

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, DRONFIELD**  
**ON TUESDAY 2 APRIL 2013**

Present:

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

Also Present:

Andrew Tristram – Locum Town Clerk  
Four members of the public and press

Members were informed that Cllr M. Emmens had been admitted to hospital and had received an emergency operation. Members passed on their best wishes and the Town Mayor would convey these in a letter from the Council.

**1 Town Council Standing Orders**

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

**262/12-13 RESOLVED**

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

**2 Apologies**

**263/12-13 RESOLVED**

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

Councillor A Blackburn  
Councillor M Emmens  
Councillor M S Emmens  
Councillor A Foster  
Councillor R Hall  
Councillor P Widdowson

**3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of Interest at the meeting.

**4 Public Speaking**

**a) Planning matters**

None

**b) General Matters**

A member of the public raised concerns about the changes made to the 44A bus service that served Dronfield North and Coal Aston. A request was made for the Council to express concerns to Stagecoach.

**c) Police Matters**

There was no police representative present at the meeting. A written police report was received and circulated to members.

**5 Council Minutes**

**264/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on the 4 March 2013, they were adopted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

## **6 Planning**

### **6.1 Applications**

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

Comments were made on the following applications.

13/00182/FL Members requested that the Council's original concerns were noted about footings / sewers. The Council also support the Highways issues raised by Derbyshire County Council.

13/00217/FL A Member queried whether the land was owned by the applicant, part of the public highway or owned by the school and if the applicant was granted permission whether this could prevent access to buildings (in particular emergency vehicles) and maintenance of boundaries.

### **265/12-13 RESOLVED**

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning applications

### **6.2 Decisions**

#### **266/12-13 RESOLVED**

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning decisions.

## **7 Youth Matters**

Members were updated on the Independent inspection of the BMX Track.

## **8 Advisory Committees to the Council**

The Council considered the minutes of the Dronfield Gala Meeting held on 20 March 2013.

### **267/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was resolved that the minutes are accepted and noted.

## **9 Outside Services Report**

### **Litter Bins**

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

### **Civic Hall**

The upstairs meeting room has been decorated and new office furniture installed.

### **Cliffe Park**

Outside Services continue to help out with the upkeep of the park, we also have a member of staff that opens the Park in the mornings and on a Tuesday and Friday a member of staff opens up the Lodge and prepares the rooms ready for opening at 11.00. Cliffe Park staff takes over at 11.30.

### **Grit Bins**

All the grit bins have been refilled at the beginning of the month. We are now waiting on a delivery of grit so we can continue to fill the grit bins.

### **Snow Clearing**

This has continued, as at 25<sup>th</sup> March we are still continuing to clear snow, we try to keep Cliffe Park clear in as much as using the small plough to clear the footpaths and car parks and grit as we clear. Also around the Civic Hall.

### **Culverts**

The culverts along the Leabrook valley area have all been cleaned out and are being inspected on a daily basis.

### **Coal Aston Changing Rooms**

The floor tiles in the cleaner's room have been lifted and removed and new floor tiles have been laid.

### **Golf – Cliffe Park**

Over the last few months we have been trying to renew the matting for the golf, we are doing this in the Workshop when we have some time away from other duties, all the new golf matting has now been cut out and has been laid, there are 9 holes in total.

The whole golf area has also been power washed around the walls and to remove the moss.

### **Tennis –**

The tennis nets have been put up at Dronfield Woodhouse and Coal Aston, and the third net put up at Cliffe Park.

The Month of March has been busy for the Outside Service Staff due to Holidays, there has been 2-3 staff in each day over the last month.

Concern was raised by members in respect of staffing levels as a result of holidays being taken at the end of the holiday year. The Clerk was asked to look at alternative ways of arranging holiday leave to avoid problems of this kind being repeated in future years.

Members also raised the issue of potholes on local roads following the winter period.

