

## TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of **Tow Law Town Council** held on Tuesday **21<sup>st</sup> June 2011** in the Community Centre commencing at **6.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors P Graham (Chairman), J. Gale, A. Green, R. Grogan, C Hayton, W. Railton, L. Rowland and L. Taylor

**Also Present:** County Councillors J. Bailey, P Jopling, PC M Rutherford, (Durham Police), Stephen Reed (DCC) and G F Smith (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Councillors T. Batson, A. Blacker, L. Brown.

### **080/11 Declaration of Interest**

None Received

### **081/11 Presentation by Mr Stephen Reed (DCC) On section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy**

Community groups (including Parish & Town Councils) can complete an application form and bid for the fund which is ring-fenced in electoral divisions to DCC. There is a 106 working group which meet once a month to consider all applications (the group consists of Councillors and Officers). An update report is due to be sent to CDALC (details available from the web site). Mr Reed will confirm (to the Clerk) the amount of funds available in the Crook North & Tow Law electoral division and would obtain details of the 106 payment received/outstanding from the McInerney Homes development at Tow Law.

### **082/11 Police Report**

PC Rutherford presented the crime figures for May (Copy attached to these minutes), followed by a question and answer session.

### **083/11 Representation by Residents**

None present.

### **084/11 County Councillors report**

#### **County Councillor Bailey/Jobling reported:-**

- a) Boundary Committee report on the new electoral arrangement for DCC.
- b) AAP – Scrutiny Committee.
- c) Crook Baths.
- d) Consultation on Cemeteries in County Durham.

### **085/11 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

Minutes agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

### **086/11 Matters Arising**

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#### **Matters Arising (062/11)**

#### **3 year plan**

Work on the plan is ongoing, Clerk to update at the next Town Council meeting.

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#### **County Councillor s Report (065/11)**

d)106 allocation (meeting with Stephen Reed, DCC)

Agenda item no 2

e) Car Park Area – scale drawings required  
details received from DCC

**Members Reports (175/10)**

Localism Bill (Councillor Batson)

Setting up a Partnership Committee

Clerk to report to the next Town Council meeting.

**Planning Matters (026/11)**

Planning application by McInerney Homes

No further update, Clerk to contact the Planning Officer at DCC (Sinead Turnbull).

**Members Reports (035/11)**

e) Smith Street/Wolsingham Road (Councillor Rowland) - **Entrance feature**

**Clerk to arrange a meeting** with DCC (and Councillor Rowland) and report any progress to the next Town Council meeting.

f) Bridge Street (Councillor Rowland)

Entrance Feature

**Clerk** to arrange a meeting with DCC (and Councillor Rowland) and report any progress to the next Town Council meeting.

g) Cemetery at Dan's Castle (Councillor Rowland)

Inspection of area is required, Clerk to report any progress to the next Town Council meeting.

i) BMX Track – Drainage problem (Councillor Rowland)

Funding for the repairs to the drainage problem had been agreed at the last AAP Board meeting, work to be carried out by DCC.

j) Meeting of the Allotment Committee (Councillor Blacker)

Meeting scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> June was cancelled, to be re-scheduled (no date arranged)

**Chairman's Report (055/11)**

CRB Checks

Clerk to progress this matter and report to the next Town Council meeting.

**Clerk's Report (056/11)**

a) DCC – response regarding Grot Spot Campaign (3 Towns AAP)

Awaiting response from AAP Co-ordinator. Clerk to chase this matter up and report to the next Town Council meeting.

**Members Reports (057/11)**

b) Property details by Local Estate Agent (Reeds Raine)

No further update.

**Trex Gymnasium (072/11)** - Joint Steering Group

Meeting to be held in July (date to be arranged). Assistant Clerk preparing Income & Expenditure accounts.

**Millennium Green Trust (074/11)**

Checking of equipment still outstanding Chair and Councillor Gale to arrange inspection with Stephen Moralee.

