

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE ON WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Councillor K Hollis, Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor R Martindale, Councillor R Taylor, Councillor C Tennant, Councillor M Tennant-King, Councillor S Vickers (Mayor), Councillor C Woodhead and Councillor J Wright.

In Attendance: Sue Coles (Town Clerk) and Mrs. V Heaps (Mayor's Secretary).

297/16 WELCOME & APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Councillor A Lapish and Councillor D Stapleton.

298/16 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.

299/16 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 15 on the agenda: Councillor K Hollis, Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor R Taylor, Councillor C Tennant, Councillor M Tennant-King, Councillor M Isherwood (Deputy Mayor) also, with Councillor S Vickers (Mayor) in MIN 307/16.

300/16 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 such as the Community Centre Lease which may be of a confidential nature of the business being transacted.

301/16 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor attended the laying of a wreath at Mill Pond Meadows on the 11th November at 11am and the RBL Remembrance Service on the 13th November. Switch On on the 23rd November was brilliant. He attended Cod Steak's workshop with the children of Streethouse School and helped the children make poppies. The Tea Dance on the 24th was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and he particularly thanked Mr T King who went out of his way to look after a gentleman who was attending his first event after a close bereavement.

The Mayor attended B&M stores opening and who donated two hampers for his fundraising. He had received lots of positive feedback about Santa Day and a card from Billy Morgan who thanked Santa and everyone at the Community Centre. The Soft Play was a 'master stroke' and was a priceless aid to waiting parents. The Library staff were brilliant and they had done most of the clearing up after the event.

302/16 LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S REPORT

Councillor G Isherwood reiterated the Mayor and he thanked Councillor M Isherwood for the refreshments at the Tea Dance. He and Councillor Taylor took 42 selection boxes to the disabled children at Star House and were warmly greeted with their gifts. He had also mentioned to the Unite Union the needs of the Faithnet Foodbank and the Union had sent a cheque for £500 donation which he took to Faithnet along with some selection boxes. Councillor G Isherwood thanked Councillor M Tennant-King for the eBay purchase of stands and rope barriers plus the collection thereof. He thought that the soft play was a great success and he was now looking for a junior bouncy castle for next year.

Councillor M Tennant-King asked for a 'feedback' working party discussion in January. Councillor Wright thanked Mrs Heaps for her role as Mayor's Chaplain. Councillor M Isherwood thanked the Council staff for their assistance with events. Councillor Tennant thanked Media Events and Karen the face painter who worked tirelessly all day.

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303/16 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

It was

RESOLVED: To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council MIN 259/16 to 274/16 held on the 9th November 2016.

304/16 MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

a) To receive the minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee dated 3rd November 2016 MIN numbers 235/16 to 248/16.

b) To note a factual correction to the **signed** minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee dated 12th October 2016 MIN number 197/16 which should read: *Councillor Vickers spoke about Rackham Housefloors Ltd who would like to know more about the concreting requirement of the horse with a view to assisting. (Not transportation).*

It was

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the Administration & Finance committee and note the factual correction at (b).

305/16 PASG WORKING GROUP MEETING AND WORKSHOPS

The Administration & Finance Committee approved the minutes of the PASG working party meeting held on the 1st December. The Council was informed that the planning application will be made this week. Councillor M Isherwood had attended a Cod Steaks workshop at North Featherstone J&I School which was very successful. All the Headteachers' had expressed their delight with the work created and each school had been left with a large model of the same 'War Horse' which will be erected on Mill Pond Meadows in 2017. The models will be kept by the schools and are decorated with poppies made by the children.

The dates for the official unveiling of the 'War Horse' were discussed and the office is to contact the West Yorkshire Lord Lieutenants office.

306/16 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS

- a) WMDC Planning Applications and Decisions had been circulated prior to the meeting and noted.
- b) 16/02251/CPL Common side Lane Featherstone. Installation of 4. (No) Gas Engines and use of the site, including existing industrial unit and storage tanks for the generation of electricity by gas. This application fell outside the definition of development. It had been publicised on Wakefield's website but is not subject to advertisement and has been approved. Councillor G Isherwood explained the gas extracted will be from the Old Snydale mining site.
- c) Any other planning matters – BT has advised of the removal of two red telephone boxes in Featherstone – there were no objections raised at the meeting.
- d) Licensing matters: New Market Aro, 26 Station Lane. Members were informed that the application had been approved even though there had been a number of objections from solicitors and the police. The trading area is limited to 20% of the very small size shop.

Councillor G Isherwood advised Members to look carefully at all planning/licensing applications especially when Town Council officers' have highlighted applications for consideration.

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307/16 MAYORS ALLOWANCE

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor left the meeting and Councillor Tennant was elected to take this agenda item.

Members were asked to consider an increase in the Mayor's allowance to £1,500 in order that the Mayor receives £1,000, as at present and the Deputy Mayor receives £500 to assist with their costs for each Civic year when deputising for the Mayor. It was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Taylor and it was

RESOLVED: That the Mayors allowance is increased to £1,500 of which £500 is given to the Deputy Mayor each year.

308/16 REPORTS, IF ANY, FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

- a) Town & Parish Council Liaison Group – none
- b) National Coal Mining Museum – Councillor C Tennant advised the Council that at the October meeting of the NCMM it was agreed that with the closure of the mine the museum needed to be made more sustainable. One idea is to develop the blacksmiths shop to a profit making enterprise i.e. storytelling. He highlighted BBC's Last Miners t.v. programme about Kellingley Colliery. Discussions were taking place with Wakefield College to train apprentices in electrical and mechanical engineering. Councillor Tennant-King commented that there were now two miners' figures at the entrance to the NCMM and was informed that UK Coal had sponsored Rugby League and the figures had been a denotation. Councillor M Isherwood said that Santa's Grotto was down inside the mine and was well worth a visit.

309/16 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Date	FROM	COMMENTS
November	RBL card to acknowledge poppy appeal	Donations of £13.47 received - noted
26.11.16	Mrs A Shenton via email to thank the Council for Christmas trees on Wakefield Rd.	Noted
08.11.16	Yorkshire Local Council's welcoming letter which also contains access details for information to their website. The details are not to be given to the general public and a copy letter is in Members envelopes.	Noted
Any other correspondence received		

310/16 Urgent matters for information only no decisions can be made.

To place, the provision of defibrillators in the town, on the next agenda.

It was noted that the design for the Welcome to Streethouse had been received in the office and, as already agreed, would be ordered from Express Signs.

Councillor Tennant-King advised that in St Thomas Churchyard there were Christmas Trees planted for loved ones by Mr & Mrs Butler. Councillor G Isherwood reminded Members that it shouldn't cost residents a lot of money to make Featherstone a better place and he encouraged them to apply for grants.

The office was informed of Ackton Christmas tree lights being off again and other lights in the town.

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Councillor Tennant-King informed Members about the Sub-Committee decision to support L P Nutrition who are making available free dinners for the elderly on Christmas Eve and asked that Members supported their efforts.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

311/16 HEADS OF TERMS FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE LEASE

There were no further updates available.

Closure, next meetings and Christmas Events

The Mayor thanked all Members for their support this year and reminded them that there was the Civic Carol Service on the 14th December at 6.30pm.

The office will be closed over the Christmas period from Friday 23rd December to Tuesday 3rd January 2017 when normal office opening times resume.