

PENISTONE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on Monday
April 16th 2012 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Penistone.**

Present: The Town Mayor Cllr. Webber, in the Chair, Cllrs. Barron, Cutts, Chapman, Marsh, Millner, Pilkington, Mrs. Rusby, Starling, Unsworth and Mrs. Webber.

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

Before opening the meeting the **Town Mayor** introduced Mike Tunnicliffe from Yorkshire Water and Craig Jackson and Mick Renshaw on behalf of the contractor carrying out the works, who gave a presentation on the intended mains renewals around the town.

The original pipes had been laid in 1900 and were now almost exhausted and the new mains were part of an £8 million investment in Penistone.

The works were to commence on April 25th and due for completion in September.

Assurances were given that the Mayors Parade and Gala, Penistone Agricultural Show and the one way system would not be affected during the works.

The **Town Mayor** allowed questions to be asked of the officers from members who appeared satisfied with the answers given despite the disruption.

The **Town Mayor** thanked the officers for their presentation and allowed ten minutes public participation.

**1. Apologies for absence – Cllrs. Green, Hand – Davis and Mr. & Mrs. Hinchliff.
RESOLVED** the apologies are recorded

2. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

The **Town Mayor** invited declarations of which there were **NONE**

3. Approval of Minutes.

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

- a) The Town Council held on March 19th 2012
- b) The Planning Committee held on March 19th 2012
- c) The Development & Regeneration Committee held on April 2nd 2012

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

Cllr. Mrs. Rusby reported on the plans for the regeneration of the former coal drops area which was the subject for discussion with the Planning Committee later in the evening. **Cllr. Mrs. Rusby** was dissatisfied that it was intended as part of the application to provide an element of housing on the site which the Town Council had always wanted to be commercial / industrial. She referred to a meeting with officers which confirmed that the application would not be viable without the housing and she appeared concerned about the impact on the Town Centre should it be approved.

Signed.....Mayor 21/05/12

ELECTED MEMBERS REPORTS CONTINUED

Cllr. Millner referred to the item of correspondence on the traffic signals on Bridge Street and confirmed that funding for the scheme had been approved which would see the addition of extra ducting, a higher level of vehicle detection and control system installed inside the existing controller which would be able to detect in real time increases / decreases in traffic flows and automatically adjust the timings to suit. The project would also provide for late running services via local radio and satellite links.

Cllr. Starling referred to the recent article in the Barnsley Chronicle which reported on the proposed demolition of Fulford Hall.

Cllr. Unsworth confirmed that he had written to the Chronicle over the matter and alluded to his period as a governor at the school and of verbal assurances from Barnsley MBC that Fulford Hall would be retained. **Cllr. Unsworth** spoke of his utter dismay when the plans to demolish the building were revealed and of the need to retain the building.

Cllr. Mrs. Rusby commented that officers were of the opinion that the building lacked character for conversion and of the campaign in the town to save the building and the need to support it.

Cllr. Millner assured the town council that the four ward members would be campaigning for retention of the building.

Cllr. Marsh also supported the letter from **Cllr. Unsworth** and stated that he was at the same meeting when it was agreed by Barnsley MBC to list the building and it appeared that statements made by officers were meaningless and it required elected members to take a stronger approach with officers on these issues.

5. Correspondence.

The following items of correspondence were **NOTED** as members had been circulated with the information for their perusal prior to the meeting.

- a) South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue briefing note.
- b) Action for market towns
- c) Voluntary Action Barnsley
- d) Rural Action Yorkshire – training on the Localism Act – Cllr. Millner encouraged members to attend the class at Silkstone.
- e) Penistone Agricultural Show asking for continued support from the Town Council
AGREED the Town Clerk contacts the secretary of the show to discuss sponsorship.

6. Leisure and Amenities Report.

Cllr. Pilkington referred to the following in his report:

Bar – Prices are set to rise with the increase in duty and brewery increases, however prices are stable at this present time

Programme – All films are playing well. All live events booking well through to the summer.

