

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, DRONFIELD
ON MONDAY 2 JULY 2012

Present:

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

Also Present:

Liz Boswell – Clerk to the Council, 5 members of the public and representatives of the press.

Public Forum – for Planning Matters

John Fletcher Chairman of the Road Safety Committee at Dronfield Infant and Junior Schools raised concerns over planning application 12/00412/FL application to vary condition 1 of planning approval 10/01102/FL to allow continued use of site for storage units beyond 31/07/12 (Conservation Area) at the Goods Yard, Chesterfield Road. Since the increased popularity of the train travel in the town there has been ever increasing pressure on parking in a number of roads in the town and with particular regard to Lea Road, Vale Close and the Church Street Car Park. The planning permission to extend the time for use a storage yard are objected to as the area would be better utilised as a way of extending car parking in the town in an area were it is urgently required. The Head Master of Dronfield Junior School has already written to the planning authority objecting to the planning application and the Town Council is asked for support in raising an objection.

Public Forum – General Matters

None

1 Town Council Standing Orders

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

36/12-13 RESOLVED

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

2 Police Matters

Councillors received crime figures as follows:

	May 2012	June 2012
Damage	3	5
Fraud	7	4
Other Theft	23	15
TFMV	5	4
Possess Drugs	3	1
Robbery	1	1
Non Dwelling Burglary	5	7
Dwelling Burglary	3	4
ABH	7	1
Common Assault	4	0
Public Order	1	0
TOMV	0	1
Arson	0	1

During May there was a rise Other Thefts largely due to thefts from a retail chain, Officers are working with staff to help prevent further offences. The most serious crime was an armed robbery at a local shop, both offenders have been arrested. Assaults in licensed premises have been a concern and some premises have been issued with an action plan or received support from the licensing team. Nuisance and ASB calls very low in May.

In June the highest area of crime was again Other Thefts; three schools have had lead flashing stolen; other items stolen were a sink from a garden, a cast iron weight, fencing panels and a climbing frame. Four homes were burgled thieves stole a car, £100 cash and paperwork. There was a spate of shed breaks on one night where garden tools were stolen. There have been four thefts from vehicles in the Coal Aston area. Operation Lucia and ANPR continue to run; these are vehicle operations to disrupt criminal activity. We urge the community to make their property secure and report any suspicious incidents while they are happening.

37/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to note the report and enquire as to how the issue of thefts of lead flashing and other materials from public buildings is being dealt with and are there any measures in place to help combat this type of crime.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor S Allsop declared an interest in 6.1 Planning Application Number 12/00566/OL
Councillor C Smith declared an interest in 6.1 Planning Application Number 12/00441/FLH
Councillor W Temple declared that she is also a Governor at Dronfield Junior School

4 Apologies

38/12-13 RESOLVED

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

Councillor A Blackburn - Other
Councillor P Blackburn - Other
Councillor L Blanshard - Other
Councillor R Smith - Other

5 Council Minutes

39/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on the 6 June 2012, they were adopted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

6 Planning Matters

Applications

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

40/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed that the Council would object to planning application 12/00503/FL for the construction of 5 3-bedroomed dwelling houses with associated parking and landscaping (revised scheme of 12/00165/FL) at 144 Chesterfield Road. There are concerns with regards to the overdevelopment of the site and that the properties are out of keeping with the area. There are concerns over the egress on to Chesterfield Road and the lack of pedestrian footway on that side of the road.

41/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed that the Council would object to planning application 12/00412/FL to vary condition 1 of planning approval 10/01102/FL to allow continued use of site for storage units beyond 31/07/12 (Conservation Area) at the Goods Yard, Chesterfield Road. The Town Council ask that consideration is given to not renewing this usage, so that consideration can be given by the owner for the conversion of much needed car parking in this location.

42/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed that the Council would object to planning application 12/00523/FL for a change of used from retail (A1) to hot food takeaway (A5) and installation of a fume extraction system (conservation Area) at 32 Chesterfield Road. The Town Council consider that the area is already well served by takeaways and any further establishments would further exacerbate the problems experienced with litter in this location. There are also

concerns over the lack of parking in the area and the growing problem of parking on double yellow lines in the evenings.

43/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed that the Council would object to planning application 12/00566/OL outline application (means of access, layout and scale not reserved) for residential development of nine units. It is asked that a site visit is carried out; as there are doubts over the access and egress in this already notorious stretch of road, there are concerns over the suitability of the site for 9 dwellings and the capacity to provide adequate car parking.

Decisions

44/12-13 RESOLVED

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning decisions provided on Appendix 5 of the meeting agenda.

