

## ASHBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Ashbourne Town Council held on Tuesday 17 January 2017 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ashbourne.

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**Present:** Cllrs: A. Bates; I. Bates; Mrs D Brown; S. Clayton; A. Golding; Mrs J Harris; N. Harris; D Moon; Mrs S Spencer and M. Spencer

In attendance: Carole Dean; Town Clerk; Samantha Higton; Assistant Clerk  
Gareth Butterfield (Ashbourne News Telegraph); Mr Wood (Ashbourne Cricket Club); Rev Ballard

Mr Wood gave a brief on Ashbourne Recreation Ground Sport and Community Partnership, member's had a copy of the initial brief prepared for Derbyshire Dales District Council.

Mr Wood said that a charitable trust would be set up to develop the memorial pavilion, bring the sport facility up to standard, redevelop the club house, be a hub for local community groups. Key partners would be Ashbourne Town Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Sports Groups and National Bodies.

Mr Wood stated that a previous planning application had been submitted to the District Council and approved; however a preferred option would be to demolish the existing site and have a purpose build building at an approximate cost of £1.5m. Mr Wood stated that funding sources were already been looked into; and they were interested to hear what the Town Council; District Council and County Council would be willing to commit to the project. Mr Wood advised that a constitution was being drafted and there would be monthly meetings starting from February; Mr Wood stated that trustee's from each organisation would be required.

Cllr I Bates asked whether if funds were available by the end of the year would the project be able to move forward; Mr Wood said it would.

Cllr Golding stated that he was supporting the project as a friend of the Cricket Club and not as a Town Councillor and that he is assisting the club with the funding issues, he said it may be possible to get 2/3 of the funding in place by the summer.

Cllr Brown welcome Rev Ballard to the meeting.

#### **C/17/1506 To consider accepting apologies for absence:**

It was Proposed by Cllr I Bates seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed to accept apologies from Cllr Bull due to attending the District Council Planning meeting; Cllr Cooper due to illness and Cllr Smith due to family bereavement.

(County Councillor) Steve Bull sent his apologies due to attending a Parish Council meeting.

(District Councillor) Tom Donnelly sent his apologies due to attending District Council Planning meeting.

#### **C/17/1507 Variation of Order of Business**

None.

#### **C/17/1508 Declaration of Members Interests**

None.

#### **C/17/1509 To receive and approve requests for dispensations from members on matters in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**

None.

### **C/17/1510 Public Speaking**

No Members of the public wished to speak.

### **Police Matters**

No police representative was in attendance.

### **C/17/1511 To Approve and sign the Minutes of the Town Council Meetings held on Tuesday 13 and 20 December 2016**

It was Proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr I Bates and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council meetings held on Tuesday 13 and Tuesday 20 December 2016 be signed by the Chair.

Arising: -Cllr Golding stated that there had been a substantial discussion on the critical work identified in the Stone Masons Report at the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Cllr Bull made a proposal to include a sum of money in the budget for a structural engineer's survey of the Town Hall, however this did not find a seconder, and Cllr Golding made an amendment that we ask the valuer (chosen to value the Town Hall following a previous Town Council decision) to produce the valuation report by the time of the Full Council meeting on 17 January 2017.

He added that anyone reading the Minutes wouldn't capture the urgency of the meeting and he insisted that his 'technical amendment' be recorded.

Cllr Brown stated that only the Resolution needed to be recorded in the Minutes.

Cllr Golding asked the Clerk for her view on recording Minutes.

The Clerk stated that she was a CILCA qualified Clerk, and lawfully only the Resolution needed to be recorded however she felt that it was helpful to add some detail.

Cllr Brown added that the accuracy should be in the RESOLUTION.

Cllr Bates Proposed that an Agenda Item be added to the February Meeting on the way Members felt the minutes should be recorded. This was seconded by Cllr Brown and RESOLVED.

### **C/17/1512 To Approve the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on Monday 12 December 2016 and Wednesday 4 January 2017**

It was Proposed by Cllr Mrs Spencer seconded by Cllr J Harris and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held Monday 13 December 2016 and Wednesday 4 January 2017 be approved.

### **C/17/1513 To Approve the Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 December 2016**

It was Proposed by Cllr A Bates seconded by Cllr I Bates and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 December 2016 be approved.

### **C/17/1514 Mayor's Announcements**

Cllr Cooper sent her apologies for the meeting.

### **C/17/1515 Accounts for payment including purchased on 'One Card'**

It was Proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr M Spencer and RESOLVED that the payments be made.

### **C/17/1516 Chair of Finance to 'sign off' Bank Reconciliation**

It was Proposed by Cllr Mrs Spencer seconded by Cllr M Spencer and RESOLVED that the Chair of Finance to 'sign off' Bank Reconciliations.

### **C/17/1517 Members to consider the Budget and Precept 2017/18 agreed at Full Council 20 December 2016 Clerk's Report attached**

The Clerk advised that the comparison figure for 2016/17 was incorrect and the amendment was shown in the report attached.

Discussion was held regarding keeping £10,000.00 in the General Tourism budget or moving it to General Repairs; Cllr Mrs Spencer said that she would like to see the £10,000.00 remain in the General Repairs budget; Cllr I Bates stated that he would like to see the amount in the Tourism budget.

It was Proposed by Cllr I Bates seconded by Cllr Golding that the £10,000.00 remain in the Tourism Budget. It was counter Proposed by Cllr A Bates seconded by Cllr J Harris that the amount be 50/50 split. Five Members voted in favour and against. Cllr Brown had the casting vote as Chair and voted against the decision.

