

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, DRONFIELD
ON MONDAY 4 MARCH 2013

Present:

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

Also Present:

Andrew Tristram – Locum Town Clerk
Four 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.

241/12-13 RESOLVED

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

2 Apologies

242/12-13 RESOLVED

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

Councillor M Emmens
Councillor N Foster
Councillor P Blackburn
Councillor C Smith

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor S. Allsop declared an interest in a report in Appendix 2 in respect of a planning appeal referring to Land to the rear of 14 To 22 Green Lane and 4 to 16 Park Avenue Dronfield

4 Public Speaking

a) Planning matters

None

b) General Matters

A Request was received from a member of the public for the council to investigate the condition of the Peel Monument and include it on the work programme for cleaning and weed removal.

c) Police Matters

There was no police representative present at the meeting and no written police report received

5 Review of Community Partnerships

Steve Lee – Strategic Partnership Co-ordinator for North East Derbyshire District Council explained to members the changes that had been taking place with Community Partnerships and discussed ways in which the Town Council could engage with partners and exchange information in the future

6 Council Minutes

243/12-13 RESOLVED

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

7 Planning

7.1 Applications

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

244/12-13 RESOLVED

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning applications

7.2 Decisions

245/12-13 RESOLVED

The Council received and noted the schedule of planning decisions.

8 Youth Matters

None

9 Advisory Committees to the Council

The Council considered the minutes of the following advisory committees:

9.1 Minutes of the Properties Advisory Committee held on 30 January 2013

246/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to accept the following recommendations made to Council

- a) Cliffe Park Swings – approval for swings and grass matting to be purchased
- b) CCTV – approval for the purchase of 1 camera for Gosforth Lodge and the purchase of 1 x 8 way DVR and monitor for the Civic Hall.
- c) Tipper – approval to purchase a double cab tipper delegating power to the Outside Services Foreman to obtain the best price and the Responsible Financial Officer to investigate the financing of the vehicle
- d) MUGA Maintenance – approval to purchase a quad bike for maintenance and external contractor appointed to carry out a quarterly sweep.

9.2 Minutes of the Emergency Property Advisory Group held on 25 February 2013

Recent damage sustained to the fencing at the BMX track was discussed. Members were informed that ROSPA had been contacted for guidance on whether it was necessary to close the facility.

247/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved that the minutes are accepted and noted.

9.3 Minutes of the Party in the Park Committee meeting held on 19 February 2013

248/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved that the minutes are accepted and noted.

10 Outside Services Report

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

Dog Bins – We have replaced 3 x new dog bins around the Town, we have also moved some old bins and changed them with the new type to stop the Public from depositing bags of cat litter into the bins as this makes it difficult for the Outside Services to empty due to the weight. The new bins have a lid with a chute attached which you can only deposit small bags into the bin

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 11.30am.

MUGA Pitch – The Muga pitch was officially opened at the beginning of the month. O/S staff continues on a weekly basis to power sweep the Muga Pitch twice a week to keep the pitch up to a good standard. There are still some works required around the perimeter of the pitch and drainage to be installed at the entrance where the maintenance gates are.

Grit Bins – The grit bins continued to be filled up and monitored to see how much grit we would require for during the month as I have to keep in touch with D.C.C to see what quantity we could be issued. There has only been one instance that we were refused any grit this year, which due to the fact that the main routes required salting and D.C.C were waiting on a delivery, we did receive a delivery the next day. There are 119 grit bins that require filling in Dronfield, this does take a few man hours to fill all bins, especially if the bins have been totally emptied. We have sited 2 new bins, 1 at Ashford Road and 1 at Hilltop/Salisbury Road, when we get a request for a grit bin, I have to contact D.C.C and pass on the location and the reason for a bin to be located they will then send out an Inspector to see what the location is like and where the bin could be sited taking into account footpaths, junctions. I have 8 ton of grit in a skip stored at the unit ready to top up the bins. This year there has been 109 tons of grit used plus 8 ton in yard = 117 tons; 2010/11 grit used 160 tons; 2011/12 grit used 128 tons.