7 Youth Matters

None

8 Advisory Committees of the Council

The Council considered the minutes of the following Advisory Committees.

8.1 Minutes of the Properties Advisory Committee held on 12 June 2012

45/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to receive minutes of the meeting of the Properties Advisory Committee held on 12 June 2012.

8.2 Minutes of the Party in the Park meeting held on 15 June 2012

46/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to receive minutes of the meeting of the Party in the Park meeting held on 15 June 2012.

8.3 Minutes of Gala meeting held on 21 June 2012

47/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to receive minutes of the Gala meeting held on 21 June 2012.

9 Outside Services Report

Bus Shelters - All bus shelters have been cleaned and washed down.

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

Grass Cutting - Grass cutting continues on a fortnightly basis, and also footpaths are being cut back and strimmed where required.

Flower beds - Flower beds have all been planted with summer bedding plants. The winning design of the Dronfield in Bloom flower bed competition has been planted out in Lucas Gardens. The design placed second place at Stubble Lane and third place at The Hallows.

Hanging Baskets - The Hanging baskets have been installed onto all the lighting columns and are being watered on a weekly basis.

Marsh Avenue - The Play area has been seeded and we are now waiting on the grass to get growing and then the new equipment can be installed.

Football Pitches - The goal posts have all been removed and Lightwood Landscapes are starting to get the pitches ready for the forthcoming season. We have had a lot of interest from teams requiring a pitch for next season. There will be 6 teams playing their home games at Coal Aston Football Grounds this next season, 3 more than we have had in previous years.

Cliffe Park - In the region of about 20 Summer bedding plants have again been stolen from Cliffe Park. The Police have been informed. This is an on going annual issue.

BMX Track - Some unauthorised works have taken place at the BMX track; including the removal and replacement of the Town Council lock on the metal storage shed, various earthworks and drainage trenches. A notice has been placed at the site that if access to the

container is required contact should be made through the Town Council office and any changes to the track are to be requested through the Town Council.

48/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to receive the report.

49/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved that the works to Marsh Avenue must be expedited as soon as possible.

10 Clerk to the Council's Report

Request for reduced rate for Council Chamber

One to One Support Services have request for reduced hiring rate for Council Chamber for a 12 day period to deliver health and social care courses for the unemployed.

50/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved that usage at a reduced rate of £50.00 per day should be granted for One to One Services to use the Council Chamber to deliver health and social care courses for the unemployed.

Request for use of Dronfield Woodhouse Recreation Ground

A request has been received by the Dronfield Charity Music Festival to use Dronfield Woodhouse Recreation Ground on Sunday 12th August 2012 to hold the music festival.

51/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved that permission be granted for the Dronfield Charity Music Festival to be held at Dronfield Woodhouse Recreation Ground on Sunday 12th August 2012.

Request for use of Tables

A request has been received from Ashgate Hospice for the use of ten tables on the 7th July 2012 for their Summer Fair.

52/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to grant permission for Ashgate Hospice to borrow ten tables on the 7th July 2012, it is to be ensured that tables are clearly marked as being in the ownership of the Town Council.

Request for petition

A request has been received from Dronfield Eye for a petition to be available for the public to sign in the Town Council reception with regards to the return of the St John's ambulance to Dronfield.

53/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved for permission to be granted for the petition to be housed in the Town Council Office

It was stated that the thriving St John branch in Dronfield who had won awards for their work and the excellent band are dispirited with the current situation. Funds for the St John and the First Responders have now been centralised and are no longer accessible without formal request to the local branch; it also seems that the local branch is no longer able to access their bank balance. It is understood that a number of people and groups who raised monies for a local charity are now contacting St John's and asking for a refund. The meeting thanked the Dronfield Eye for their reporting of the matter.

54/12-13 RESOLVED

A request under the Freedom of Information Act to establish how the funds held and whether they are earmarked for use in Dronfield is to be investigated

Code of Conduct update

The Localism Act 2011 overhauls the ethical standards in local government; as part of the changes the Model Code of Conduct, the District Council Standards Committee and the existing framework for dealing with complaints will cease to have effect. We will have new duties to promote and maintain high standards, adopt a code of conduct covering the seven Nolan principles, general conduct and registration and disclosure of members' interests. The District Council will still be required to deal with complaints against members of Town and

Parish Councils. It is advised that we adopt a Code of Conduct by 1 July when the new regime is meant to come into force. However, the regulations that define the new interest provisions have yet to be published by the Government, though it is likely that they will come into force on the 1 July. There are a number of draft codes that have been issued including those issued by the Local Government Association and National Association of Local Councils; or it is possible to re-adopt our existing code with various amendments. The District Council is developing a variant of the Local Government Association Code which it is likely to adopt during July. Once this has been finalised the District Council will forward the Town Council a copy. It is recommended that we give consideration to the adoption of the code as used by the District Council to aid in training, monitoring and efficient resolution of any complaints.

