

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, DRONFIELD
ON TUESDAY 6 May 2014

Present:

Councillors: L Blanshard (The Town Mayor), S Allsop, G Baxter, P Blackburn, S Clark, M S Emmens, A Foster, N Foster, B Gachagan, S O'Donnell, D Oxspring, C Smith, R Smith, W Temple.

Also Present:

Liz Boswell – Clerk to the Council.
4 members of the public and press

1 Town Council Standing Orders

To confirm the activation of the Council's Standing Orders for all the remaining items of Council business.

286/13-14 RESOLVED

It was resolved to activate the Council's Standing Orders for all the items of business.

2 Apologies

287/13-14 RESOLVED

The following apologies for absence were received, noted and accepted from the following members:

Councillor J Allsop - Other
Councillor A Blackburn - Other
Councillor R Hall – Other
Councillor A Talford – Other
Councillor P Widdowson - Work

3 Declarations of Interest

288/13-14 RESOLVED

Councillor B Gachagan Appendix 1 Supplementary Item 1 Planning Application 14/00169/FL

4 Public Speaking

4a Planning matters

None

4b General Matters

Mr M Lilleyman asked why a grant had not been awarded to the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre. It was answered that they had substantial monies on their balance sheet.

4c Police Matters

PCSO Richard Lee attended the meeting and presented a verbal report. There have been 34 crimes reported which is a reduction from the 51 reported last year.

The figures include:

Crime	Number
Thefts	12 of which 9 are retail related
Burglary	3
Criminal Damage	9
Assault	4
Class B Drugs	1

Anti-Social Behaviour	17
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The figures can be compared with the smaller towns of Eckington and Killamarsh whose figures are 36 and 22 respectively.

The issue was raised of letters being sent out from Holmesdale Infant School asking parents to ensure that children did not play on the grass bank between the school and Hassop Close

due to drug misuse in the evening and weekends. It was reported that there have been lots of patrols in the area, complaints have been followed up and a street survey has been undertaken in the area.

It was asked is there a pattern to the burglaries. It was reported that they are sporadic and evenly spread throughout the town and rural areas. A lot of use has been made of automatic number plate recognition and this has improved detection rates.

A Member highlighted that there had been four burglaries in the Salisbury Road / Hollins Spring Avenue area within a few days.

It was asked which areas are affected by anti-social behaviour. It was reported that it is mainly younger teenagers out playing, there has been a rise in teenagers skateboarding in the Pentland Road and Glen Vale area. Most of the youngsters live in the area. Where appropriate nuisance letters have been sent and parents visited.

A Member asked was there any schemes or projects in place to divert youngsters in the town. There are visits to the schools and weekly liaison with the Youth Centre on Stubley Lane. The Church is raising funds for further provision of activities for youngsters.

289/13-14 RESOLVED

It was resolved to receive the report

5 Council Minutes

290/13-14 RESOLVED

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on the 7 April 2014, they were adopted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

6 Planning

Applications

Members considered a schedule of planning applications submitted by North East Derbyshire District Council for consideration and comment.

291/13-14 RESOLVED

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning applications

Decisions

292/13-14 RESOLVED

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning decisions.

7 Youth Matters

None

8 Outside Services Report

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

Culverts -The culverts along the Leabrook Valley area are being inspected on a weekly basis.

Play Areas - Maintenance continues on the play areas.

Grass Cutting - Grass cutting has commenced, all areas have been cut twice this month and will continue to cut on a fortnightly basis, the alternate week will be cutting grass in the Cemetery and strimming back of footpaths.

Cemetery -The team have been at the cemetery maintaining all areas.

Cliffe Park - The tennis courts surface has now been painted and all lines for the courts marked out, there is a settling period for the courts to be ready for play, but they will be ready for the opening on the Gala. The panels around the sandpit have been sanded ready for painting

Dronfield Woodhouse Play Area - The play area base has been filled with top soil and has been rolled, levelled and seeded. The new equipment has been ordered, with a 7 week lead time for delivery.

Flower Beds - Flower beds have been dug ready for planting. The flower bed at the White Swan has been treated to try and reduce the amount of chickweed that is growing.

Hanging Baskets - All lighting columns have been inspected for the installation of hanging baskets, we have 38 lighting columns that we are able to use. Brackets have been installed

on the 4 new lighting columns in Cliffe Park so hanging baskets can be displayed along the entrance footpath.

Various reports have been actioned.. Maintenance to Council buildings. Mending two leaking taps in the Allotments.

293/13-14 RESOLVED

To note receipt of the report

9 Meeting Reports

Section 106 Monies for Sindelfingen Park

The next phase of 106 monies is now available for Sindelfingen Park. North East Derbyshire District Council have informed us that the money is available but has to be spent prior to July and there is a lead time for the ordering of the equipment. Officers at North East have obtained five proposals for potential equipment. They are all of a similar cost and all the options come within the budget set. The Properties Advisory Committee have met this afternoon and with Town Council officers have considered the play value, accessibility of the equipment and what will attract children to use the area.

