

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE, ON 29th OCTOBER 2014 AT 7PM.

Present: Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor R Martindale, Councillor J Power (Mayor), Councillor D Stapleton, , Councillor M Tennant-King, Councillor S Vickers, Councillor J Wright.

In attendance: Sue Coles (Town Clerk), Father J Grosu plus 6 members of public.

203/14 WELCOME & APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Councillor R Taylor, Councillor C Tennant and Josh Haller (Youth Ambassador).

204/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting is to be opened for members of the public to address the Council on matters relevant to its business. However residents cannot take part in the main proceedings of the meeting, this is strictly limited to Councillors. No matters were asked.

205/14 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

206/14 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

To consider, if thought fit, a resolution under the terms of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 that the press and public be excluded from any item which may be of a confidential nature of the business being transacted.

207/14 PRESENTATION OF GRANT CHEQUES

The Mayor presented the grant cheques to representatives of the organisations below.

- i. Featherstone Colliery AFC cheque for £450.00 for new football strip.
- ii. Wentworth White Rose Bowling Team cheque for £285.00 for new bowls and t-shirts.
- iii. St Thomas Social Club Fund - £500.00 towards new heating system.

208/14 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor attended five Civic Events in October and she had held a meeting with the Youth Ambassadors. She reminded Members to buy their Tea Dance tickets for the 30th October.

209/14 LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPORT

Councillor G Isherwood presented a cheque for £204.81 to the Mayor for her fundraising after his Ice Bucket Challenge. He asked that the Town Clerk chase the order of the noticeboard for North Featherstone Church. The Leader reminded Members that the 11th November was the start of the tree planting for the Mill Pond Meadows WW1 Project and asked for them to be present to assist the school children. Councillor M Isherwood added that she had been in discussions with Ms Kate Watson of 'beam arts people places' (which is the replacement for the Art Council) and she is making arrangements for Ms Watson to attend the next Council meeting.

Councillor G Isherwood advised that he would like to propose at the Administration & Finance committee meeting next week a donation to assist the volunteers who are erecting a stand at Featherstone Rovers.

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210/14 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

It was

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 10th September 2014 at 7pm, Minute numbers 143/14 to 162/14, be approved.

211/14 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS:

- a) To receive the minutes of the Events Committee.
- b) To receive the minutes of the Markets & Featherstone in Bloom Committee
- c) To receive the minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee
- d) To receive the minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee.

It was

RESOLVED: To receive the minutes a) to d) above.

212/14 QUESTIONS MAY BE PUT TO THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Councillor G Isherwood asked as to whether a photographer had been appointed to cover the Christmas Light Switch On. The Town Clerk confirmed that Mr Mosely had been approached. Councillor M Isherwood, with reference to Min 189/14, for Members to advise her of any projects for which a budget was required in 2015/16. Councillor G Isherwood with reference to MIN 170/14 asked if any companies had made enquires about the Tender for Featherstone in Bloom the Town Clerk advised that a couple of companies had requested details and one company had expressed concern about the Council's wish for an initial one year contract which will be continued for further years if successful since the cost of the baskets needs to be spread over three or four years to make any costings successful.

213/14 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS

- a) WMDC Planning Applications and Decisions – were noted.
- b) Licencing - Councillor Mulroe asked members to take into consideration any licensing applications which may be received in future for Green Lane since he felt that there were enough public houses and off-licences in the area already. This was noted.
- c) Town and Council Planning Act appeal by Mr M Mahmud at 68a Pontefract Road, Featherstone in respect to a planning enforcement notice APP/X4725/C/14/2225936 was read to the meeting and noted.

214/14 FINANCE REPORTS

- a) List of Accounts totalling £2,577.51 plus £4,244.30 Total £6,821.81 was presented to the meeting and approved.

Councillor Tennant-King advised that the cheque for Featherstone Rovers Foundation issued in April had not been presented for payment and it was presumed lost she asked for it to be reissued.

- b) There was no income received report.

It was

RESOLVED: To approve payments and raise a further cheque to Featherstone Rovers Foundation.

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215/14 ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

A copy of Section 3 of the Annual Return which has been signed by PKF Littlejohn LLP was received by the Council. It was noted by the auditor that there was no explanation to item 6 All Other Payments and the Town Clerk advised that the increase in expenditure to which the auditors refer was Christmas trees £8,900, Miners Memorial Garden £11,571. It was

RESOLVED: Members approved Section 3 – External auditor certificate and opinion 2013/14.

216/14 PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL WORKING GROUP WITH DENISE JEFFERY

A letter from WMDC Denise Jeffery was attached to the agenda to invite a representative to a further meeting on 30th October Councillor Mulroe confirmed he will attend.

217/14 NEWSLETTER, WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK UPDATE.

- a) Newsletter the Town Clerk advised that the newsletter was currently being delivered by the Royal Mail and that there were some mixed views on the plastic outer wrapping rather than a white envelope. Members noted.
- b) The Website is currently down due to a virus. The IT company is to load a backup and then the staff will update the site as soon as possible and a further report will be made to the Administration & Finance Committee.
- c) A Facebook account had been set up to inform residents of the Christmas events and approval was sought to make the page 'live'.

RESOLVED: Item a) and b) were noted and c) the Facebook account was approved.

218/14 REPORTS, IF ANY, FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

- a) Town & Parish Council Liaison Group – No further meeting has been held.
- b) National Coal Mining Museum – Councillor Tennant was not at the meeting.
(Members of these outside organisations have the opportunity to report on any relevant matters arising from meetings of such organisations).

219/14 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The details of the Remembrance Day Parade organised by Featherstone Branch of the Royal British Legion was given to the meeting. The Mayor will lay a wreath on behalf of the Town Council at the War Memorial Station Lane. The Deputy Mayor will lay a wreath at Streethouse, Councillor G Isherwood will lay a wreath at St Thomas' memorial and Councillor M Tennant-King will lay a wreath at the Miners Memorial.

221/14 Urgent matters for information

Councillor R Taylor's email requesting support for the Featherstone Lions application for an inspired community fund grant through Sport England supported by the Rugby League Fund was read to the meeting and noted.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.