

TOW LAW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tow Law Town Council held on Tuesday 18th March 2014 in the Community Centre, commencing at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Gale (Chairman), J. Fowler, R. Grogan, E. Hindmoor, M. Hird, and P. Stokes

Also Present: Gavin Scott, Michael Lowe (DCC), County Councillor J. Hart and G. F. Smith (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillors A. Blacker, L. Brown, A. Green, L. Rowland and C. Umpelby

038/14 Declaration of interest
None

039/14 Presentation by Gavin Scott/Michael Lowe (DCC) on the “Next steps in Neighbourhood Planning”.

The presentation included the following:-

- Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan – current situation
- Service Level Agreement
- Preparing a Neighbourhood Plan
- Initial Community Consultation
- What plans exist already
- Wear Valley Local Plan – March 1997
- The County Durham Plan – October 2013
- Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
- What support is available
- Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire

Followed by a question and answer session. The Chairman thanked the two Officers for attending the meeting

Mr Scott and Mr Lowe left the meeting

040/14 Minutes of a the Ordinary meeting held on 18th February 2014

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

041/14 Matters arising

- i) Banner Group for Tow Law – Item in next edition of newsletter
- ii) The Community Centre Clock has been repaired.

042/14 Police Report

No report received.

043/14 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Hart reported on the following:-

- Repairs to Nisa Shop – BT to move cables to allow demolition
- Capital Works (Highways) – Footpath repairs, Wolsingham Road, Bridge Street and Station Road. Asphalt repairs at Wear/Attlee/Deerness estates and replacing of various street lighting.
- Cattle Mart – spoken to developer (possible commercial use?)
- AAP meeting held 13th March 2014
- Street Surgeries

- 044/14 Representation by Residents**
Councillor Grogan raised concerns on behalf of residents in High Street regarding the state of house number 80. County Councillor Hart agreed to take this matter to the relevant County Council Officer.
- 045/14 Planning matters**
A) Planning Application DM/14/00240/FPA by Mr M Eastham for the erection of 2no detached 2 storey dwellings at 3 and 4 Millennium Court, Tow Law.
Decision – No objections
B) Neighbourhood Plan
Members agreed to sign the DCC Service Level Agreement for Neighbourhood Planning dated November 2013.
- 046/14 Accounts for payment**
Members gave approval for the payment of vouchers 95 to 107 in the sum of £2831.97. Copy of report attached to these minutes
- 047/14 Tow Law Town Plan**
A) Car Park
Awaiting details from DCC (Jill Angus)
B) Play Areas
Exhibition Boards are now ready for public consultation
- 048/14 Area Action Partnership**
A) Next AAP board meeting – 8th May 2014 at Crook (6pm)
- 049/14 Millennium Green Trust**
Councillor Hird reported on the following:-
- Receipt of grant (£2645) from Three Towns AAP
 - Working with Durham Wildlife Trust “Mini Mammal Detectives”
 - Reminder sent to Mr Ron Hogg – Litter Picking
 - Item for Northern Echo
- 050/14 Commemorating Centenary of 1st World War**
The Chair/Clerk updated Members on a recent meeting held on 13th March
- Repair/Renovation of War Memorial in High Street
 - History Group to hold exhibition in the Community Centre (1st to 4th August 2014)
 - Brownies planting bulbs
 - Clubs planting poppies
 - Planting of murals (Junior/Senior drop-in clubs)
 - Planting of Birch Trees
 - Exhibitions etc by schools
 - Next meeting 20th May at 3pm in the Community Centre
- 051/14 Chairman’s report**
The Chair reported on a meeting he attended (the AAP Board meeting 13th March 2014)

052/14

Clerk's Report

1. Newsletter at the Printers
2. Durham County Council fixed Play Provision Consultation
3. Name Change; N-Power Community fund to RWE INNOGY UK LTD Community Fund

053/14

Members Reports

Councillor Grogan reported on the following:-

- Risk assessment for the Community Centre – Clerk to request a copy from the Community Association
- Roddymoor Allotment Association – Application for an allotment Clerk to contact Colin Hemingway regarding the possible use of the Council's waiting list for allotments, report to the next Town Council meeting.

054/14

Date of next meeting

The next Ordinary meeting of Tow Law Town Council will be held on Tuesday 15th April 2014 commencing at 6.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting finished at 8.10pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 3