

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE ON WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor R Martindale, Councillor D Stapleton, Councillor R Taylor, Councillor Maureen Tennant-King, Councillor C Tennant and Councillor S Vickers.

In Attendance: Sue Coles (Town Clerk).

331/16 WELCOME & APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Councillor K Hollis and Councillor J Wright.

332/16 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.

333/16 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C Tennant in Minute 337/16.

334/16 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 17, 18, 19, which may be of a confidential nature of the business being transacted.

335/16 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

It was

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meetings held on the 9th December 2015 at 7.00 pm, Minute numbers 277/15 to 291/15 and the 13th January 2016 at 7.00pm, Minute numbers 303/16 to 321/16 be approved.

336/16 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor advised that her Civic functions had been very quiet since Christmas. There were several events coming up in Normanton. The children from St Thomas School had written a song after their visit to NCMM and the Headteacher thanked the Town Council through the Governors meeting for its sponsorship of the educational trips. The Town Council's Tea Dance tickets are now with the Mayor because the lady who sells them is too poorly to continue. Members suggested Dransfields may sell them on the Council's behalf and also asked for publicity of the event to be placed in the Pontefract and Castleford Express.

337/16 LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPORT

Members of the Council had been to the rehearsals of the Off The Shelf production of Little Red Riding Hood and Councillor G Isherwood was keen to support the group financially. Originally the money which the Town Council put into the construction of the Community Centre was paid to support the Featherstone Amateur Dramatics Society which is no longer running and he thought that this group should be supported instead. He went on to suggest that perhaps the Town Council could commission the group to put on a couple of performances. This will be discussed at the March Administration & Finance Committee in March.

Councillor G Isherwood highlighted to Members the fracking report on Wakefield Council's agenda February and requested that this item is placed on March agenda for discussion.

338/16 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS:

- a) To receive the minutes of the Markets & Featherstone in Bloom Committee dated 13th January 2016. Clarification was sought about minute 300/16 and it was confirmed that the resolution *Traders are to bring their own stalls and the trailer, with stalls, is handed back to WMDC* was correct.

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338/16 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS:

- b) To receive the minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee dated 14th January 2016. It was

RESOLVED: That the minutes a) to b) above and the resolutions contained within them be received by the Council.

339/16 QUESTIONS MAY BE PUT TO THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE/S

None were made.

340/16 CASUAL VACANCY ON CENTRAL WARD

Members were advised that Wakefield Council have confirmed that no-one has requested an election. It was agreed that posters and social media will now advertise the vacancy and anyone interested in being co-opted will be asked to attend the March Council meeting to meet with Members. The decision as to who to co-opt will be made at that meeting.

341/16 VANDALISM TO CHRISTMAS TREES

Members had requested that a discussion on this item was required but it was agreed that this had been a 'knee jerk' reaction since the lights have now been taken down by WMDC. It was thought that the length of the lights on the tree were attracting anti-social behaviour and this should be considered at the Christmas Working Party. However the small Christmas trees on the lampposts had been very well received and it was thought that if they could be alternated between white and coloured it would have made the display all the better.

342/16 COMMITTEE REVIEW WITH APPROVAL OF DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS.

- a) A list of the dates and times of meetings for 2016/17 with amendments requested at the last meeting was approved.
- b) A list of councillors, committees and signatories were presented in order to clarify the representatives on each committee and suggested Chairs and Vice Chairs for 2016/17. A request to also approve a new bank signatory was agreed.

Councillor G Isherwood proposed that there were occasions when the committee meetings were inquorate and it was

RESOLVED: that the Committee system will continue as present and membership is to include all Members' from May 2016. This was seconded by Councillor R Martindale and agreed by everyone. The signature of Mrs Symons (to replace Mr D Bond left 30.09.2015) on the Co-op bank accounts was agreed.

343/16 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS

- a. WMDC Planning Applications and Decisions – Members noted
- b. Wakefield Local Development Framework - online consultation on two design guides for Wakefield District Residential Design Guide and Wakefield City Urban Design Framework until 17th February. Members noted.
- c. Road surface damage to Girnhill Lane by new Strata development. Councillor G Isherwood advised that Strata had to relay half of the road at Girnhill Lane under its contract with Wakefield Council. This left the other half of the road needing covering and WMDC has agreed to undertake this.

Any other planning matters as follows:

- d. Wakefield Local Development Framework Design supplementary Planning Documents Consultation was now available on line for comments. Members noted.
- e. Wakefield Local Development Framework – Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule approval. The conclusion of the CIL charging schedule as made at Wakefield Council on 20th January. Councillor M Isherwood requested that an officer from Wakefield attends the next meeting of the Council to discuss the implications for Featherstone.

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344/16 REPORTS, IF ANY, FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

- a) Town & Parish Council Liaison Group – The minutes of the 27th January 2016 were now available.
- b) National Coal Mining Museum – Councillor C Tennant
(Members of these outside organisations have the opportunity to report on any relevant matters arising from meetings of such organisations).

345/16 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

| Date | FROM | COMMENTS |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 26.01.16 | Scope | Notification of house to house collection from 28 th March to 17 th April. |
| January | Healthwatch Wakefield | Newsletter |
| Wakefield Council | Flood Awareness | Drop-In event on Wednesday 10 th Feb at Castleford Civic Centre. www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood . Or 03459 881 188 |

346/16 Urgent matters for information only

Reminder that the Dementia Action Alliance training will be held on Thursday 25th February at 12 noon in the Town Hall and all Members are requested to attend.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

347/16 MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2016/17

It was

RESOLVED: Councillor S Vickers is to be nominated as Mayor 2016/17 and Councillor M Isherwood is to be nominated as Deputy Mayor 2016/17 at Mayor Making.

348/16 CIVIC AWARDS

Members approved a nomination from Councillor M Tennant-King.

349/16 STAFFING MATTERS

It was

RESOLVED:

1. That Mrs Symons is appointed Deputy Town Clerk on 16 hours per week.
2. That the post of Administration Assistant is advertised and Councillor M Isherwood to liaise with the Town Clerk for the job description and the interview process.

Pensions:

3. That the Direct Debit for the Pensions Trust payments be signed.
4. That the Council's AVC contribution is at zero %
5. That the annual insurance lump sum for death in service is to be at £15,000 at a cost of £55.50.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.