

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE, ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015 AT 7PM.**

---

**Present:**, Councillor K Hollis, Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor R Martindale, Councillor D Stapleton, Councillor R Taylor, Councillor C Tennant, Councillor M Tennant-King (Mayor), Councillor S Vickers, Councillor J Wright

**In Attendance:** Rev J Grosu, Mr Roper, Mr Nick Cox (FaithNet) Mr Louis Brown and family members and Sue Coles (Town Clerk).

**110/15 WELCOME & APOLOGIES RECEIVED**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and received apologies from Councillor A Lapish and WMDC Councillor J Cliffe M.B.E.

**111/15 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.

**112/15 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**113/15 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 items which may be of a confidential nature of the business being transacted.

**114/15 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor presented a grant cheque to Mr Nick Cox for £400. Mr Cox thanked the Council for its contribution to the funding.

The Mayor presented a Sporting Achievement awards to Louis Brown and congratulated him on his achievements. Unfortunately Mr Jack Townend could not attend until the September meeting of the Council.

The Mayor said she had had a wonderful day at the Gala and the weather was kind.

Councillor Taylor commented that people were delighted that the Featherstone Main Brass Band had been reformed. Everyone enjoyed themselves and gave positive comments. She thanked the balloon volunteers for their hard work.

The Mayor attended the Swimming Gala yesterday and attended Normanton Town Council's 'Party in the Park' and reminded Members that the Town Council's Tea Dance is to be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.

**115/15 LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPORT**

Councillor G Isherwood thanked everyone who contributed to the Gala and added that he thought it was one of the best in the 20 years he had been helping to organise it. He asked that in future all Members of the Council contribute to the organisation of the Gala 2016 and in order to assist members who could not attend the Thursday Working Party meetings that some meetings are to be held on a Friday. The handing out of flags was popular again. The new gala tents were really useful and the van was a good move. He attended the Swimming Gala and said it was great to see the kids' joyful faces.

Councillor G Isherwood referred to the PASG working party selection process, for the artist who will be commissioned to design the public art for Millpond Meadows, which had shortlisted 5 candidates to be interviewed on the 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Councillor G Isherwood advised that Councillor M Isherwood had asked him to get involved with the WMDC Literary Festival meetings which are being held in the Library. The festival involved J K Rowling, Hairy Bikers, Ian Clayton and Michael Wood.

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE, ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015 AT 7PM.**

---

**115/15 LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPORT Cont'd...**

Councillor C Tennant was asked to give an update on the Gala parade he informed the meeting that the Police had not been present on the day and Steward David Argent and his team with Jason King of Media Events did a professional job. He asked for a debrief working party meeting and thought the Council needed more 'muscle' to assist in the erecting and dismantling of the Gala site and this should be paid for if necessary.

Councillor M Isherwood spoke about the WMDC Literary Festival which was previously planned for the 26<sup>th</sup> September but brought forward to the 19<sup>th</sup> September. It involves the whole of Featherstone and goes out to all the schools, Ian Clayton and Michael Wood are Patrons. This puts Featherstone on the map and she is very pleased to be involved and already a Murder Mystery Tea Dance is being considered.

**116/15 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

- a) **MIN 40/15.** Members had received news that the Play Forum had been disbanded and the Town Clerk was asked to write to Ms Horobin to ascertain where the Council's grant of £500 had been used. It was

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 pm minute numbers 36/15 to 52/15 be approved with a) as above.

**117/15 MINUTES OF THE LEADER'S GROUP MEETING**

- a) **MIN78/15(LG)** Councillor G Isherwood agreed with this minute for quotation for Park Grass cutting.
- b) **MIN 79/15(LG)** Councillor G Isherwood advised the meeting that this minute was totally wrong and he did not state that he would contact the Police Commander on Friday morning what he did say was that he would speak to the sergeant on Friday morning. There was no way in which he can approve the minutes and asked the Town Clerk why a minute was compiled for a Leaders Group meeting and where were the other minutes to other Leaders Group meetings. The Town Clerk explained that there had only been one other meeting where an officer of the Council had been present at a Leaders Group meeting and those Minutes had been brought to the following Council meeting for approval in the same way. Council Standing Orders does not allow individual Councillors to instruct staff members and without a minute to give instructions to staff members their actions would not be covered by insurances.

