

GREATER WILLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting
7th October 2015

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Tinsley, Councillor Henfrey
Councillor Townsend, Councillor Elgie
Emma Mennouni, Community Services Officer (minutes)

1. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Helen Cogdon Town Clerk, Councillor Cogdon, Councillor Carr, Councillor Smith, Councillor Greensmith and Councillor Graham.
Acceptance of apologies were proposed by Councillor Henfrey and seconded by Councillor Elgie.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are reminded to update their Declaration of personal and prejudicial interest register as and when required, as soon as is reasonably possible.

Councillor Tinsley declared an interest in Item 5. Planning application submitted by Willington Cricket Club where he is a member.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents Agenda Items requested through the Clerk.

Marjorie Embling (Resident) said she is quite concerned about the South Durham Hunt. There has been quite a few incidents and she is worried about the safety of children and other animals. She has been in contact with an officer at DCC.
Councillor Tinsley asked that she provide copies of all correspondence regarding this matter and he will chase it up.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING ON THE 2nd SEPTEMBER 2015

The minutes of the 2nd September 2015 as printed and circulated were approved and taken as a true record.

Proposed Councillor Elgie

Seconded Councillor Townsend

Matters arising (for information only)

Item 1. Councillor Henfrey explained the reason for his absence from the last meeting was due to his wife Margaret being rather unwell. He said that she had received the flowers sent by the council which were lovely. He thanked members and staff on behalf of Margaret and said she is feeling much better.

Item 3. Councillor Tinsley said Jeff and Claire Robinson had submitted a letter to the council for consideration at the last town council meeting in regards to the Outline Planning Application for the housing development for Sunnybrow. Councillor Tinsley said that the Council had submitted a further letter of objection to DCC in respect of this application. Jeff and Claire have since emailed us conveying their appreciation for considering their letter and making additional submissions.

Councillor Smith had asked if there had been any update on the County Durham Plan. Councillor Tinsley confirmed that the Plan is now back. The interim report will be quashed and a new examination held under a new inspector as soon as possible. The Plan will be withdrawn and amended before resubmitting a refreshed version. The new plan will proceed through a new public examination.

Item 8. Councillor Tinsley said regarding the Miners Welfare building which was discussed at length at the last meeting had now been discussed in a public consultation hosted by County Councillors Tinsley and Gunn. This took place at the Phoenix Christian Centre on 21 September 2015. Around 50-60 people attended and a lot of feedback was received. The owners of the building is SLAM who were represented at the meeting. This issue has now gone back to SLAM who are going to look at the potential for the building and will be back in touch with us.

National Fitness was a great success. Over 500 people were involved.

The mural has now been painted over.

Remembrance Sunday invites had gone out and all organisations wanting wreaths have been in contact with the Royal British Legion.

Item 9. Councillor Tinsley said the meeting regarding the play park had gone ahead. They are just waiting for the officer to come back with quotes for new equipment.

5. TO CONSIDER NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- Low Willington, Willington – Variation of condition 24 of planning application 3/2003/0029 (approved plans condition) to substitute 20 no. dwellings
For Information Only – Consultation End Date: 24 September 2015
- Development Site to the South and East of Willington Cricket Club, Manor Road, Willington – Provision of 3 no. additional dwellings on site
For Information Only – Consultation End Date: 24 September 2015
- Willington Cricket Club, Manor Road, Willington – Erection of machinery garage and scoreboard
For Information Only – Consultation End Date: 05 October 2015
- Milkup Bank Farm, Willington – Extension and refurbishment to farmhouse
Consultation End Date: 14 October 2015 – No objections
- 21 Cumberland Terrace, Willington – Single storey rear extension – No objections

6. CONFIRMATION OF OUTSTANDING PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS

- Land to the South East of Unit 8 Harvey Court, Low Willington – Motor repair/MOT testing station and workshop (resubmission of planning approval DM/14/03291/FPA Approved

7. CONSIDERATION OF THE ALLOTMENT REPORT

In Councillor Graham's absence, Emma Mennouni said that there was nothing to report this month as no issues had been raised.

8. TO RECEIVE THE TOWN COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT

Councillor Elgie said the Scarlett Band bus keeps parking on the side road next to Wareham Way. The driver is parking there from 7pm till morning each day and all day on Sundays. This is causing a block in the road and restricting access for other vehicles if needed in emergency.

Councillor Tinsley said he will contact DCC.

Councillor Henfrey said there had been a few vans parking directly outside the door of the gym on Chapel Street and not using the car parks which are opposite. He had reported this issue to Emma Mennouni who said she had emailed DCC.

9. TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT

County Councillor Tinsley: DCC had a meeting regarding the Syrian Refugee Crisis. They will work with Churches, the voluntary sector and other partners to identify what help may be required and how it should be provided.

They will discuss key issues to clarify and address this emergency.

DCC are considering how to address the devolution debate as part of NECA.

10. TO APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION

Emma Mennouni said;

Due to the online banking system being down and not receiving a bank statement detailing accounts up to the end of August 2015, this month we have accounts available from 1st August 2015 to 30th September 2015.

The Bank Reconciliation starting 1st August 2015 was £22,208.93 with credits of £20,000.73 and minus debits of £4,990.84 leaving a balance of £37,218.82 on the 31st August 2015.

The Bank Reconciliation starting 1st September 2015 was £37,218.82 with credits of £15,224.09 and minus debits of £26,992.80 leaving a balance of £25,450.11 on the 30th September 2015.

Proposed Councillor Tinsley

Seconded Councillor Henfrey

11. TO APPROVE THE BUDGET REPORT

Emma Mennouni said the budget for 2015/16 is £117,667. Spend to date £56,282.84 with a further £389.74 committed. Leaving an available resource on budget of £60,994.42

Proposed Councillor Tinsley

Seconded Councillor Henfrey

12. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS

None received.

13. TO CONSIDER CIVIC FUND APPLICATIONS

A letter was received from Willington Disabled Club asking for a donation towards their Christmas Lunch.

Resolved1. To approve £50

Proposed Councillor Tinsley

Seconded Councillor Henfrey

Parkside Academy sent a letter asking for a donation towards their Older Persons Christmas Lunch. This event attracts up to 80 older people living in the Willington area and is offered completely free.

Resolved1. To approve £50
Proposed Councillor Henfrey
Seconded Councillor Tinsley

Another letter had been received from Parkside Academy asking for sponsorship of their Annual Awards Event which will be held on Thursday 12th November 2015. They are asking for sponsorship of £100 which will provide the nominated students with a trophy and/or voucher for their academic achievements.

Resolved1. To approve sponsorship of £100
Proposed Councillor Tinsley
Seconded Councillor Henfrey

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

Councillor Tinsley said that Town Clerk Helen Cogdon is unwell and will be poorly for a little while so we are sending our positive thoughts and wishes to her. We hope she gets well soon.

Emma Mennouni said that Helen had received the flowers from members and staff and passed on Helens thanks and appreciation.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 4th November 2015 at 6.30 pm