

Penistone Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Assets & Amenities Committee held in the Bar Room, St John's Community Centre on Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 7pm

PRESENT Cllr. Jonathan Cutts (Chair), Cllr. Jason Barton, Cllr. Lisa Cork, Cllr. James Kitching, Cllr. Mandy Lowe-Flello (Town Mayor, *ex-officio*), Cllr. Frances Nixon, Cllr. Jon Palmer, Cllr. David Walker

Nigel Bailey – Town Clerk

Brian Barnsley – Manager, Paramount Cinema

Elaine Miller – Assistant Town Clerk

Ten members of the public were present from the Penistone Allotment Society.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Cllr. Jonathan Cutts (Chair), Cllr. David Greenhough (Vice Chair), Cllr. Wayne Chadburn, Cllr. Lisa Cork, Cllr. Hannah Kitching, Cllr. James Kitching, Cllr. Mandy Lowe-Flello (Town Mayor, *ex-officio*), Cllr. Frances Nixon, Cllr. Jon Palmer, Cllr. David Walker

1. A&A 2023/43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Wayne Chadburn and Hannah Kitching.

1.2 Apologies were accepted with reasons for absence approved.

2. A&A 2023/44 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

2.1 In accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 members to declare any disposable pecuniary interests in items on this agenda.

It was **NOTED** and **RECORDED** that there were no declarations of interest.

2.2 The Town Clerk to report any written dispensations in respect of items on this agenda.

The Clerk reported that there were none.

3. A&A 2023/45 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS ACT 1960) S. 1 (2)

Meetings shall be open to the public unless their presence is prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for the other special reasons. The public's exclusion from part or all of a meeting shall be by a resolution which shall give reasons for the public's exclusion in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960.

There were no items to be excluded.

The Chair Cllr. Jonathan Cutts moved that Item 6 on the agenda concerning the allotments should be brought forward, to lessen intrusion on the time of the Allotment Society members who may wish to leave once Item 6 was concluded. He suggested a period of five minutes' public participation. This was unanimously **AGREED** by the Committee.

6. A&A 2023/46 ALLOTMENTS (brought forward)

6.1 To discuss possible modifications to the allotment tenancy agreement.

Deferred from the OTC meeting of 22nd April 2024 under minute item OTC 2023/139 9(9.1). A suggestion had been put forward that the Council may wish to consider at some point modifying the allotment tenancy agreement to a limited term, for example for a period of ten years. The underlying aim of the suggestion was to enable more residents to have access to allotment spaces. The Allotment Society submitted a paper to the A&A Committee in the intervening time, making their case against the modification of the tenancy agreement. The Society has also approached the National Allotment Society for their advice on the matter. Mr Russell Ogden spoke on behalf of the Allotment Society reiterating their argument.

The Chair responded that the Council and Committee had not intended to make a decision on this matter and the proposal was intended as a preliminary discussion on any possible benefits of modifying the tenancy agreement. Cllr. David Walker suggested that the Allotment Society should report back to the Council once they have received advice from the National Society. This was agreed.

6.2 The Town Clerk to update the Committee on complaints about parking facilities at both allotment sites.

Again this matter was deferred from the OTC meeting of 22nd April 2024 under minute item OTC 2023/139 9(9.1) and a paper had been received from the Allotment Society again outlining their complaints about parking facilities. Mr Ogden spoke on behalf of the plot holders.

The Chair explained that with reference to the Wilson Avenue site there is little PTC can do as the parking area in question is owned and used by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The Town Clerk has already approached BMBC Estate Management regarding this issue and they responded that they already have limited space for their own staff and that allotment users only have the right of pedestrian/wheelbarrow access to the sites. The Town Clerk is corresponding with the Secretary of the Allotment Society with the intention of laying some rubber ground mats onto the parking area at the Berrywell site.

The Chair suggested that the Allotment Society approach BMBC directly as the owners of the land in question and this was agreed.

The representatives of the Allotment Society chose to leave the meeting once Item 6 was concluded.

4. A&A 2023/47 PARAMOUNT CINEMA

4.1 To consider a report from the Manager of the Paramount Cinema.

Mr Barnsley gave a verbal report to the Councillors.

