have been anti social behaviour around The Spectrum and Willington High Street.

Councillor Cogdon commented that he had experienced an incident recently regarding an underage young man driving a car outside the council office. He said that he had reported the incident to the police. The meeting asked that the PACT Chairman reports this at the next Pact meeting.

Councillor Tinsley thanked The Clerk, Community Services Officer and Councillor Etherington for the considerable work involved in producing two Newsletters within three weeks alongside delivering the other work they were involved with.

7. TO RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor Gunn has sent her apologies.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

Councillor Tinsley said this was the first meeting of the new financial year. He thanked fellow Councillors, volunteers, residents who attend the council meetings regularly and anyone who has worked with the council to support our community in any way over the last twelve months.

9. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting - Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 6.00 pm

Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 6.30 pm

PAGE * MERGEFORMAT 3 | Page

Signed by the Chairman

13th May 2015