

# Dronfield Town Council

Locum Clerk to the Council:  
Mr Andrew Tristram



Dronfield Civic Hall  
Dronfield Civic Centre  
Dronfield  
S18 1PD  
Telephone: 01246 418573  
Fax: 01246 290702  
Email: [townclerk@dronfield.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@dronfield.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dronfield.gov.uk](http://www.dronfield.gov.uk)

9th May 2016

To: All Electors of Dronfield

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

## Annual Town Meeting

will be held at

Gosforth Lodge, Cliffe Park Dronfield

at 7.30 pm on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016

following the Annual Council Meeting

for the purpose of transacting the following business.

1. Welcome by the Mayor.
2. Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 18th May 2015.
3. Matters Arising.
4. To receive a report on the activities of the Town Council.
5. To receive a report on the activities of the Dronfield Charities.
6. To receive a report on the activities of the Thomas Taylor Charity.
7. To hear comments, requests and recommendations of any elector residing within and on the electoral roll of wards within Dronfield Town Council.

---

Quality Service from a Quality Council



# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF DRONFIELD

HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015

IN THE CIVIC HALL, DRONFIELD

## PRESENT

19 members of the Council, together with 4 members of staff and 5 members of the public and press

### **1. Election of a Clerk for the meeting**

It was RESOLVED that Keith Bradshaw, Clerk to Dronfield Town Council be appointed Clerk for this meeting.

### **2. Welcome by the Mayor**

The Town Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming all those present.

It is the duty of any Mayor to support Local Charities and I was shown prices for cannabis, cocaine and other drugs by a 15 year school boy in the town. Children up to the age of 17 have to stay in school unless they have a job. This results in many getting into mischief and they need somewhere to go. If I raise enough funds to set up a new Youth Club of which I have experience or if not assist other youth workers in the Town. It is my intention to do what I can to address these problems of these gap students and this will be the focus of the Mayor's Charity this year. Weston Park will be supported by the Party in the Park.

### **2. Minutes of The Annual Town Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

The Meeting considered the minutes of The Annual Town Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

**Resolved:** That the minutes be received, accepted and approved as a true record of events.

### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

### **4. Report on the Activities of the Town Council**

The report was given by Councillor Liz Blanshard.

This report would normally be delivered by The Leader of the Council in the last administration, but Cllr. John Allsop, who was co-opted onto the Council, following the sad death of Cllr. Mike Emmens, cannot be here this evening.

During the last twelve months we have seen some considerable changes in the Council Offices. The hours worked by the previous Clerk proved insufficient for a Council of this size, and it was therefore decided to appoint a "Project Manager" in addition. However following the resignation of the Clerk, there was an opportunity to make the position of Town Clerk, full time. Keith Bradshaw, who stepped in as Locum Clerk, was subsequently appointed to the post, against some stiff competition. In addition the office staff have had their working hours increased to enable them to work more effectively, so providing a better service to the public.

The Civic Service this year was held in the Parish Church. Unfortunately the timing coincided with school holidays, so we were not able to have, something that has become a highlight of the service, a children's choir from one of Dronfield's schools.

We have continued the refurbishment of the Childrens' Play Areas, this time at Dronfield Woodhouse, and outdoor fitness equipment has been installed at Cliffe Park.

Unfortunately the Gala, which was arranged for May, to coincide with a visit from our Twin Town, Sindelfingen, had to be called off due to bad weather.

The Party in the Park, however, went ahead and was a great success, enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks go to all who worked so hard in planning and on the day. Arrangements for this year's Party are well in hand.

The Remembrance Day Service was particularly poignant, it being 100 years since the outbreak of WW1. A record number of wreaths were laid, including, as usual, one on behalf of the Town and Council, laid by the Town Mayor. For the last 20 years the parade has been marshalled by Lieutenant Colonel John McGrory. He has now stepped down, and I would wish to record the Council and Town's sincere thanks, for all his help over the past years.

The switching on of the Christmas Lights and the Carol Service took place with the help of the children from Stonelow Junior School, who sang for us, and thanks go to the Salvation Army Woodhouse Band who kept us in tune. The Christmas Fest, the following day was as well attended as ever.

The Outside Service Staff have had their training brought up to date with tractor training, and also "Safe Use of a ride-on mower training."

The Council have now taken delivery of a new triple mower, which will enable the staff to be much more efficient in their grass cutting.

In addition, 4 of the outside service staff have had training on "safe working in the Cemetery."

Sadly, this year also saw the death of Chris Peet, the town "litter picker". Chris had worked for the Council for many years and was a familiar face around the town.

Town Councillors, give their time freely and receive no payment or expenses for what they do, which can, at times, be a thankless task. As usual, Dronfield Town Council members have worked together for the good of the town. Committee and Council meetings might not always be first choice, but it is part of the "job", and thanks must go to those who have attended consistently throughout the year.

#### **5. Report on the Activities of the Dronfield Charities**

Councillor Christine Smith reported on the Dronfield Charities.

Thank you Madam Mayor I am pleased to give the Dronfield Relief in Need Charity report with other Parishes Holmesfield and Unstone. I have been involved with the charity, which gives out small grants for a few years now. The charity is in its 84<sup>th</sup> year and meets twice a year,

This charity provides grants for people in need who live in the ecclesiastical parishes of Dronfield, Holmesfield, Unstone and West Handley. The Chairman of the Charity is Reverend Peter Bold and Tony Bethell is the Secretary.

The Charity monies come from endowments to the Town and from donations. Endowments have been made in the name of D Hall, Elizabeth Richardson, Kent and Moorwood, Roberta Moore, Frederick Back and others.

Some of the recipients of grants are the Welcome Club, Disabled Club, Old People's Welfare Committee, also there is a book prize for schools in Unstone and plants are given to the elderly by the Vicar at Christmas.

Trustees can give out grants of up to £50 in an emergency. I don't have £50 in my pocket tonight so please don't approach me after the meeting.

#### **6. Report on the Activities of the Thomas Taylor Charity**

Councillor Graham Baxter reported on the Thomas Taylor Charity.

Thomas Taylor was a blacksmith who died in 1681. His blacksmith's shop was near to the corner of Church Street and High Street where the painted tea pot shop now stands. In his Will he directed that all his property in Dronfield should go to the son and daughter of a kinsman of his in London and then to his brother James. The £4 rent for the property was to be paid yearly to James at the Market Cross in Dronfield. After the death of his named

heirs Thomas Taylor asked that their inheritance should go to the overseers of the poor in Dronfield and their successors. The profits from it were to be used to fit out poor children of the town as apprentices to "any lawful trade or trades in any place or places within the Kingdom of England".

The Thomas Taylor Charity is still administered today for the benefit of young people going to college or starting out on their careers and is well advertised around the town. In the past year 18 applicants were awarded a grant of £75.00 each

7. It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the reports

8. **Concerns and Comments from Local Electors**

Mr P Carr informed the meeting of the activities of the Leabrook Valley Project. The project has partnership arrangements with others in the town and has the support of the Town Council. It organises litter picks and works days. The project has a broad based spread and is always open to new ideas. Leaflets were left for inspection.

Councillor Alex Dale was congratulated on his forthcoming wedding on Bank Holiday Monday.

The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.50pm.