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**Chairman's Report (076/11)**

Councillor Vacancy - Agenda item no 15

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**Chairman's Report (AGM 21/11)**

Meeting with Mr Bob Alders (no to Wolds Wind Farm)

Meeting arranged for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at the Church Hall commencing at 12.30

**Members Report (AGM 23/11)**

2 (i) proposed extension to doctors surgery (Councillor Rowland)

No further progress

2 (ii) MP surgeries at Tow Law (Councillor Rowland)

No further progress

4 (i) Winter Maintenance/Road Gritting (Councillor Gale)

Agenda item no 19 (3)

**087/11 Planning Matters**

Application 3/2011/0174 for Mr R Bell to construct an agricultural building on land situation at North Road.

Decision – No objections

**088/11 Accounts for payment**

That approval be given for the payment of vouchers 16 to 22 in the sum of £6515.27

**089/11 Tow Law Plan**

No further progress

**090/11 Trex Gymnasium**

Funding (£5000) from AAP received to carry out internal alterations

**091/11 Area Action Partnership**

Next meeting of the AAP Board is 14<sup>th</sup> July at Crook Civic Centre commencing at 6.00pm (Councillor Hayton to attend)

**092/11 Millennium Green Trust**

Clerk to set up banking arrangement with Barclays PLC.

**093/11 Councillor Vacancy**

Letter had been received from DCC (Electoral Manager) stating that she had not received requests from 10 electors for an election to take place, the Town Council can co-opt a replacement member.

Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Sunnyside Community Association informing them of a vacancy, due to the rule that a resident that lives within 3 miles of the Town Councils Boundary may apply for this vacancy. Clerk to update at the next Town Council meeting.

**094/11 Annual return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011**

Members agreed to approve the following:-

a)section 1- accounting statement ; balance £9811; question 11 (sole trustees) answer N/A

b)section 2 – annual governance statement; answer yes to questions 1-8 answer N/A to question 9. Chairman and Clerk to sign the above sections.

c)section 4 – annual internal Audit report.

d)Internal Auditors comments on section 4 dated 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011.

Report to be deferred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

e)Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 comparison statement for Income & Expenditure Report noted

**095/11 Draft Recommendations by the Boundary Committee on the new electoral arrangements for DCC (response by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011)**

Report to be deferred to a Special Town Council meeting (30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 commencing at 6.30pm)

**096/11 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman updated the meeting on the last CDALC Executive Committee

**097/11 Clerk's Report**

The **Clerk** reported on the following:-

1. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011

a) N-Power Community Fund – applications

Members agreed to approve the 9 recommendations.

b) Other funding applications

Members agreed to approve the 2 recommendations.

c) Buses for School summer holiday period

Members agreed to approve the programme and the recommendations

d) Christmas Trees 2011

Members agreed to approve the 7 recommendations.

**Copy of the report attached to these minutes**

2. Report of the Winter Maintenance Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011

The Clerk updated Members on a meeting with Pat Watson (Teesside University) on the evaluation of the County Durham Winter Maintenance Programme, including the funding from PCT County Durham for 2009/11 for Health improvement works.

**Copy of the discussion sheet is attached to these minutes****3. Correspondence****Items for information:-**

a) Tow Law Youth Project

b) Tow Law Youth Project (under 13 football team)

c) Durham Police Authority – working together

d) LINK County Durham Newsletter; no 30; 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011

e) Local Councils Review Magazine; summer 2011

f) CDALC Newsletter

g) County Durham Plan

**098/11 Members Report**

1) Councillor **Hayton** reported on the following:-

i) reposition of seat in Bridge Street

ii) Grove Road – Trees need trimming (to contact DCC)

2) Councillor **Gale** reported on the following:-

i) County Plan – wrap around Wear Valley Advertiser (costs)

Clerk to write to DCC Planning Officer regarding the costs of producing this article and also not all household get this free newspaper delivered. (not the best means of communications)

**099/11 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Tow Law Town Council will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre.

The Meeting finished at 8.40pm