It was proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr Mrs Spencer and RESOLVED that the Precept request be £250,985.00 and increase of 0.08p per week per household. Members agreed the increase in the budget was due to facilitate the urgent maintenance to the Town Hall.

**C/17/1518 Response from DDDC re current and potential Class Use of Town Hall and Valuation from Fidler Taylor (if available)**

The valuation from Fidler Taylor was received and circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Members discussed the valuation figure of £450,00.00 given by Fidler Taylor. Cllr Golding questioned whether the figure was the gross valuation and when the future of the Town Hall would be debated.

The Clerk stated that she had put a number of reports together with this agenda as things seemed to be progressing quickly; she added that a solicitor needed to be appointed to read through the deeds and also questioned what the people of the town might want.

Cllr A Bates stated that the existing bookings needed to be taken into consideration for the future.

Cllr Golding stated that as some of the information had been received; and the safety of the building had been assured previously; a time frame was required to make a decision.

Cllr I Bates reiterated that the Deeds needed to be looked at by the solicitor before any decision could be made.

**C/17/1519 Clerk's Report - Appointment of Solicitor re Future of Town Hall**

The Clerk advised that she had contact two solicitors for an estimate to read through the Deeds; Nigel Davis (Solicitors) had been unable to give an estimated cost and Flint Bishop had estimated £300.00+VAT.

The Clerk further advised that Flint Bishop had suggested that Mr Lewis Rose may also be able to offer assistance with looking through the Deeds (through them) as he had previously done so.

It was Proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr Mrs Spencer and RESOLVED to appoint Flint Bishop Solicitors to look through the Deeds; however not Mr Lewis Rose.

**C/17/1520 Clerk's Report - Public Consultation including details and costing for 'Survey Monkey'**

The Clerk advised that she felt this may be beneficial with regard to the future of the Town Hall; she added that the Town Hall is a public building funded by the tax payer and they should have a say in the decision regarding its future. The Clerk added that the survey would need to be carried out correctly; and Survey Monkey offered a range of different plans. It was Proposed by Cllr A Bates seconded by Cllr Brown and RESOLVED to sign up for an annual survey package at a cost of £25.00pm. Cllr's I Bates; Clayton; Moon and M Spencer voted against the decision. It was further agreed that Cllr's A Bates and Brown would identify a consultation programme and set the questions at the Finance Committee meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January.

**C/17/1521 Clerk's Report – Tarmac Limited Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) Application Form (part completed by Cllr Golding)**

Cllr Golding clarified the deadline for submission as the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 and that a small working party be formed to progress this consisting of Cllrs Golding, M Spencer, the Clerk and the Events Officer. Cllr Mrs Spencer suggested considering other funding streams.

**C/17/1522 Clerk's Report – Outside Bodies Representatives**

The Clerk advised that she had prepared a report on this which was with the agenda; she stated that she had concerns that Councillors were involved with the Cricket Club and there hadn't been a mandate to agree their commitment.

Cllr Golding stated that he had previously declared an interest in the Cricket Club, and that himself and Cllr Cooper had held discussions as individuals not Councillors.

Cllr I Bates Proposed that Cllr A Bates and Cllr Moon be the Town Council Representatives for the Cricket Club. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Harris and RESOLVED. Cllrs A Bates and Moon agreed to be representatives and report back to Council meetings. The Clerk asked that she be kept informed of the meetings as she wished to attend.

**C/17/1523 Derbyshire Dales District Council – Notification of submission of Local Plan**

The Clerk advised that the Local Plan had been submitted to the Inspector. Cllr Golding stated that he had questioned how the Town Council made representation at the enquiry, and there was two sets of objections to the Local Plan; he further stated that whoever represented the Town Council at the enquiry would need to be 'well briefed'.

**C/17/1524 Cllr Cooper – Update on Market including move to Civic Square**

Cllr I Bates suggested that the item be deferred as Cllr Copper was not at the meeting and the matter had already been in the local paper.

Cllr Golding stated that there were three other members on the working group; and he felt that the Tender Document had been sent without their knowledge. He added that there should be a genuine partnership between the Town and District Council and asked that a letter be sent to the District Council asking that a member of the working group be on the Tender Panel Committee.

It was Proposed by Cllr Golding seconded by Cllr Brown and RESOLVED that a letter be sent to DDDC asking that a member of the Town Council Working Group be on the Tender Panel Committee.

**C/17/1525 Clerk – Review of Saturday opening of VIC in January**

The Clerk advised that the VIC had not been busy on the first two Saturdays opening in January, and had low footfall and takings.

It was Proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr Clayton and RESOLVED not to open the VIC for the remaining Saturdays in January.

**C/17/1526 Calendar of Events 2017**

Cllr Clayton asked if a community event could be included in May, Cllr Brown said that Members had not agreed to funding in the budget for an event. Cllr Clayton asked if the Town Council could facilitate an event if it was sponsored. Members agreed the calendar of events.

**C/17/1527 Council to note the following Circular(s) received from DALC and e-mailed to Councillors**

18/2016 together with Internal Audit Check List and Designated Auditors

19/2016

01/2017

**Members agreed that the DALC Circular and information be received.**

**C/17/1528 Items for Information** If you require a hard copy of the information circulated by e-mail – please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting.

a) From DDDC – Community Forum Notes

b) From DCC – Derbyshire and Derby Mineral Local Plan – Site Consultations

- c) From Mr Ferrand – copy letter to Cllr Cooper re potential sale of Town Hall
- d) From Staffordshire Moorlands – Save the Date
- e) From Belper Town Council – Mayor’s Charity Event
- f) From Ashbourne Rugby Club- Diary Dates 2017

**It was agreed that all correspondence be noted and received.**

The meeting closed at 8.26pm

Chairman.....

Date.....