

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, DRONFIELD
ON MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2017

Present:

Councillors A. Powell (Town Mayor), G. Baxter, L. Blanshard, T Collins, A Dale, L. Deighton, A Foster, M. Foster, S. Green, R Hall, G. Hopkinson, A. Hutchinson, E. Pasley, and P Wright

In Attendance:

8 members of press and public, PCSO N. Biggin and the Town Clerk

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor M. Emmens, Councillor C. Smith, Councillor R. Smith, Councillor K. Tait and Councillor R. Welton.

2 Declarations of Interest

None

3 Public Speaking

3.1 Planning matters

None

3.2 General Matters

The Council were asked if they would send a supporting letter to Eckington Parish Council in respect of the proposals for fracking in the area.

Concerns were raised over preferred route for works traffic to the Bramley Moor Lane site through Coal Aston.

Attention was drawn to an Interview with the Chair of Eckington Parish Council regarding the proposals for fracking in the area and requested all members look at it and stated that he would like to see a similar public statement from Dronfield Town Council.

The importance of keeping the dialogue going between the Town Council, Local Community and the Dronfield against Fracking group was highlighted and a request was made for fracking to be discussed on a future Council agenda.

The Council were asked if they owned the mineral rights to Council land and informed members that Ineos have the right to come onto the land to access any minerals beneath it.

The Council were also asked if they could do anything to bring awareness of the proposed route of traffic through Coal Aston to local residents.

3.3 Police Matters

PCSO Naomi Biggin attended the meeting to provide an update on police matters.

Anti-Social Behaviour

There were very few ASB incidents reported in January.

Crime

Violence with injury	2
Burglary in a dwelling	9
Fraud	1
Shoplifting	4
Sexual Offence	1
Harassment	2
Possession of Weapon	1
Interfere with Vehicle	2
Criminal Damage	3
Theft	4

Sexting	2
Total	31

Despite burglars being locked up last month Dronfield continues to be targeted. Additional resources are being committed to deal with the problem. Operations are still being run and funded by the North East Section Inspector. Shop thefts are still reduced substantially from previous months.

Members were also made aware of an attempted robbery at the Royal Bank of Scotland. The criminals responsible were apprehended.

PCSO Biggin informed members that she had been promoted to the regular police force and would be leaving Dronfield. The Council expressed their congratulations on the promotion and showed appreciation what work had been done in Dronfield.

The Beat Surgery is on March 2nd at 10am in the Civic Centre Car Park.

4 Council Minutes

193/16-17 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on the Monday 9th January 2017 are approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5 Planning Matters

5.1 Planning Applications

194/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the schedule of planning applications

5.2 Planning Decisions

195/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the schedule of planning decisions.

6 Youth Matters

None

7 Outside Services Report

The following tasks have been carried out during the month of January.

Litter Bins - The Dog and Litter bins continue to be emptied on a weekly basis.

Play Areas - Maintenance continues on the play areas. Spares have been ordered for the swings at Birches Fold and Cliffe Park. We are working through the list that was sent to us after the Inspections.

Cemetery - The baskets are emptied around the Cemetery and toilets cleaned on a Monday and Friday. It has been quite busy in the Cemetery over the last month there has been 4 new graves ben done and a further 4 being dug today - 30th January.

Open Spaces – All Open spaces, football fields have been litter picked, all rubbish lying around in the hedgerows have been cleared up.

Notice Boards - The notice boards have all been cleaned up with the removal of any old and non-charity posters being removed.

Cemetery – The Outside Services visit the Cemetery 2-3 times a week to keep the road way and footpaths clean. There have been plenty of twigs branches that have been cleaned up after we had the high winds in January.

Tree Works – There are a few areas that have been maintained this month, this included – Sindlefingen Park, Jubilee Park.

Christmas Lights – The Christmas lights were all removed at the beginning of January and all lights have been dried out and stored away in the workshop ready for next year.

Grit/Salt – We have still have around 17 ton of grit salt and the workshop ready to fill grit bins when required.

Benches – The maintenance on the benches for Sindlefingen Park continues.

Training – We have had tractor training for the Outside Services personnel that required this. Paul Duncan, Tom Marper and Mark Openshaw completed this 2 day training and all passed

the course. There is sit on mower training that is taking place on 31st January and the same personnel are attending this, once this training is complete all Outside Services personnel will have the same qualifications.