Councillor G Isherwood further explained that to take it a stage further because he wasn't getting any progress he went to Insp D Bugg and he asked about using Jason King Media Events and he read an email received from the Inspector dated 25<sup>th</sup> June which was passed to the Town Clerk which also contained further information regarding signage. It was

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Leaders Group meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June at 12.35pm number 78/15(LG) and 79/15(LG) be revised and presented to the next meeting of the Council.

**118/15 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS:**

- a) To receive the minutes of the Event Committee dated 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015
- b) To receive the minutes of the Grants Committee dated 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015
- c) To receive the minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee dated 18<sup>th</sup> June
- d) To receive the minutes of the Events 2015 Working Party dated 25<sup>th</sup> June

The minutes a) to d) above were noted.

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE, ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015 AT 7PM.**

---

**119/15 QUESTIONS MAY BE PUT TO THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

No questions were raised.

**120/15 PENSIONS**

A report was submitted to the earlier Administration & Finance Committee with the following RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL: *That Featherstone Town Council be nominated for membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016. All officers employed by the Town Council in future are also deemed to be herewith nominated for membership of the scheme.*

This resolution was changed and it was therefore

**RESOLVED:** That from the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 the council will engage a pension scheme for employees but investigations will be made into other providers.

**121/15 WMDC GRASS MOWING**

Due to drastic budget reductions at WMDC it was necessary for the Town Council to instruct WMDC to cut the Purston Park grass to a satisfactory standard in time for the Gala. Members were asked to consider the attached costings for Priory Road, Purston park, Lister Clerk and the Tank Field and consider future cuts this year. To also reach an agreement as to whether the Town Council should take over the full mowing costs in the town in 2016/17. Councillor G Isherwood clarified the report to add that the Council are not mowing all the Park just the areas which WMDC leave un-attended this year. Council Taylor said that one of the things they picked up was that no consultation had been made to WMDC members and this has caused the problems. Councillor M Isherwood asked about Lister Close since this was primarily a dog walking area. Councillor G Isherwood suggested that the Town Council accept the costs for Priory Road and Purston Park and that an urgent decision is required since different machinery and different costs are incurred for different lengths of grass. The Town Clerk is to inform WMDC on the 9<sup>th</sup> July. It was

**RESOLVED:** Councillor M Isherwood proposed and Councillor Taylor seconded that the Town Council accept the costs for Priory Road and Purston Park for 2015 only.

**122/15 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS**

- a) WMDC Planning Applications and Decisions – These had been forwarded to members by post and email
- b) Wakefield Council: Gypsy Travel and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2015. Members have been forwarded via email the consultation details for online comments.
- c) No other planning matters had been received after the date of the agenda.

It was

**RESOLVED:** to note items a) to c) above.

**123/15 REPORTS, IF ANY, FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:**

- a) Town & Parish Council Liaison Group-Meeting – no meeting
- b) National Coal Mining Museum – Councillor C Tennant

No meetings had been held. Members noted.

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE, ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015 AT 7PM.**

**124/15 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

<b>Date</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
June	Health Watch Annual Report	No comments
16.07.15	Streethouse Primary School	A report from a pupil was attached to the letter from the school to thank the Council for the funding of their trip to the NCMM
07.07.15	Post Office	Information about the Priory Road Post Office
07.07.15	Jesters Gymnasts	Thanking the Council for the Gala stall which helped to raise £300 for their club.

**125/15 Urgent matters for information only**

Councillor C Tennant requested that a Highway officer is asked to attend the September meeting to discuss HGV vehicles using Hall Street and Ackworth Road and what checks are being carried out for weight limits and speed limits.

Councillor S Vickers requested that the Events Working Party look at the catering for 2016 Gala since the waiting time in the queues this year was too long. Councillor M Isherwood suggested more variety of food vans. Councillor Taylor suggested a continental café van. Councillor G Isherwood suggested a food hall arrangement, Councillor M Isherwood suggested a food village style.

The Mayor asked about the response to the Council's letter to the Yorkshire Bank and the Town Clerk advised that a manager had suggested a meeting later this month. Councillor G Isherwood stated that the decision was fait accompli and there was no point.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm. There are no meetings in August the next Council Meeting will be Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015.