Asbestos - BMBC planned works to remove and replace asbestos tiles from the Paramount building are finalised and will take place in Summer 2024 at no cost to PTC. The work will take place 1st-9th August 2024 and will necessitate the building being closed during that time, subject to PTC approval. The planned work will not include removal of the asbestos in the closed off area of the bar. Mr Barnsley proposed that during the ten days' closure the electrical panel in the front of the building should be replaced as this is essential work and the front of the building will still be accessible. BMBC has suggested that the building may need to be totally rewired in the next 24 months. Mr Barnsley believes that this should be the sole financial responsibility of BMBC as the owners.

Moved by Cllr. J. Cutts, Seconded by Cllr. David Walker and **RESOLVED** that the Paramount be closed on the specified dates.

Roof replacement – BMBC has sent out tenders this week in accordance with public procurement policy. The scope of the work includes replacement of the entire roof and guttering on both the Paramount and Town Hall buildings. BMBC has obtained funding for the work so there will be no cost to PTC. The work will be carried out Monday-Friday so not matinees can be scheduled on weekdays for the duration of the works which is estimated to be 22 weeks. The work is scheduled to start immediately after the asbestos clearance work in August 2024, subject to contract agreements. The work will require the installation of heavy plant/machinery which will be located in the car park at the side of the Paramount building as this is the only place which will bear the weight.

Paramount Screen 2 – Mr Barnsley reported that this project has now been deferred until 2025 at the earliest; however BMBC staff seem to be confident that they can obtain the necessary funding.

Admit One upgrade – the Sales/Marketing Manager is working with Admit One to customise the details for the upgrade; however it will be 2-3 months before the new system is operational. Mr Barnsley suggested that this being the case, the 10 day closure period in August would be an ideal time to carry out the necessary staff training on the upgraded system.

Miscellaneous

Cllr. Lisa Cork thanked Mr Barnsley and the Paramount staff for their work in helping to make the Mercury concert a great success on 3rd May 2024. She suggested that the band should be booked regularly on a yearly basis and Mr Barnsley agreed that it would make an excellent annual May Day attraction.

Cllr. Cork also raised the subject of needing a cash free payment facility at the Paramount. Mr Barnsley has already been looking at a system which integrates with the tills at the Paramount and agreed this will be an advantage.

Mr Barnsley reported that Penistone Grammar School's musical concert had gone very well despite it being a complex and challenging evening to organise. Discussion took place regarding a possible future event for young local bands to showcase their talents at the Paramount.

4.2 Update on management training 15th April 2024 – Cllrs J. Kitching and J. Palmer

Both Councillors reported that the sessions are going well and have evolved from training sessions to strategy sessions with Paramount staff taking initiatives which is very positive.

4.3 To review and consider the licence with the Organ Trust.

Mr Barnsley is in discussions with the Trustees. Since the inception of the agreement with the Paramount some of the Trustees have died; and those remaining have decided to change the constitution of the Trust

to that of a trading charity. Once this has been completed a new agreement can be negotiated. Mr Barnsley to update the Council accordingly.

5. A&A 2023/48 ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE

5.1 The Town Clerk to update the Committee on the modernisation of the building.

Briefings about the progress of the modernisation process have been circulated to all the Councillors. The architect and project supervisor have recently visited the building with a surveyor and will shortly be moving forward with the contract/tendering process. The Clerk is pressurising them to get the new boiler installed by the end of Summer 2024 in accordance with the Council's decision.

The Committee asked the Clerk to request figures from the Finance Officer on what has already been spent on this project from the reserves.

7. A&A 2023/49 FLORAL DISPLAYS

7.1 The Town Clerk reported that the planters placed on the road barriers in Penistone will have to be removed further to complaints from the BMBC Highways Dept. The planters will be re-purposed and used to decorate the Community Centre and car park area for the Summer Fete on 22nd June 2024.

A&A 2023/50 COUNCILLORS' ITEMS None tabled

A&A 2023/51 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Penistone Town Council Events & Leisure Committee will take place on a date to be determined after the Council's Annual Meeting on 20th May 2024.

Signed.....Town Mayor, 20th May 2024