294/13-14 RESOLVED

To accept the Properties Advisory Committee recommendation that the best Option is A2 as this is considered to have the best play option, but in order to maximise the play value and accessibility that the following amendments are made: the path be removed from the quote freeing up funds to put in two cradle swings as well as two flat seat and to swap the roundabout for one with better accessibility.

Insurance Review

A meeting has been held with an insurance broker for a potential new provider for the Town Council. Following an initial review it is felt that a number of buildings may be under insured and it is recommended that a valuation be carried out on all properties. Two quotes have so far been received for the works.

295/13-14 RESOLVED

To approve the expenditure for the valuation.

Photocopier Charges

From time to time the office receives ad hoc requests for photocopying from individuals and community groups; there is currently no rate set for this.

296/13-14 RESOLVED

To approve the rate of 10pence for black and white copies and 50pence for colour copies.

Village Games – Xplorer Events

A request has been received from the Village Games Co-ordinator at North East Derbyshire District Council, for the use of Cliffe Park and Gosforth Lodge for the holding of family orienteering and sports challenges on the following days: Saturday 12 July, Saturday 26 July, Sunday 10 August, Saturday 23 August, Sunday 24 August and Saturday 6 September. The events are specifically aimed at families with children aged 5 to 11.

297/13-14 RESOLVED

To approve the use of the park for the dates, with the exception of 12 July 2014; and to make further enquiry on the nature of the refreshments.

North East Derbyshire Local Plan 2011-2031 Update

Correspondence has been received from North East Derbyshire District Council that since the last consultation there have been significant changes nationally and locally. The District Council are now inviting proposals from landowners and developers for new sites which may be suitable and capable of new housing and commercial developments over the next 20 years.

298/13-14 RESOLVED

Further to previous discussions on the Local Plan during 2012 to re-state:

- i) That the greenbelt in Dronfield should be maintained all around the town. The maintenance of the north and south green belt is of absolute importance to the town.

- ii) That the recommended level of 50 houses per annum in the "Constrained North" is an appropriate level provided that they are dispersed across the entire north region over the next 20 years.
- iii) That there is a need for starter and affordable homes in Dronfield and the Local Plan should specify that development in Dronfield should meet this specific criteria.
- iv) Developments of affordable homes should take place on small sites within the town, without sacrificing any areas of greenbelt.

Bus Shelter Update

A meeting has been requested with Derbyshire County Council with regards to the installation of new bus shelters and the grants available. They are also planning works to improve kerb accessibility at bus stops within the town. Monies have been earmarked for 2014/15.

The bus stop sign is missing at the shelter situated on Gosforth Lane between Curzon Avenue and Hollingspring Avenue.

299/13-14 RESOLVED

To note

Invitations Received

Parish and Town Council Liaison 1 May 2014 6.00pm to 7.30pm at County Hall, Matlock.

300/13-14 RESOLVED

It was resolved to note

Information Received

Derbyshire County Council – Temporary Road Closure 5 May to 9 May 2014 Garth Way between Crofton Rise and Garth Way Close

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service – Further strikes announced.

Dronfield Hall Barn – Heritage Lottery Fund grant awarded to enable the project to go ahead

Friends of Dronfield Station – Notes of Meeting 4 March 2014 and press release regarding show of student artwork at Dronfield Station

301/13-14 RESOLVED

It was resolved to note

Publications Received

Clerks and Councils Direct

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

Proposed amendments to the Constitution

08/2014 - DALC Email, membership services, employment allowances, locum clerks, constitution, BBC1 Home Swap, clerk vacancies.

09/2014 – DALC Annual Executive, clerk and RFO networking lunch, local government pensions, induction training, playground inspection training, neighbourhood planning, community powers, localism, statutory sick pay refund, clerk vacancies

Linksline

North East Derbyshire District and Parish Liaison Group – presentations from 19 March 2014.

302/13-14 RESOLVED

The meeting noted that the above publications had been received and would be held for a period of three months

10 Advisory Committees of the Council

The Council received the minutes of the Gala Meeting held on 29 April 2014.

303/13-14 RESOLVED

It was resolved to note and Councillors were reminded to drop off any items for the hampers to the office.

11 Financial Reports

A question was raised over who deals with the accounts for the Joint Burial Authority, it was confirmed that 8 members of the Town Council sit on the Committee, the Burial Clerk does the day to day finance, the Burial Clerk and RFO complete the year end procedures which are then subject to internal and external audit examination.

11.1 Schedule of Payments for March 2014

304/13-14 RESOLVED

Members approved the schedule of payments

11.2 Schedule of Receipts for March 2014

305/13-14 RESOLVED

Members approved the schedule of receipts

11.3 Bank Reconciliation at 31 March 2014

306/13-14 RESOLVED

Members approved the bank reconciliation

11.4 Budget Monitoring at 31 March 2014

307/13-14 RESOLVED

Members approved the Budget Monitoring Report

The Meeting closed at 8.15pm