55/12-13 RESOLVED

The meeting noted the report

Multi-User Games Area - information

Following a complaint about the dangerous condition of the Multi-User Games Area whereby the worn and uneven nature of the pitch has apparently caused a few players to twist their ankles and stumble. The pitch has been closed until an independent assessment can take place. An inspection from the RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) is awaited.

56/12-13 RESOLVED

The Meeting noted the report

Information Received

Derbyshire County Council – Temporary Footpath Closure from 2 July 2012 to 6 July 2012 on public Footpath 76 between FP3 Mill Lane and the junction with Callywhite Lane (NB change of date from 25 June to 29 June 2012)

Derbyshire County Council – Temporary Road Closure from 23 July 2012 to 3 September 2012 on Green Lane Dronfield from the junction with Snape Hill Lane to the junction The Avenue.

57/12-13 RESOLVED

The meeting noted that the above information had been received.

Invitations Received

Dronfield District Scout Council – invitation to the AGM at Wreakes Lane, Headquarters on the 3rd July 2012 at 7.30pm.

Lea Brook Valley invitation to help with outside works in the valley on Saturday 7th July 2012 9.30am to 3.00pm; Illustrated talk on the Wildlife of Derbyshire at Dronfield Baptist Church on Saturday 7th July 2012 7.30pm to 9.30pm and an afternoon walk to the Cowley Flower Festival in Sunday 8th July 2012 2.30pm.

58/12-13 RESOLVED

The meeting noted the invitations.

Publications Received

If you wish to see any of the publications they will be held in the office for a period of three months.

Chart LSP - Newsletter

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

25/2012 – The Localism Act – Parish and Town Councils Training Event Monday 23rd July 2012 at Trowell Parish Hall

26/2012 – DALC Training

27/2012 – New Standard Regime – Code of Conduct for Parish/Town Councils

28/2012 – Appointment of New Chief Officer, Improvements to the Policy and Legal Framework for Public Rights of Way, Plan for Auditor Procurement, Audit Return 2011/2012, Membership of DALC, groundwork Derby and Derbyshire – Summer

Special Offers, Employers First Aid Obligations, Clerk Vacancy Brassington Parish Council, Clerk Vacancy Castleton Parish Council
29/2012 – Dalc President 2012-2013
30/2012 – Right to Build funding, Provision of I pads for Councillors – Duffield Parish Council, East Midlands Allotment Officers Forum, Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy Consultation, Community Directory Derbyshire
31/2012 – NALC's template Code of Conduct for Parish Councils

Derbyshire County Council

Cabinet Report for New Youth Offer is available on Line

http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/images/2012-06-12%20New%20Youth%20Offer_tcm44-206186.pdf

Excellence in the Community Awards 2012 – can be made online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/excellenceawards by post Derbyshire Excellence Awards, County Hall, Matlock DE4 3AG closing date for nominations ins Friday 10 August 2012

Links - The Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Council for Voluntary Service and Action Limited - Linksline

NDVA - Network

North East Derbyshire District Council

Consultation Draft Housing Strategy 2012 – 2015 feedback required by sarah.clow@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk 5.00pm on Tuesday 10th July 2012

http://www.citizenspace.com/neddc/consultation-team/housing_strat/consult_view

59/12-13 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 (Appendix 7)

11.1 Schedule of Payments for May 2012

Members considered the schedule of payments for the month of May 2012

60/12-13 RESOLVED

Members approved the schedule of payments for the month of May 2012

11.2 Schedule of Receipts for May 2012

Members considered the schedule of receipts for the month of May 2012

61/12-13 RESOLVED

Members approved the schedule of receipts for the month of May 2012

11.3 Bank Reconciliation at 31 May 2012

Members considered the bank reconciliation as at 31 May 2012

62/12-13 RESOLVED

Members approved the bank reconciliation as at 31 May 2012

11.4 Budget Monitoring at 31 May 2012

Members considered the budget monitoring report as at 31 May 2012

63/12-13 RESOLVED

To accept the Budget Monitoring Report at 31 May 2012

15 Exclusion of Public and Press

Exclusion of Public and Press

64/12-13 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:

12.1 Personnel Matters

12.2 Land Matters

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm