

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a Meeting of SPENNYMOOR TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 19th December, 2006 at 6.45p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs.S.I.Plews (Town Mayor) and

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, J.C.Culine, J.V.Graham, I.Harrington, Mrs.C.Kennedy, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin, F.E.Ryder, J.W.Smith, Mrs.C.Sproat, G.Tolley, F.Walker, W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood (Deputy Town Mayor).

Also in attendance Mrs.B.Fryer (Principal Admin Officer)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs.E.Maddison, Mrs.M.Smith, Mrs.E.Summerson and P.Welsh

51/06. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

RESOLVED - No personal or prejudicial interest was made by any Member.

52/06. **MINUTES.**

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 28th November, 2006 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

53/06. **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.**

The Mayor reported on the functions she had attended since the last meeting:-

- a) Wednesday 29th November -Town Mayor officially planted replacement trees at St.Paul's Church
- b) Friday 1st December -Civic Dinner over £500 raised for Town Mayor's nominated Charity
- c) Sunday 3rd December - Town Mayor attended the Chairman of Durham County Council's Carol Service held in St.Peters Church, Byers Green
- d) Wednesday 6th December -Town Mayor attended Seaham Town Council Mayor's Victorian Christmas Tea held in Lumley Castle
- e) Thursday 7th December - Town Mayor attended Great Aycliffe Town Council's Charity Cabaret Evening
- f) Friday 8th December - Town Mayor attended Finchale Training College Annual Prize Giving
- g) Friday 8th December - Town Mayor attended St. Paul's Church Open Christmas Tree Festival
- h) Sunday 10th December - Civic Carol Service held in the Town Hall
- i) Sunday 10th December - Town Mayor attended Shildon Town Council's Civic Carol Service

- j) Tuesday 12th December -Town Mayor attended Chester le Street District Council's Civic Carol Service
- k) Tuesday 12th December - Deputy Mayor attended City of Durham Charity Gymnastics Day
- l) Wednesday 13th December - Town Mayor attended Derwentside District Council Carol Service
- m) Thursday 14th December - Town Mayor attended Spennymoor School's Presentation Evening.
- n) Thursday 14th December - Deputy Mayor attended Durham City Carol Service
- o) Friday 15th December - Town Mayor hosted a visit of pupils from Tudhoe Grange School to the Town Hall.
- p) Saturday 16th December - Town Mayor attended Spennymoor Town Band's Christmas Concert
- q) Sunday 17th December - Town Mayor attended Sedgefield Borough Council's Civic Carol Service
- r) Sunday 17th December - Town Mayor attended Great Aycliffe Town Council's Civic Carol Service
- s) Monday 18th December - Town Mayor attended Ferryhill Town Council's Civic Carol Service
- t) Monday 18th December – Deputy Mayor attended District of Easington's Civic Carol Service
- u) Tuesday 19th December - Town Mayor attended Tudhoe Moor Nursery Christmas Concert

54/06.

COMMITTEE MINUTES.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meetings of the following Committees be approved and

Allotments 5th December, 2006

Finance and General 5th December, 2006

Purposes

(Subject to the following amendments:-

(The attendance details be amended in accordance with the attendance sheet)

Planning and Highways 12th December, 2006

Services and Amenities 12th December, 2006

There being no further business the Town Mayor declared the meeting closed at 6.52pm.

**Councillor Mrs. S.I.Plews
Town Mayor**

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 2nd January, 2007 at 6.45p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor G.Tolley (Chair) and

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.C.Bainbridge (Vice-Chair), J.C.Culine, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, I.Harrington, M.T.B.Jones, Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin, Mrs.S.I.Plews, F.E.Ryder, J.W.Smith, Mrs.C.Sproat, F.Walker.

Also in attendance Mrs.B.Fryer (Principal Admin Officer)
Miss E.V.Russell (Admin Assistant)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs.C.Kennedy, Mrs.E.Summerson, W.Waters and P.Welsh.

A.42/06. **SEASONS GREETINGS.**

The Chairman extended to Members Seasonal Greetings, which were reciprocated.

A.43/06. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

RESOLVED - No personal or prejudicial interest was made by any Member.

A.44/06. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

RESOLVED - That in accordance with the provision of S1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by S100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the press and public for the remaining items of the Agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to public interest.

A.45/06. **DURHAM ROAD ALLOTMENTS.**

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED - That the report of the Town Clerk be received.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.48 p.m.

Councillor G.Tolley
Chair

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 2nd January, 2007 on the rising of the Allotments Committee.

