

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE, ON WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7PM.**

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**Present:** Councillor K Hollis, Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor A Lapish, 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:** Sue Coles (Town Clerk) WMDC Councillor J Cliffe MBE and Mrs Garbutt.

**WELCOME & APOLOGIES RECEIVED**

No apologies were received.

**228/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The meeting is to be opened for members of the public to address the Council on matters relevant to its business.

Mrs M Garbett spoke about the Green Lane Link Road informed Members that since the road was opened that it had been a living nightmare for her family and neighbours. At the time of the construction Highways had promised that a chicane would be placed on the road which would keep traffic to an acceptable speed. Councillor R Taylor advised that the HGV weight restriction would be put into place in Station Lane shortly. Councillor G Isherwood advised that he had spoken to the everyone he could without success and asked the Town Clerk to write to Mr N Rodgers, Service Director at Highways to ascertain why the chicane had not been put in place.

**229/15 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared.

**230/15 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.

**231/15 MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor has been to a number of interesting events recently; Wakefield Council for Remembrance Service, on Friday she would attend the Cricket Club annual dinner at King's Croft, on the 15<sup>th</sup> she will attend the NCMM official opening of the Miners' Memorial Garden. South Elmsall Town Council and Normanton Town Council Christmas Lights and the Mayor of Wakefield Councillor J Cliffe MBE's Glamour and Gliz evening.

At our own Remembrance Service she laid the wreath for the town Council at the Mill Pond Meadows Commemorative Wood to lay a wreath with other Members of the Council.

**232/15 LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPORT**

Councillor G Isherwood also spoke to Members about the Mill Pond Meadows Commemorative Wood and added that he can't thank Mr R Parkinson enough for his work at the site. Both Mr & Mrs Parkinson were present at 11am this morning.

Further enquiries have been made about the planning application for Aldi and it is hoped that the WMDC planning decision will be made by the 25<sup>th</sup> November. It appears that two amendments to the application have been made to the conditions of the delivery times and drainage.

He asked that the Town Clerk send a letter to Featherstone Academy to congratulate them on the excellent results of the school.

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**233/15 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

It was

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00 pm. Minute numbers 195/15 to 212/15 were approved.

**234/15 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS:**

To receive the minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee dated 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 with two recommendations to Council.

i. (MIN 186/15, Mill Pond Meadows was resolved at MIN 209/15) **for information only.**

ii. MIN 189/15, It was

**RESOLVED:** that the Precept request for 2016/17 will remain at £104,000 which represents a zero increase.

iii. MIN 194/15, It was

**RESOLVED:** That the Pensions Trust is appointed to administer the Council's pension scheme and that the settling up costs be borne by the Council.

**235/15 QUESTIONS MAY BE PUT TO THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE/S**

None were received.

**236/15 THE CIVIC REGALIA**

The Town Council has two Civic Chains of office; the Mayor of Featherstone's Chain (Gold) and the Chairman's Chain for the Featherstone Urban District Council (Silver with gold overlay).

Since 2010 the Civic Chains of office have been awarded to the Mayor of Featherstone and the Deputy Mayor of Featherstone at the Annual Mayor Making with the consorts badges being of a nominal value.

The Mayor Councillor M Tennant King and the Leader of the Council Councillor G Isherwood have requested that the Council reviews this process and therefore it was

**RESOLVED:** That when the Deputy Town Mayor is not using their chain of office then it will be available to the Mayor's Consort. That nothing be granted to consorts in the future at Mayor Making.

Discussion ensued as to the valuation of the chains and as to whether Councillors had suitable household insurance in place should they have the chains in their possession and unable to bring them back to the safe. This matter is to be placed on the next agenda of the Administration & Finance Committee.