### **268/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was resolved to receive the report and request that the Clerk contacts the County Council to ensure that Dronfield have their fair share of work done as part of the recent investment committed by Derbyshire County Council and that members inform the Clerk of specific roads within the area that they would like to prioritise and that we also ask for information on the roads that are scheduled for repair. Members also asked that a Highways Officer is invited to visit a Town Council meeting annually to explain plans and priorities for the area.

### **10 Clerk's Report**

#### **Petition against changes to bus timetables**

Members were made aware of a petition by residents in the Barnard Avenue area about alterations to the Timetables for the 43 & 44 buses.

### **269/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was agreed that the Council contact Derbyshire County Council to request that they consider subsidising the 44 service to improve the service and that the Council also contact Stagecoach to raise the concerns of the Council.

#### **Dronfield Tennis Club**

A request by Dronfield Tennis Club for the use of tennis courts at Cliffe Park was considered.

### **270/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was agreed to approve the request.

#### **Civic Hall Advisory Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Civic Hall/Gosforth Lodge Advisory Committee of 27 March 2013

### **271/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was agreed to approve the request and accept the following recommendations made by the committee.

- i. To approve expenditure of £1000 to improve signage on the café and at the entrance to the park and promotion of the café and main room.
- ii. To approve employing a casual catering person to work at weekends and provide sickness and holiday cover during the week as required
- iii. To approve expenditure on a professional coffee machine.

Members requested that a Fairtrade option is provided.

### **Information received**

Town Twinning Federation Committee - Minutes for the Meeting held on Wednesday 6 February 2013

Town Twinning Federation Committee - Minutes for the Meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2013

Friends of Dronfield Station - Minutes of Meeting No. 55 held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Cliffe Park Bowling Club

Details for Home Matches at Cliffe park for the forthcoming season.

Invitation to a meeting of the Parish and Town Council Liaison Forum on Thursday 6 June 2013 from 6pm to 8pm to be held at County Hall Matlock.

Invitation received from the Chair and Consort of North East Derbyshire District Council to a Black Tie Celebration Dinner on Friday, 3 May 2013.

### **272/12-13 RESOLVED**

The meeting NOTED that the above information had been received.

### **Publications received**

Civic Voice – Civic Update – Issues 7, 8, 9 and 10

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service – Community Fire Safety Champion Newsletter

Linkline – Newsletter of Links: The Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire CVS

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

05/2013 - Training

06/2013 - Setting the Precept and Dispensations - Allotments - Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme Review - Governments Lifts Red Tape for Community Events - Derbyshire Well Dressings

07/2013 - Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2013/2014 - Quality Parishes Scheme Survey now Live - More Support for Communities and Local Councils in Planning - Community Infrastructure Levy

### **273/12-13 RESOLVED**

The meeting noted that the above publications had been received and are available for Councillors inspection in the Town Council Office.

### **11 Financial Report**

11.1 Schedule of Payments

Members considered the schedule of payments for the month of February 2013

### **274/12-13 RESOLVED**

Members approved the schedule of payments

11.2 Schedule of Receipts

Members considered the schedule of receipts for the month of February 2013

### **275/12-13 RESOLVED**

Members approved the schedule of receipts

11.3 Bank Reconciliation

Members considered the bank reconciliation as at 28 February 2013

### **276/12-13 RESOLVED**

Members approved the bank reconciliation. .

11.4 Budget Monitoring

Members considered the budget monitoring report as at 28 February 2013

**277/12-13 RESOLVED**

To accept the Budget Monitoring Report

**12 Exclusion of Public and Press**

Exclusion of Public and Press

**278/12-13 RESOLVED**

It was resolved that the public and press be now excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items of business in order to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined by Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2004).

**NOTE** The minute record for these final items of business is recorded in a confidential final page of the minutes for Town Councillors attention only. The Public/Press then withdrew from the meeting. The items of business related wholly to:

11.1 Amendments to Staff Contracts

The Meeting closed at 8.35pm