PRESENT: Councillor I.Harrington (Chair), and

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.C.Bainbridge, J.C.Culine, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, M.T.B.Jones, Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin (Vice-Chair), Mrs.S.I.Plews, F.E.Ryder, J.W.Smith, Mrs.C.Sproat, G.Tolley and F. Walker.

Also in attendance Mrs.B.Fryer (Principal Admin Officer)
Miss E.V.Russell (Admin Assistant)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs.C.Kennedy, Mrs.E.Summerson, W.Waters and P.Welsh.

F.&G.P. **SEASONS GREETINGS.**
191/06 The Chairman extended to Members Seasonal Greetings, which were reciprocated.

F.&G.P. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**
192/06. RESOLVED - No personal or prejudicial interest was made by any Member.

F.&G.P. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**
193/06. **Crime Stoppers.**
Reference was made to Minute F.&G.P.168/06 and it was

RESOLVED - That the letter of appreciation be received

F.&G.P. **Victim Support County Durham.**
194/06. Consideration was given to letter dated 28th November 2006 from the above.

RESOLVED - That the letter be received and the contents noted.

F.&G.P. **Durham Wildlife Trust.**
195/06. Consideration was given to letter dated 5th December 2006 from the above.

RESOLVED - That a grant of £100 be made in accordance with S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

F.&G.P.
196/06. **St.John Ambulance –Wheels for Life Campaign.**
Consideration was given to letter dated 5th December 2006 from the above.

RESOLVED - That a grant of £100 be made in accordance with S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

F.&G.P.
197/06. **Tudhoe Cricket Club.**
Consideration was given to letter dated 1st December (received on 11th) from the Chairman of the above.

RESOLVED - That consideration of this item be deferred until the outcome of the meeting between the Town Clerk and representatives of Tudhoe Cricket Club is known.

CONFERENCES & COURSES.

F.&G.P.
198/06. **NALC Seminar – 13-14th November 2006.**
RESOLVED - That the report of the delegate be received.

F.&G.P.
199/06. **National Association of Councillors – English Region 17th November.**
RESOLVED - That the report of the delegate be received.

F.&G.P.
200/06. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER.**
Consideration was given to the following correspondence:-

letter dated 30th November 2006 from Durham County Council.
report of the Chief Executive of NALC to the National Council

RESOLVED - That the correspondence be received and the contents noted.

DURHAM POLICE AUTHORITY.

F.&G.P.
201/06. **Development of Policing Plan Priorities 2007/2008.**
Consideration was given to letter received on 7th December, 2006.

RESOLVED - That the Town Council's representative on the Consultative Panel, Councillor J.M.Marr be authorised to attend.

COUNTY DURHAM AND DARLINGTON FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY.

F.&G.P.
202/06. **Integrated Risk Management: Draft Year 4 Improvement Plan.**
Consideration was given to letter dated 7th December 2006 (received on 14th December) from the Chief Executive.

RESOLVED -

- i) That Members wishing to attend inform the Town Clerk immediately of the Presentation they wish to attend;
- ii) That Standing Orders be waived.

STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND

F.&G.P.
203/06. **Bulletin No. 31.**

RESOLVED - That Bulletin No.31 be received and the contents noted.

F.&G.P.
204/06. **AUDIT COMMISSION**

RESOLVED - That the correspondence be received and the contents noted.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

F.&G.P.
205/06. **Paid Accounts.**

RESOLVED - That payment of accounts in the sum of £6,873.76 and BACS in the sum of £2,469.89 for December authorised by the Chair of Committee and reimbursement of the Imprest Account in the sum of £45,381.97 for December be approved.

F.&G.P.
206/06. **Accounts to Authorise.**

RESOLVED –

- i) To authorise the payment of accounts in the sum of £47,407.58 for December;
- ii) That Standing Orders be waived in order that payment can be made immediately.

F.&G.P.
207/06. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

RESOLVED - That in accordance with the provisions of S1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by S100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the press and public for the remaining items of the Agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

F.&G.P.
208/06. **BUDGET REPORTS.**

RESOLVED - That the Budget Reports for October, 2006 showing year to date Financial Information be received and noted.

F.&G.P.
209/06. **NEW YEARS HONOUR LIST.**

The Chair congratulated Councillor J.C.Culine on being awarded the MBE in the New Year Honours for Services to the Showman's Guild of Great Britain and to the community in Spennymoor.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.02 p.m.

Councillor I.Harrington
Chair

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 9th January 2007 at 6.45p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Miss S.L.Armstrong (Chair) and

Councillors J.C.Culine, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, Mrs.C.Kennedy (Vice-Chair), Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, Mrs.S.I.Plews, F.E.Ryder, Mrs.M.Smith, G.Tolley, F.Walker, W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood.

Also in attendance Mrs.P.Wilson (Town Clerk)
Miss E.V.Russell (Admin Assistant)
Sgt. I. Rodgers (Spennymoor Police)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs.C.Bainbridge, I.Harrington, J.W.Smith, Mrs.C.Sproat, Mrs.E.Summerson and P.Welsh.

P.&H 68/06. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

RESOLVED - Declarations of interest were received from Councillors Miss.S.L.Armstrong and W.Waters.

P.&H. 69/06. **POLICE REPORT.**

Sgt. Iain Rodgers was in attendance to present the Police Report on Crime Figures.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the Police Report be received and that Sgt. Rodgers be thanked for attending;
 - ii) That the Town Clerk send letters to Helen Goodman, M.P., the Police Authority and the Government Minister expressing the Town Councils concerns in relation to the proposed reductions in police numbers for County Durham.

The Chair of Planning requested that the following item be brought forward to be discussed in the presence of Sgt Rodgers.

P.&H. 70/06. **BUS SHELTERS.**

(Minutes P.&H.36/06 and 54/06 refer)
(Councillor Miss S.L.Armstrong declared a personal interest in this item and left the meeting. Councillor Mrs.E.Maddison entered the meeting)
Councillor Mrs.C.Kennedy (Vice-Chair) took the Chair

Consideration was given to the letters received from Dr. M.H.Kassem.

- RESOLVED -
- i) To contact the Neighbourhood Warden, requesting written reports of the incidents concerned;
 - ii) That Acting Sgt Jamie Reilly, Spennymoor Beat Unit arrange to meet Dr.M.H.Kassem to discuss the problems;
 - iii) That written logs of the incidents be recorded for evidence purposes.

Councillor Miss S.L.Armstrong returned to Chair the meeting

P.&H.
71/06.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

(Councillor W.Waters declared a prejudicial interest in item 4 and left the meeting)

Members had before them the schedule of planning applications received to date from Sedgefield Borough Council, since the last meeting and the comments made upon them by the Chairman.

RESOLVED - That the information and the Chairman's action be received and noted.

P.&H.
72/06.

PLANNING DECISIONS.

Members had before them details of planning decisions made by Sedgefield Borough Council.

RESOLVED - That the information be received and noted.

P.&H.
73/06

Planning Application 07/06/0755 – erection of Retail Unit, Land adjacent to Kingfisher Public House, Spennymoor.

RESOLVED – That Sedgefield Borough Council be asked again to provide the requested information.

P.&H.
74/06

PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP.

RESOLVED – That the letter be received and the contents noted.

P.&H.
75/06

FOOTPATHS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY.

Temporary Footpath Closure - Footpath to the rear of Ladysmock Close, Spennymoor

RESOLVED – That the letter be received and the contents noted.

P.&H.
76/06

Temporary Footpath and Road Closure – Unclassified Derwent Terrace, off Barnfield Road.

RESOLVED – That the letter be received and the contents noted.

P.&H.
77/06

BUS SHELTERS
St.David's Close

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk and the replies received from the consultation process.

RESOLVED - That the seat within the bus shelter be removed.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.29 p.m.

Councillor Miss.S.L.Armstrong
Chair

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the SERVICES AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE on Tuesday, 9th January 2007 on the rising of the Planning and Highways Committee.

PRESENT: Councillor J.C.Culine (Chair), and

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, Mrs.C.Kennedy, Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, Mrs.S.I.Plews, F.E.Ryder, Mrs.M.Smith, G.Tolley, F.Walker, W.Waters, and Mrs.J.L.Wood.

Also in attendance Mrs.P.Wilson (Town Clerk)
Miss E.V.Russell (Admin Assistant)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs.C.Bainbridge, I.Harrington, J.W.Smith (Vice-Chair), Mrs.C.Sproat, Mrs.E.Summerson and P.Welsh.

S.&A. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

69/06. RESOLVED - A Declaration of Interest was received from Councillor.J.C.Culine.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.

S.&A. **Jubilee Park – Request for Sale of Refreshments**

70/06 *(Councillor J.C.Culine declared a personal interest in this item but remained in the meeting).*

Consideration was given to correspondence in connection with the above.

RESOLVED - That the item be deferred until the next meeting.

S.&A. **Cow Plantation – Litter/Dog Bins.**

71/06 Consideration was given to letter dated 8th December 2006 and the report of the Project Manager.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That this item be taken to the Cow Plantation Committee;
 - ii) The Town Clerk look into resurrecting this Committee.

CEMETERIES AND CLOSED CHURCHYARDS.

S.&A. **Tudhoe Cemetery.**

72/06 Consideration was given to letter from James Taylor received on 1st December, 2006.