Digital Cinema – The installation and conversion has now been completed with highly satisfactory results however there are a few minor operational details to improve. The picture and sound quality is fantastic

Organ Trust –The joint event went well with a good attendance. Future events are planned during September over the National Heritage Week.

Toilets –Upgrade of the circle toilets will commence on April 16th 2012

Cllr. Pilkington was thanked for his report.

Signed.....Mayor 21/05/12

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 £17,717.78**
- b) **The Paramount Account to the sum of £83,498.12**
- c) **Internal Audit Report** – The Town Clerk confirmed the audit of accounts for the financial year ending 31/03/12 interim visits from the internal auditor and gave a full detail of the report and confirmed that they are operating as expected with the exception of the following points to note:

Paramount Cinema

Box Office and Bar Operations internal control tests were reviewed on box office ticket and other sales the main points to note.

Cash receipting and banking procedures - key controls continue to be good with prompt banking of cash.

The suitability of the current box office system requires considering due to its age and the increasing and varied nature of the business carried out.

St. Johns' Community Centre.

The matters arising from the review were:

Conditions of Hire

There was no reference to charging a bond and that if a bond is charged considerations should be given under which that should occur and the agreement amended to give notice of this.

Collecting and returning of keys. Controls should be in place with regard to issuing of keys and amend the agreement accordingly to make it clear to users.

Booking Forms

The forms at present do not provide for recording an invoice reference although this is entered in the diary against the booking an additional cross reference between the booking form and list of invoices would improve control

Despite the comments noted confirmation can be given that the correct amounts had been charged and banked for those bookings and that in general the systems internal controls are adequate to ensure that the correct amounts are charged, received and banked for all users as per the conditions of hire and recommend reviews are carried out on a regular basis the conditions of hire to ensure they remain relevant for the current use of the community centre.

***Clerks note* All the above have now been actioned accordingly**

Previous issues which were noted have been addressed and action has taken place on all these matters.

Members appeared satisfied with the report and expressed their thanks to the officers for achieving a comprehensive report

d) **Queens Diamond Jubilee**

The Town Clerk read out a letter from the Jubilee Committee asking for the Town Council to consider contributing financially toward the event and attached estimates of costs incurred. As the Town Council had set aside £1,000.00 when deciding the budget 2012/13 toward the event it was **RESOLVED** this money be allocated. It was also requested that the Town Council receives acknowledgement for the donation

8. Resource Centre.

No report for this period.

Signed.....Mayor 21/05/12

9. Community Centre.

The Town Clerk reported that the community centre was operating efficiently despite the economic climate

10. Town Hall.

Cllr. Millner confirmed that Barnsley MBC is to carry out a comprehensive review of community buildings and would await the deliberations of their investigations.

11. Community Led Plan

Cllr. Millner reported to members that the plan has now gone out to print and arrangements made for the distribution.

12. Public Toilets.

Cllr. Marsh reported that a thorough survey would be required on the cost implication in refurbishing the toilets as it appears the work involved will exceed the figures quoted in the budget.

13. National School.

The **Town Clerk** informed members that he was awaiting a reply from Barnsley MBC regarding the license as it was responsible for the building and Busy Bees were the tenants and anticipated a reply for the meeting in May.

NOTED

14. Allotments.

Cllr. Marsh alluded to the recent public meeting on green space issues including the proposed change of use of land to allotments on Berrywell Avenue and agreed the meeting had been useful in allaying some of the residents’ concerns over the plans.

Members agreed it was now imperative to progress the scheme and asked the **Town Clerk** to resubmit the planning application to Barnsley MBC

RESOLVED

The **Town Mayor** expressed thanks on behalf of the Town Council to **Cllrs. Cutts, Marsh** and **Pilkington** for their work in this project

15. Dates and Times of the next meetings.

April 25th – Annual Town Assembly in St. Johns Community Centre at 7.0pm

May 21st – Annual Town Council Meeting in the Council Chamber, Town Hall at 7.0pm

Signed.....Mayor 21/05/12