Football – We still currently open up and lock up for the football at Coal Aston and clean out the changing on a Monday/Tuesday.

CCTV – We have installed 2 x CCTV cameras at Coal Aston Football Pavilion this gives coverage of the car park to the front of the pavilion as we have been getting some graffiti on the side walls and lots of litter and other activities going on in the car park.

Civic Hall – There has been 2 panels made for the windows in the sound box, these have been made from Perspex with handles attached for easy removal when shows are on and to be put back when the hall is not in use.

Muga Pitch – There are 2 lights on the Muga pitch, we are looking at installing some LED lights in place of the Metal halide ones that are in use at the moment. The LED is more expensive but reduces the cost of running over a period of time. There are 12 lights in total around the Muga pitch which will require replacing.

Workshop – I am looking at getting some quotes for refurbishing the office and canteen/changing area, the office I have is not adequate to work in when the weather is cold/freezing outside, this area and canteen requires to be made bigger by extending the inside area and new brick or wood portions being built with new doorways, ceiling and flooring to be done, also the lack of heating requires looking at. Over the last few weeks the temp in the office/canteen has been 8 – 13 degrees. I have a drawing of what the office/canteen would look like.

Other

Various reports have been actioned around the Town. Maintenance has been carried out on various Council Buildings. The staff has quite busy covering for holidays.

196/16-17 RESOLVED

To note receipt of the report.

8 Meeting Reports

8.1 Neighbourhood Planning Advisory Committee held on 18th January 2017

Members were made aware of plans for drop in sessions seeking residents' views on the future of Dronfield. Members were asked to volunteer to attend the drop in sessions scheduled for March.

197/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the minutes of the meeting.

8.2 Properties Advisory Committee held on 19th January 2017 and 6th February 2017

198/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the minutes of the meetings.

199/16-17 RESOLVED

That the revised charges for the Civic Hall, Gosforth Lodge and Multi-use Games area are approved.

200/16-17 RESOLVED

That the rent for the use of Gosforth Lodge by the Old People Welfare group is reduced from £785 to £600 to reflect the reduced usage.

201/16-17 RESOLVED

That the Council commences negotiations for heads of terms for a new lease with the Football Club.

202/16-17 RESOLVED

That the quotation from North East Derbyshire District Council for the supply and servicing of two 1100ltr trade waste bins is accepted.

203/16-17 RESOLVED

That the quotation to provide DEC surveys for the Civic Hall and Gosforth Lodge from DEC Services is accepted.

204/16-17 RESOLVED

That a request to install a gate and create an access for emergency vehicles to the left hand side of the Frithwood Drive access subject to any planning consent being required is granted.

205/16-17 RESOLVED

That permission to use the pedestrian access at Stonelow is given until the end of the current season subject to any planning consent being required whilst the costs and feasibility of alternative options are considered.

206/16-17 RESOLVED

That a request to erect a temporary shelter up to the end of the current season is granted subject to any planning consent is required.

207/16-17 RESOLVED

That a request to provide a bus shelter on Oakhill Road is rejected because of the additional funding required for raising the kerbs and installing a bus boarder.

8.3 Gala Meeting held on 24th January 2017

208/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the date of the Gala on Sunday 25 June 2017 and the minutes of the meeting.

8.4 Civic Service Meeting held on 25th January 2017

209/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the date of the Civic Service on 11th June 2017 at 11am and the minutes of the meeting.

8.5 Budget Advisory Committee held on 2nd February 2017

210/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the minutes of the meeting.

9. Budget 2016/17

211/16-17 RESOLVED

- i) That the budget for 2017/18 is approved
- ii) That the Council request a precept of £805,411 from North East Derbyshire District Council.

10 Town Clerk's Report

Items For Decision

- Dronfest – Request for permission to use Cliffe Park for the DronFest Music Event
- Dronfield Town Twinning Federation Quiz Night – Invitation for event and entering a team for the quiz.