- RESOLVED - That a letter be sent explaining the two scenarios:
- i) Reimbursement of the cost paid or;
 - ii) Transfer of the purchased grave.

- S.&A. .
73/06 **APPRECIATION.**
RESOLVED – That the following letters of appreciation be received and noted:-
- i) letter dated 29th November, 2006 from St.Paul's PCC;
 - ii) letter dated 24th December, 2006 from Treetops Children's Unit at University Hospital of North Durham;
 - iii) card received on 2nd January 2007 from Labour Group.
- S.&A. .
74/06. **SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**
RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Executive Working Group and the Partnership Newsletter be received and the contents noted;
- S.&A. .
75/06 **NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS' REPORT.**
Area 1 – Spennymoor.
RESOLVED – i) That the report be received and contents noted;
- ii) That a letter be sent advising the Neighbourhood Wardens of the Committee dates to coincide with the receiving of the reports.
- S.&A. .
76/06 **RURAL POST OFFICES.**
(Minute S.&A.56/06 refers)
Consideration was given to letter dated 11th December, 2006 from J.Fitzpatrick, M.P., Minister for Employment Relations and Postal Services.
- RESOLVED - That a copy of the reply and the Town Councils original correspondence be sent to all local Post Offices.
- S.&A.
77/06 **INSTITUTE OF CEMETERY & CREMATORIUM MANAGEMENT.**
One Organisation: One Voice.
(Minute S.&A.67/06 refers).
RESOLVED – To move receipt of letter.
- S.&A.
78/06 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**
RESOLVED - "That in accordance with the provisions of S1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by S100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the press and public for the remaining items of the Agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest".

S.&A.
79/06

CIVIC DINNER – FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2006

RESOLVED -

- i) That the Statement of Receipts and Payments be received and noted;
- ii) In future, the report to show the budget allocation.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

Councillor J.C.Culine
Chair

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the SPECIAL FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 23rd January, 2007 at 6.00p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor I.Harrington (Chair), and

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, M.T.B.Jones, Mrs.C.Kennedy, Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin(Vice-Chair), F.E.Ryder, Mrs.C.Sproat, F.Walker, W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood.

Also in attendance Mrs.P.Wilson (Town Clerk)
Miss E.V.Russell (Admin Assistant)
D. Shingleton (Consultant Accountant)

APOLOGIES: Councillors J.C.Culine, Mrs.S.I.Plews, J.W.Smith, Mrs.M.Smith, Mrs.E.Summerson and P.Welsh.

F.&G.P. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

210/06. RESOLVED - No personal or prejudicial interest was made by any Member.

F.&G.P. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

211/06 RESOLVED - "That in accordance with the provisions of S1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by S100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the press and public for the remaining items of the Agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest".

BUDGET

F.&G.P. **Budget Revision 2006/2007**

212/06 Consideration was given to the previously circulated report setting out the revised budget for the year 2006/2007 and the previously circulated report setting out the assumptions to the budget revision.

RESOLVED - That the Budget Revision 2006/07 be approved.

F.&G.P. **Budget 2007/08**

213/06 Consideration was given to the previously circulated proposed 2007/2008 Budget together with associated literature.

Prior to any discussion on this item, Councillor Mrs E.Maddison requested a recorded vote.

Fees and Charges

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, I. Harrington, Mrs.C.Kennedy, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin (Vice-Chair), F.E.Ryder, F.Walker, W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood voted in favour of accepting the fees and charges, with the proviso that the fees for children using Jubilee Park's All Weather Pitch remain at £1.50.

No Councillors voted against the fees and charges.

Councillors Mrs.E.Maddison, M.T.B.Jones and Mrs.C.Sproat abstained from the vote.

Growth Items

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, I. Harrington, Mrs.C.Kennedy, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin (Vice-Chair), F.E.Ryder, F.Walker, W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood voted in favour of accepting the growth items.

Councillor Mrs E.Maddison voted against the growth items.

Councillors M.T.B.Jones and Mrs.C.Sproat abstained from the vote.

2.5% increase in Council Tax

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, I. Harrington, Mrs.C.Kennedy, M.T.B.Jones, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin (Vice-Chair), F.E.Ryder, F.Walker, W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood voted in favour of accepting the 2.5% Council Tax increase.

No Councillors voted against the Council Tax increase.

Councillors Mrs.E.Maddison and Mrs.C.Sproat abstained from the vote.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the Budget for 2007/08 be approved accordingly;
 - ii) That the Town Clerk and the Consultant Accountant be thanked for all their effort in producing the documents for the Budget.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.24p.m.

Councillor I.Harrington
Chair