Snow Clearing – This has continued this month, 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. We have to clear the Workshop Compound first to get vehicles out of garage before we can deploy to any of the above locations to help with snow and also before we can get any grit out off the compound.

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

BMX Track – The BMX Track has had the recommendations from ROSPA completed so that it can be used. We have installed 17 posts and 34 x 3 metre lengths of timber across to the rear of the track to keep the users safe and away from the drop into the valley. This is where users were making there own ramps and modifying the track without consulting the Town Council. These works were completed W/C 11/3/13. On the 21 and 22 March 13 the fence that was installed had been removed in as much as posts were pulled from the ground and 20 x 3 metres of timber were sawed then snapped in half and pulled from the posts, the timber was thrown around the area and also thrown into some of the trees. I have since removed the rest of the timber as over the weekend I would reckon the same would have happened to this. We also filled in some new ramps that the users had started to make.

Notice Boards – Notice boards continue to be changed around the Town, I will be making some secure sections for some of the notice boards as some notices are repeatedly being removed, we have installed one to the notice board next to Civic Hall, and the next one will be Hartington Road.

Church Street Car park – The car park has had a lot of work done to it, bushes, hedgerow and trees cut back to make it a lot more open and clear this should allow users to park properly and not trying to avoid the low branches. We still have some work to do to make the perimeter fence secure now that we have opened the area up.

Civic Hall Kitchen- The tiling has now been completed and new kickboards installed below units.

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, we have cut 4 new holes from the old Muga Pitch carpet, these should work better as the holes will be cut out using one piece of carpet so there will not be any joints on any of the holes, the carpet is heavy and awkward but the new holes should all be installed before Easter Holidays. We are also making number flags for each hole.

Bus Shelters – Glass has been replaced on Bus Shelters around the Town, 3 shelters req 1x 2000 x 1200 glass; 1 shelter req 1 x 1500x 665; 1 shelter req 1 x side piece (kept at unit)

249/12-13 RESOLVED

It was resolved to receive the report.

11 Clerk's Report

Coal Aston Bowling Club

A request for a handrail to be installed on the steep slope down to the entrance of the green from the car park was considered

250/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed that three quotes are obtained for the work and the request referred to the Properties advisory committee.

Friends of Dronfield Station

A request for a contribution towards the capital cost of providing a single customer information screen on the northbound platform at Dronfield Station was considered

251/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed that the request is referred to the Grants awards Panel

Dronfield 10k and Fun Run

A request for approval for the use of Sindelfingen Park on race day and the use of the new Gorsey Brigg Car Park was considered.

252/12-13 RESOLVED

It was agreed to approve the request.

Invitations Received

District and Parish Liaison Group – Meeting on 20 March 2013

Planning Committee Members Seminar – 16 April 2013

Dronfield Schools Arts Project – 20 March 2013

Community Safety Partnership Cracking Crime event – 19 March 2013

253/12-13 RESOLVED

The meeting noted that the above information had been received.

Publications Received

Civic Voice – Civic Update – Issues 4, 5 and 6

LGA Employment Relations Unit Advisory Bulletin 597

LGA Workforce Team Bulletin (31 Jan 2013)

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

02/2013 - 2013 Training

04/2013 – Spring Seminar; Finance Training; CiLCA Training

254/12-13 RESOLVED

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

12 Financial Report

12.1 Schedule of Payments

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

255/12-13 RESOLVED

Members approved the schedule of payments

12.2 Schedule of Receipts

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

256/12-13 RESOLVED

Members approved the schedule of receipts

12.3 Bank Reconciliation

Members considered the bank reconciliation as at 31 January 2013

257/12-13 RESOLVED

Members approved the bank reconciliation. .

12.4 Budget Monitoring

Members considered the budget monitoring report as at 31 January 2013

258/12-13 RESOLVED

To accept the Budget Monitoring Report

13 Exclusion of Public and Press

Exclusion of Public and Press

259/12-13 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 Minutes of the Civic Hall Advisory Committee

The Meeting closed at 8.35pm