

### Tow Law Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2007 in the Community Centre commencing at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors R Grogan (Chairman), A Blacker, J Day, J Flynn, P Graham, A Green, E Morris, G Stevens and J Stevens.

Apologies: Councillor E Gwynette.

Also Present: County Councillor T Carroll, J Abbot and G Smith (Clerk).

#### 034/07 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Flynn, Gale, J Stevens and R Grogan declared an interest in Item 9 — Millenium Green.

#### 035/07 Police Report

No report.

#### 036/07 Representations by Residents

No residents present.

#### 037/07 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Agreed as true record. Signed by the Chairman.

#### 038/07 Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 6th February 2007

Agreed as true record. Signed by the Chairman.

Members were circulated a report from Natalie Drew, Project worker, WOW. (Copy attached to the minutes).

#### 039/07 Report of The County Councillor

County Councillor Carroll reported:-

- a) County Council budget increase of 2.8%.
- b) Possible ring fencing of Budgets for Schools.

#### 040/07 Report of District Councillors

Councillor C Hayton — no report.

Councillor Grogan reported:-

- a) State of the floors in the reception area, Millenium School.
- b) Meeting with various local community! tenant associations.
- c) Proposed development day on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2007, 10.00am to 3.00pm in the Community Centre. Invitations will be sent to members of the Tow Law Community Partnership, Tow Law Community Association and Tow Law Town Council and the event will be facilitated by Mr David Craggs.
- d) Tow Law Renaissance Plan. (revisit).

Councillor Gale reported:-

- a) Bus shelter at the Mart to be recited/demolished, the bus stop was to be retained.  
Further information in the March Edition.

041/07 Millenium Green

It was agreed to refer this Item to a Special Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2007 in the Community Centre commencing at 6.30pm.

042/07 Planning Matters

- 1) Proposed park wall north surface mine, coal and fireclay scheme near Tow Law for UK Mining Ltd.  
Members felt that the suggested community payment was inadequate and further negotiations might be appropriate.
- 2) Proposed new roof to rear extension and garage (replace flat roof) at 9 Campbell Street for Mr G Craggs Members agreed to raise no objection
- 3) Proposed detached donna bungalow at Plot 3, Smith Street for Mrs Foster.  
Members agreed to raise no objection
- 4) Proposed separation of one property into two at Grove Villa for Mrs Gweneth Howe. Members agreed to raise no objection.
- 5) Proposed private garage at land rear of 120 Dans Castle for Mr S Hopper.  
Members agreed to raise no objection.

043/07 Accounts for Payment

Member agreed the following payment for invoices No's 050 to 052 in the sum of £694.30.

044/07 Financial Report

Members accepted the statement of accounts for the period 1<sup>S</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>n</sup> January 2007 (copy of the report attached to the minutes).

045/07 Anti-Social Behaviour Meeting — Public Meeting. Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2007 at Community Centre commencing 7.00pm.

The Right Honourable Hilary Armstrong M.P. will be in attendance together with the police, Community Support Officers and members of the Town Council. There was a suggestion that Councillor Grogan to Chair the meeting but the Clerk advised that it should be the Chairman of the Town Council (Councillor Batson) that should preside over the meeting. Members agreed that the Chairman of the Town Council should preside over the meeting.

It was noted that the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer from Home Housing has been invited to the meeting.

There was to be a `walkabout' on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 commencing at 10.00am.

046/07 Chairman's Report

No report.

047/07 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that he has registered the Town Council to submit a portfolio to obtain Quality Town Council status with the County Durham Association of Local Councils. Work will commence immediately to collect data/records for compiling the portfolio.

048/07 Members Report

- a) Possible removal of seat at the entrance to Pennine Way. Item to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.
- b) Wear Valley District Council (Legal Section) had been approached for advice on a possible compulsory purchase order to be placed on the premises at the former Barclays Bank, High Street. A reply was awaited.

049/07 Town Clerk — Hour 1 of Duty

Members agreed the Clerk's schedule of hours of work as from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007:-

Monday	1.00pm — 4.30pm	=	3.5hours
Tuesday	1.00pm — 4.30pm		3.5hours
Wednesday	2.00pm — 4.30pm		2.5hours
Thursday	1.00pm — 4.30pm		3.5hours
Hours worked in office			13hours
Hours worked at home			2hours
Total hours worked			15hours per week.

050/07 Date and Time of the next meeting

The next ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2007 at 6.30pm.

The meeting finished at 7.50pm.



Signed by the Chairman .

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