**237/15 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS**

- b) WMDC Planning Applications and Decisions – Noted
- c) Application at Park Lodge Farm, Park Lane, Pontefract. 15/01875/FUL for emergency standby electricity generation facility comprising: modern modular diesel generator units (up to 50 in total) – There was no further information to report and WMDC Members' believed it to be refused.
- d) Application at New Road, Featherstone, Pontefract. 15/02078/FUL for the construction and operation of a 20MW embedded Short Term Operating Reserve and Peak Power

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**237/15 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS (Cont'd..)**

(STOR) generating plant and auxiliary equipment and access. A letter from Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners was attached to the agenda offering to attend a Town Council meeting to discuss Members objections. Councillor G Isherwood said that it was the principle of the application since there was no details on the type of fuel being used and as the Town Clerk advised the total amount of fumes will not be calculated between this and the application 15/1875/FUL. The Coal Power stations were closed and are now being replaced by fuels giving off worse emissions over the Featherstone area. Councillor R Taylor added that these applications are being subsidised by National Government which is planning by stealth. Councillor G Isherwood said that the Council should revise its original objection; *that increasingly this type of planning in country areas is increasing emissions which currently aren't present to a detrimental effect to the high-density residential areas.*

- e) WMDC Leisure Recreation Open Space Local Plan and
- f) WMDC Retail and Town Centre Local Plan- Both of these plans are available to view on line. Councillor G Isherwood explained that Lidl was included in the retail high street which would be beneficial to make improvements to the junction. However the proposed development at Aldi will not be included.
- g) Green Lane Link Road. Mr P Barker has written to the Council to highlight the concerns of parking which is blocking access to his house at Green Lane as a result of the opening of the Green Land Link Road and also damaging his car which has resulted in three wing mirrors and a long scratch down the length of his car. Member felt this had been discussed in Public Question Time are there no further comments to be made.
- h) Walton Neighbourhood Development Plan – Decision Statement – noted.

**238/15 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF MARKET STALL ERECTION AND DISMANTLING SERVICE**

WMDC have forwarded to the Council a service level agreement for the provision of the Market stalls. The price is £5,958 per year which included £5,100 for the stalls, £280 for mileage and £578 for the licence. These fees also include the storage at Tanshelf where the Town Council remains responsible for the maintenance of them and also the market trailer. Members are asked to make a decision as to whether they wish to retain the stalls. The current market traders are bringing their own stalls to reduce the cost to them and only two traders; fruit & veg, and fish are constant attendees. Jewellery, clothing and garden ornaments are currently variable in their attendance.

Councillor G Isherwood advised Members that the Town Council was wasting money in these austere times and the stalls should not be put up on a weekly basis. But the Council wishes to retain the stalls for themed markets. It was

**RESOLVED:** That the WMDC Markets Manager be asked to attend a working party to discuss this further.

**239/15 FEATHERSTONE ACADEMY MISSION 2015 PROJECT**

Year 8 students are currently involved in the Wakefield Schools / W D H 'Mission 2015' project. The project is a 'Dragons Den' / 'Apprentice' style activity, which asks learners to focus on a 'Big Idea' which would improve their local environment. They are focusing their projects on Featherstone and are hoping that a local council representative could come into school to discuss and listen to the pupils' ideas. Members also received an email from three youngsters' taking part in the project which was read to the meeting. It was

**RESOLVED:** That a date be ascertained and that Councillors' G Isherwood, M Isherwood, Tennant and the Mayor will attend subject to date and time.

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**240/15 REPORTS, IF ANY, FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:**

- a) Town & Parish Council Liaison Group-The Town Clerk attended a meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October and a report was attached to the agenda.
- b) National Coal Mining Museum – Councillor C Tennant advised that there was no further information.

(Members of these outside organisations have the opportunity to report on any relevant matters arising from meetings of such organisations).

**241/15 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

<b>Date</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Nov	The Prince of Wales Hospice	Newsletter
Nov	Mark Burns-Williamson West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner.	Newsletter
<b>Any other correspondence received</b>		

The meeting was closed at 8.20pm