Items for Information

- NED (No 261) TPO 2017 - Trees at the junction of Hilltop Road and Longacre Road request for any objections or comments to be received by 16th February 2017.
- Temporary Road Closure – Notice of temporary closure of Green Lane and Snape Hill Lane - 13 February to 17 February. Between 0800 hrs to 1600hrs daily to facilitate footway resurfacing works.
- Notification – Highways Department Street lighting area Dronfield Works replacement of street lighting columns and /or conversion to LED light source - week commencing 30 January 2017 07.00- 18.00hours
- Street Naming and Numbering - 9A Moorgate Crescent

Correspondence Received (Circulated or hard copy in office)

- Friends of Dronfield Station Notes of meeting No 78 held on Tuesday 3rd January 2017
- Clerks & Councils Direct January 2017 Issue 109
- Personnel Advice & Solutions Ltd – Employment Update January 2017
- Lea Brook Valley Vision – outcome from vision meeting 20 Dec 2016

212/16-17 RESOLVED

That the Council agree in principal to grant permission to use Cliffe Park subject to terms and conditions being agreed to hold the DronFest music event on the first weekend in August.

213/16-17 RESOLVED

That the letter to North East Derbyshire District Council to support the TPO application.

214/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the Town Clerks report

11 Financial Reports

215/16-17 RESOLVED

To approve the schedules of Payments for December 2016 totalling £149,481.02.

216/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the schedules of Receipts for December 2016 totalling £16,993.20

217/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the Bank Reconciliation at 31st December 2016.

218/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the income and expenditure statement for the financial year to 31st December 2016.

12 Motion – Lea Road Ramp

Members discussed a motion proposed by Cllr. T. Collins and seconded by Cllr. M. Foster.

219/16-17 RESOLVED

That the Council write to Derbyshire County Council requesting assurance of a Health and Safety risk assessment for repair of the ramp down from Lea Road to Sheffield Road.

It is a concern that the scheduled works for the replacement of the foot ramp access to Sheffield Road, being undertaken will extend into school term. At the time of closure children walking to school from the Lea Road direction will take the alternative route and divert through onto the railway platform and over the bridge. In September when the work is scheduled to extend into the new School term there will be many new 11 year olds trying to get to school from the direction of Lea Road. Our concern is for the safety of these young people while on the railway platform.

As part of the risk assessment covering the repair works, the Council would like to see that this risk has been assessed and effectively covered.

13 Motion – Fracking

Members discussed a motion proposed by Cllr. A. Dale and seconded by Cllr. A. Foster. Cllr Baxter proposed that the Council also wrote to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government asking him to respect the wishes of local residents and their elected representatives in any decision they come to do on fracking and not overturn any democratic decision that is voted on by elected members when applications are considered at the planning committee. Cllr Dale accepted the amendment.

220/16-17 RESOLVED

That the Council write to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to inform them of the Council's opposition to the extraction of shale gas (fracking) in Dronfield and the surrounding area, as detailed in the council's submission to Derbyshire County Council as part of its consultation for the Derby and Derbyshire Local Mineral Plan. Dronfield Town Council considers that the detrimental effect on the community, and the negative impact in the infrastructure of a highly populated area, represents an unacceptable and hazardous risk.

The council would also inform them of the concerns raised with the Environment Agency about the lack of publicity for the consultation event in Dronfield requesting that future consultation events meet a minimum requirement to create awareness across a mix of different media (e.g. local press, radio, website, social media and posters/leaflets in public areas) in order to demonstrate that they have made every effort to reach the maximum number of residents.

The Council also write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government asking him to respect the wishes of local residents and their elected representatives in any decision they come to do on fracking and not overturn any democratic decision that is voted on by elected members when applications are considered at the planning committee.

14 Motion – Boundary Commission

Members discussed a motion proposed by Cllr. M. Foster and seconded by Cllr. A. Hutchinson.

Cllr. M. Foster requested a recorded vote. On being put the vote all members present voted in favour of the motion

221/16-17 RESOLVED

That the Council write to the Boundary Commission in response to the consultation on local District boundary changes requesting that they respect and prioritise the integrity of the borders of Dronfield.

Dronfield Town has a strong identity both geographically and socially and the Town Council feel that this should be the starting point of any District boundary review. Dronfield is a strong, independent Town, a concept which residents have often expressed in order to prevent the diluting of their town boundaries and unique identity. We feel that best democratic representation of Dronfield residents would be achieved by securing those boundaries.

15 DALC Circulars

222/16-17 RESOLVED

To note the following Circular received from DALC:-

Circular 01/2017

Summary of important 2016 elements of circulars

Circular 02/2017

Subscription Charges 2017/2018 - Transparency Code for Smaller Local Councils - Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA) for 2017/18 – 2021/22 returns - NALC New Year Message - HR Matters – Grants - How Elected Members can improve the Health of their Communities, 7 February 2017

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman

Date