

PENISTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on March 16th 2015 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Shrewsbury Rd, Penistone

Present: The Mayor Cllr. Marsh, in the chair, Cllrs. Barron, Cutts, Hand – Davis, Hinchliff, Mrs. Hinchliff, Millner, Mrs. Rusby, Steel, Webber

Also present the **Acting Town Clerk, Amanda Hart, Paula Tweed and Matthew Smith from BMBC Policy Management & Development respectively, the public and press.**

The **Town Mayor** introduced Paula Tweed and Matthew Smith who respectively gave presentations addressing questions put to them previously by the Town Clerk on behalf of Penistone Town council. These covered aspects of the Local Development Plan and of Neighbourhood Plans and of the planning process. The councillors then were able to ask questions and raise various points of interest and concern all of which were answered at length by the officers from BMBC. There then followed a discussion on various aspects of Section 106 and affordable housing.

The **Town Mayor** thanked Paula Tweed and Matthew Smith for their attendance and then offered ten minutes public participation prior to the meeting proper.

Questions asked were:

1. Brownfield site development – a Freedom of Information request had revealed BMBC had 80 acres of such land and that the amount held by the Coal Board was unknown
2. Development proposed around Wellhouse Lane and the surrounding area was an example of ‘aggressive planning’.
3. Pedestrian access for the Hartcliff development – the road leading in is too narrow for pavements.
4. Affordable housing is not always going to local people.

There being no further questions the **Town Mayor** told the meeting that Ed Elliot was leaving the Barnsley Chronicle, he would be missed and all present wished him well for the future. The **Town Mayor** then opened the meeting proper.

1. Apologies for absence – Apologies were received from **Cllrs. Pilkington, Unsworth, Mrs Webber**

RESOLVED the apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

In accordance with Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2011

The **Town Mayor** invited declarations of which Cllr. Hinchliff and Mrs. Hinchliff declared interests in agenda item 7c application for financial assistance from Penistone Cricket Club.

Signed.....Mayor - 20 April 2015

3. Approval of Minutes.

The Minutes of the following meetings were **approved** a true record and signed by the **Town Mayor** accordingly

- a) The Town Council Meeting held on February 16th 2015
- b) The Planning Committee held on February 16th 2015
- c) The Leisure and Amenities Committee held on March 2nd 2015
- d) The Development and Regeneration Committee held on March 9th 2015

4. Reports from Elected Members of Barnsley M.B.C.

Cllr. Hand – Davis reported he had no contact from BMBC over the problem of the infrastructure within Penistone, there has been a changeover of staff in Highways but he will keep pressing for answers. That there will be development is irresistible and the provision of affordable housing is a complex issue with criteria having been changed..

Cllr. Mrs. Rusby agreed with Cllr. Hand-Davis's comments and made the point that affordable housing is not the same as social housing. The demand for executive housing is due to the area being desirable to live in; in turn this will bring business to Barnsley. **Cllr. Webber** commented that the BMBC core strategy states that affordable housing is needed in the west of the borough so there is a long established need. However there has to be free land and developers to build.

Cllr. Barron raised the question of provision of defibrillators, there followed discussion re financing and placement at it was agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting.

The **Town Mayor** thanked the members for their reports.

5. Correspondence.

The following items of correspondence were **NOTED**

- a) Thank you letter Penistone Competitive Music Festival
- b) Barnsley MBC Clean and Green Commission
- c) YLCA Delegation of planning decisions to the clerk
- d) South Yorks Fire and Rescue Authority briefing note
- e) Local council award scheme

Cllr. Millner wishes the council to progress to Quality Gold Status. It was agreed to refer this item to the Town Services Committee

6. Leisure and Amenities Report.

Cllr. Cutts reported on the following:

Live events – Vienna Festival Ballet, And Finally Phil Collins, Centre Stage Musicals in their 93rd year, When the Lights Go On Again, also MGMVC supported by South Yorkshire Police band concert on 11th April.

Films & Satellite – Good variety booked for Easter period as per website

Budget – film attendances are still above budget, we are doing good business

Repairs & Maintenance – all ongoing and should be completed by April except for the replacement screen which has been postponed due to extra work needed

Cllr. Cutts was thanked for his report

Signed.....Mayor – 20 April 2015

7. Accounts and Finance.

The following accounts had been previously circulated to Members and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the following:

- a) The General Account to the sum of **£16,380.39**
- b) The Paramount Account to the sum of **£32,919.08**
- c) Request for financial assistance from Penistone Cricket Club –**APPROVED** £250.00
- d) Request for financial assistance from Penistone Country Market for - **DECLINED**
The grants to be taken from the Section 137 budget
- f) Request for financial assistance from Young Embroiderers was deferred but subsequently a grant was given from the Mayor’s charity.

8. Resource Centre.

In the absence of the **Town Clerk** there was no report.
NOTED

9. Community Centre.

In the absence of the **Town Clerk** there was no report.
NOTED

10. Public Toilets.

The **Town Mayor** stated that the work associated with the electricity meter was being started on 1st April. He had a contact from Warrington coming to advise and give an alternative quotation for the door which may be cheaper than the present one. There is also a possibility of obtaining a grant towards this.
NOTED

11. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Webber ran through the points raised by Ian McKay after the Development and Regeneration committee meeting. **Cllrs. Webber** and **Millner** recommended that the council should investigate further the possibilities of producing a Neighbourhood Plan. There followed a discussion and it was agreed not to set up a steering group until after the election. A vote was taken on whether to register with BMBC to designate a neighbourhood area as an initial step – **CARRIED** with **Cllr. Barron** objecting. **Cllr. Webber** volunteered to do this in the absence of the Town Clerk

The meeting then went into committee to discuss the staffing situation.

Signed.....Mayor – 20 April 2015

12. Date and Time of the next meeting.

Town Council April 20th at 7.0pm in the Town Hall, Shrewsbury Rd