



**Minutes of the meeting of EARBY TOWN COUNCIL held on Monday 25th February 2019
at 7.30pm in The Parish Rooms, Victoria Road, EARBY**

1. Welcome

Cllr Tennant in the chair formally opened the meeting.

2. Attendance, Apologies and Non-Attendance

Attending Cllrs: C Tennant (in the chair), V Cocker, M Horsfield, P Hampson, D Haigh, D Reynolds, J Myers, C Carter, S Hartley.

3. Declarations of Interest/s

K Jeffreys – repayment under finance.
C Tennant – payment to employer.

4. Public discussion

Mr John Cooper sat in on the meeting with an interest of becoming a member of the council.

5. Minutes

To accept and approve as an accurate representation the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on Monday 28th January 2019.

Proposed MH

Seconded CC

Unanimous

6. Update of ongoing issues from previous minutes

Pendle Borough Council have expressed an interest in running a Traffic Management for Events course. Earby Town Council have confirmed with Julie Mousdale that we would require two places on this course.

7. Friday Surgery

There have been a number of queries regarding allotments, from damages to ownership and fees.

It has been brought to our attention that the bus shelter has been vandalised with paint. We have contacted Pendle Borough Council to have this cleaned.

8. Police business

The PTSO for Earby, Mark Hyde has now retired. We will update the community via our website when his replacement is announced.

9. Planning: to consider and comment on the following:

Applications

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 APPLICATION:

19/0072/HHO

PROPOSAL: Full: Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey extension to rear.

AT: 45A Red Lion Street Earby Barnoldswick

FOR: Mrs Elizabeth Sagar

CONSULTATION

Deadline: Please send me your comments by: 11th March 2019

No objections

Proposed VC

Seconded JM

Unanimous

10. Reports from meetings with other organisations

K Jeffreys met with Gill Turpin at Pendle Borough Council to discuss the upcoming elections and to collect the relevant documents to be completed by all councillors.

11. Finance

Approval of this month's payment list with additions (attached).

Proposed PH

Seconded MH

Unanimous

12. Earby Hostel

Council to discuss and decide upon the action to be taken on the following outcomes from the meeting held on the 31st January:

1. The damage caused to the drain by one of our contractors must be repaired, like for like, and pointed.

This is now completed, as the repairs were urgent. M Horsfield to check that the work is satisfactory.

2. Colin and Charlotte are happy for the hostel rain and sink water to continue going into the current drain if council will agree to a 50% split on repairs and blockages.

K Jeffreys to type up a letter agreeing to a 50% split.

Proposed VC
Seconded MH
Unanimous

3. Council to wait until we have received a response from Pendle BC in relation to offering the small piece of land. Failing this, there is the option to let Colin and Charlotte use it in return for rebuilding the beck wall.

K Jeffreys to contact P Mousdale again for further information on this.

4. K Jeffreys to contact LCC or the fire brigade for their opinion on using the passageway as a fire escape.

K Jeffreys to contact the fire bridge again to arrange a site visit.

13. CIPFA Professional Qualification

Council agree to K Jeffreys completing the CIPFA Professional Qualification.

Proposed VC
Seconded CC
Unanimous

14. Adoption of Control Documents

Council adopt the control documents as of 25th February 2019.

Proposed CT
Seconded VC
Unanimous

15. Lengths-man contract

The current lengths-man is a self-employed contractor on a short-term contract due to end on the 31st March.

There were funds allocated in the budget for the 19/20 tax year for the lengths-man. This was based on two days a week.

Council are to employ a lengths-man for the next financial year.

K Jeffreys to draft a job description and advertisement to be circulated to council before advertising.

Proposed VC
Seconded JM
Unanimous

16. Mr J Cooper - Councillor Application

Council to co-opt J Cooper as a councillor.

Proposed MH
Seconded CC
Unanimous

17. Placement of flood barrier storage container

Council agree to the proposed site allocated for the flood defence storage container.

K Jeffreys to inform S Whalley at Pendle Borough Council.

Proposed CT
Seconded MH
Unanimous

18. Committee re-structure

Council approve the proposed committee re-structure, with the events, environment, vehicles and equipment committee to be named 'environment and leisure committee'.

Proposed VC
Seconded MH
Unanimous

19. Allotment repairs

Cllr P Hampson excluded himself from the discussion as he holds an allotment himself and therefore has an interest in the outcome.

Council discussed the various damages from the recent high winds, both in allotments and other areas.

Allotment holders are made aware that they should have adequate insurance and are responsible for their own allotments.

In addition, council activities cannot favour or benefit individuals, only the community as a whole. This means that the council cannot be responsible for repairing damages on allotments cause by bad weather.

20. New Road allotments

Council discussed the proposed re-use of the land at the New Road (Rushton Avenue) allotments with the following outcomes:

- Any allotment land given up for another use must be replaced with an area the same size elsewhere in the area.
- It may be very difficult to find another area of land.
- If this can be achieved the Rushton Avenue site may be used for housing.

21. Flood Defence Consultation

Council discussed the points and made the following comments to submit on the flood defence consultation:

1. Water resources management plans (Question 6)

- The money and the power should be returned to the local drainage boards. E.g. Earby and Salterforth Internal Drainage Board.
- The current body are taking too long to complete the required work.
- The current arrangements with the Environment Agency are not working sufficiently. It is ineffective and expensive.
- Too much money is being spent on consultants.
- The current work is at a stand-still due to lack of planning and an inept feasibility study. (The drill is stuck under the ground)
- There is too little funding and no contingency plan in place.

2. Drainage and waste management plans (Question 8)

- The local drainage boards should be consulted, along with town and parish councils.
- This should be done at the earliest opportunity in the plans.
- Local farmers and land owners may also be considered for consultation.

3. Water abstraction (Question 12)

- There should be no compensation paid.
- Council agree with the statement because of the unsustainable nature of the water resource.

4. Flood and coastal risk management: raising local funds (Question 24)

- Council are unable to comment as the statement is too broad and vague.
- There is not enough information, however something is required as the current system is not sufficient.
- It would need to be clear where the funds were being allocated and that other sources of funding would not be affected.

Earby Town Council would welcome a meeting to be involved further with this consultation. The current arrangements with the Environmental Agency are not fit for purpose in Earby. The agency is not appreciative of local issues and the town is regionally split East / West on funding and alleviating flooding issues.

22. Correspondence

None.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 1st April 2019 at 7.30pm** in the Parish Rooms.

DATED: 26th February 2019

Clerk & RFO:

K. Jeffreys

SIGNED AND APPROVED: 1st April 2019

Chairman:

C. Tennant