

PENISTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on Monday
September 16th 2013 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall
Shrewsbury Rd. Penistone.

Present: The Mayor Cllr. Cutts, in the chair Cllrs. Barron, Chapman, Hand – Davis, Hinchliff, Mrs. Hinchliff, Millner, Pilkington, Mrs. Rusby, Unsworth, Starling,

Also present the **Town Clerk Keith Coulton, public and press.**

Before opening the meeting the **Mayor** allowed ten minutes public participation.

Members of the public commented on the following:

- a) The importance of retaining the public toilets.
- b) A volunteer who worked with the council in developing the Community Led Plan suggested forming a “Penistone Civic Passport” for young people to help become involved in communicating with the older members of the community as it appeared many older people were feeling isolated as they were unaware of the amenities clubs and facilities available and a civic passport may try to get them involved with helping to support older people.

Representatives Elaine Slater, John Openshaw and Fiona O’ Brien from the Ward Alliance / Area Council gave a brief introduction of their roles in how working with the Town Council, elected members who represent the wards and other stake holders aimed to help in growing the economy, improve people’s potential and achievement, and change the relationship between the council and the community.

The Alliance would be responsible for setting priorities for the Penistone area, publishing a Ward Plan, consulting on the Ward Plan, allocating funding available for the local area to address the priorities in the plan, and supporting the Neighbourhood Network to help deliver the Ward Plan.

The officers were thanked for their attendance.

The **Mayor** then opened the meeting proper.

1. Apologies for absence – Cllrs. Green, Marsh, and Mr. & Mrs. Webber RESOLVED to accept the apologies.

2. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest.

The **Town Mayor** invited declarations of which **Cllr. Unsworth**, declared an interest in item 5a (Letter from Fairtrade in Penistone) **RECORDED**.

Signed.....Mayor October 21st 2013

3. Approval of Minutes.

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

- a) The Town Council Meeting held on July 15th 2013 subject to **Cllr. Pilkington** being added to the list of attendees.
- b) The Planning Committee held on June 15th 2013 subject to **Cllr. Pilkington** being added to the list of attendees and August 5th
- c) The Development and Regeneration Committee held on July 22nd 2013
- d) The Finance and General Purposes Committee held on July 29th 2013
- e) The Leisure and Amenities Committee held on September 9th 2013

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

The **Town Mayor** asked if the following items could be investigated:

Limited parking in Penistone particularly on market days was causing problems.

Bicycles on the T.P.T. were making it difficult for other users of the trail.

The condition of the steps between St. John's Infant and Junior Schools.

Cllr. Millner replied that the area behind Tesco should be open on market day by the markets department to allow traders to be able to park and he would ask the markets department to make sure that the area remains open and there is no reason why other people cannot park there.

Cllr. Millner also referred to a site meeting which was to be carried out in the very near future with the Highway Division of Barnsley MBC on the "square about" as it appeared to be working well for motorists but not for pedestrians and this would be discussed with the officers as with the remainder of the footway on the High Street. He also agreed to investigate the condition of the steps in the vicinity of the schools.

Cllr. Hand – Davis agreed to investigate the problem of speeding cycles on the Trans – Pennine Trail.

Cllr. Millner referred to a recent meeting he had attended of Langsett Parish Council where new plans from the Highways Agency for the A628 were discussed for carriageway improvements. **Cllr. Barron** asked for the Town Council to be kept informed about any plans be made public to upgrade the Woodhead Pass.

Cllr. Hand – Davis also referred to the incessant house building being carried out at an alarming rate. Both **Cllrs. Starling** and **Mrs. Rusby** added that the present infrastructure is not coping with the increasing developments and it was time to call for a reduction in the development of the area, as Penistone's Community Led Plan had shown the residents did not want the Town to expand.

The Ward Councillors' were thanked for their reports.

5. Correspondence.

The following items of correspondence were **NOTED**

- a) Fair trade in Penistone – thank you letter
- b) South Yorkshire fire and rescue members briefing note
- c) Penistone Grammar School – thank you letter
- d) Barnsley MBC – Manchester Rd Millhouse Green utility works
- e) Penistone Housing Management steering group agenda
- g) Peaks and Northern Footpaths magazine
- h) YLCA annual conference and training programme 2013/14
- i) White Rose update
- j) Penistone Children's Centre meeting (Cllr. Cutts agreed to attend)

Signed.....Mayor 21/10/13

6. Leisure and Amenities Report.

Cllr. Starling commented on the following:

Paramount:

Bar No report for this period.

Programme Attendance to films has performed well considering the summer weather. The first live events of the new season has been satisfactory

Box Office System Problems were encountered with the system integration with the current website, however this has now been resolved and the installation is imminent.

Building Arrangements have been made to investigate the surface water fall pipes as problems had occurred following the recent torrential rain.

Cllr. Starling was thanked for his report.

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 **£107,486.33**
- b) The Paramount Account to the sum of **£67,232.89**
- c) The External Audit Report.

The **Town Clerk** read out the report from the External Auditor and informed members of the minor points raised.

Members thanked the **Town Clerk** and **Finance Officer** for a very satisfactory report.

8. Resource Centre.

No report for this period **NOTED**

9. Community Centre.

The **Town Clerk** reported that there had been interest from new users wishing to take advantage of the centre's facilities and it continued to flourish despite the economic climate.

NOTED

10. Town Hall.

The **Town Clerk** confirmed work undertaken to treat the dry rot in the roof space and carry out the necessary roof repairs and painting and decorating of the areas had been completed.

The future of the building was at this present time more certain as the newly formed Ward Alliance / Area Council officers had now been located to the building and were utilising the vacant offices.

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda for the present time, however for the item to remain on the Development and Regeneration Committee agenda.

AGREED

11. Community Led Plan.

Cllr. Millner reported that he was pursuing the adoption of the plan with Barnsley MBC's Borough Solicitor as it appeared several issues had been raised in the plan which contradict its development framework plans, and after all the effort put into the document the Town Council needs Barnsley MBC to officially adopt or at least note the document.

Signed.....Mayor 21/10/13

Community Led Plan Continued

Cllr. Starling commented that the Barnsley Development Plan was not “set in stone” and over the next 18 months would be reviewed and open to consultation with town and parish councils and public for comments.

It was **proposed seconded** and **agreed** that the **Town Clerk** writes to the Borough Secretary for the document to be if not adopted by the Authority, at least noted.

NOTED

12. Public Toilets.

The **Town Clerk** reported that the lease had been signed and progressing for the transfer of the building from Barnsley MBC to the Town Council, and the plans for the refurbishment of the inside of the building have been prepared.

NOTED

13 Berrywell Avenue Allotments.

The **Town Clerk** reported that the lease had now been completed.

All the plots had been allocated.

Arrangements made with Yorkshire Water for the water connection, and an estimate for the garage was being obtained.

Cllr. Marsh was to excavate the base for the garage, remove a stone slab and rotavate a section on plot 1 then everything will be complete.

The **Town Clerk** reported that there had been minor damage to the fence which had been repaired by the contractor.

Thanks were expressed to **Cllr. Marsh** by **Cllr. Mrs. Hinchliff** for the work and enormous amount of time he had contributed in achieving the allotments, which has also been gratefully acknowledged by the Allotment Society.

NOTED

14 Date and Time of the next meeting.

Ordinary Town Council

October 21st 2013 in the Council Chamber Town Hall at 7.0pm

Signed.....Mayor 21/10/13