

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a Meeting of SPENNYMOOR TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 23rd January, 2007 at 6.45p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs.J.L.Wood (Deputy Town Mayor).and

Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, Mrs.C.Bainbridge, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, I.Harrington, M.T.B.Jones, Mrs.C.Kennedy, Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin, F.E.Ryder, Mrs.C.Sproat, G.Tolley, F.Walker and W.Waters.

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

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

At the outset of the meeting, prior to the commencement of business, the Deputy Town Mayor advised that she would be exercising her discretion, to take an additional item of business at item 6 for reasons of exceptional urgency.

- 55/06. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**
RESOLVED - No personal or prejudicial interest was made by any Member.
- 56/06. **MINUTES.**
RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 19th December, 2006 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.
- 57/06. **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.**
The Mayor reported on the functions she had attended since the last meeting:-
- a) Wednesday 20th December - Mayor attended Seaham Town Council Civic Carol Service;
 - b) Thursday 21st December - Mayor attended Chilton Town Council Civic Carol Service;
 - c) Sunday 31st December - Mayor attended Charity New Years Eve Function – over £1,500 raised towards Mayor's Charity Appeal;
 - d) Friday 12th January - Mayor attended Ferryhill Town Council Civic Dinner;
 - e) Friday 12th January - Deputy Mayor attended Spennymoor Settlement Community Association Preview of Exhibition;
 - f) Saturday 13th January - Mayor attended Spennymoor Amateur Operatic's Pantomime – Aladdin;
 - g) Thursday 18th January - Mayor visited Ron and Audrey Fisher of Clyde Terrace on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary;

h) Tuesday 23rd January - Mayor attended Wear Valley District Council's New Year Charity Evening;

58/06.

COMMITTEE MINUTES.

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

Allotments	2 nd January, 2007
Finance and General Purposes	2 nd January, 2007

Planning and Highways 9th January, 2007
(Subject to the following amendments:-
"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".

Services and Amenities 9th January, 2007

The Deputy Town Mayor of the meeting, Councillor Mrs.J.L.Wood exercised her statutory discretion to take an urgent item of Council business which was not on the Committee Agenda for reasons of exceptional urgency, that being that the decision needed urgent ratification by Council to enable the necessary precept forms to be submitted to Sedgefield Borough Council prior to their 2nd February, 2007 deadline.

59/06.

BUDGET 2007/08.

RESOLVED – To approve and confirm the decision of the Special Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23rd January, 2007 (immediately prior to this meeting) to enable the Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk to complete and return the necessary precept forms.

There being no further business the Town Mayor declared the meeting closed at 6.47pm.

**Councillor Mrs. J.L.Wood
Deputy 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 6th February, 2007 at 6.45p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor G.Tolley (Chair) and

Councillors Mrs.C.Bainbridge (Vice-Chair), J.C.Culine, Mrs.S.A.Fleetham, J.V.Graham, I.Harrington, Mrs.E.Maddison, J.M.Marr, J.Parkin, Mrs.S.I.Plews, F.E.Ryder, Mrs.C.Sproat, F.Walker W.Waters and Mrs.J.L.Wood.

Also in attendance Mrs.P.Wilson (Town Clerk)
Mrs.B.Fryer (Principal Admin Officer)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, M.T.B.Jones, Mrs.C.Kennedy, J.W.Smith, Mrs.M.Smith, Mrs.E.Summerson and P.Welsh.

A.46/06. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

The Town Clerk advised Members on Declaration of Interests.

RESOLVED - Declarations of prejudicial interests were received from Councillors G.Tolley and Mrs.J.L.Wood.

A.47/06. **WINDSOR AVENUE ALLOTMENTS.
Erection of Summerhouse.**

Consideration was given to the application from Marion Keay for the erection of a Summerhouse 8' x 12' on Allotment No. 8b.

The Association have no objections to the application.

RESOLVED -

- i) That the application be approved subject to the use of satisfactory materials in the construction thereof;
- ii) That all risks associated with the development be borne by the Allotment holder. The Town Council will not accept liability for any injury caused during construction.

A.48/06. **DURHAM ROAD ALLOTMENTS.**

Erection of Shed.

Consideration was given to the application from D.B.Constable for the erection of a shed 8'x6' on Allotment No.13.

The Association have no objections to the application.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the application be approved subject to the use of satisfactory materials in the construction thereof;
 - ii) That all risks associated with the development be borne by the Allotment holder. The Town Council will not accept liability for any injury caused during construction.

A.49/06. **MERRINGTON LANE ALLOTMENTS.**

Erection of Poly Tunnel.

Consideration was given to the application from F.Frisan for the erection of a poly tunnel on Allotment No. 11.

The Association have no objections to the application.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the application be approved subject to the use of satisfactory materials in the construction thereof;
 - ii) That all risks associated with the development be borne by the Allotment holder. The Town Council will not accept liability for any injury caused during construction.

A.50/06. **SPENNYMOOR ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION.**

Minutes of Meeting held on 14th December 2006.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th December, 2006 be received.

A.51/06. **ST.PAUL'S GARDENS ALLOTMENTS**

RESOLVED - That the report of the Project Manager be received and implemented.

A.52/06. **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.53/06. **NORTH ROAD “POULTRY CENTRE”.**
Consideration was given to the report of the Project Manager in connection with the plot rented by Mr.Bulmer.

After considerable discussion it was

RESOLVED - That Mr.Bulmer be served with Notice to Quit.

A.54/06. **DURHAM ROAD ALLOTMENTS**
(N.B.Councillors G.Tolley and Mrs.J.L.Wood declared a prejudicial interest in this matter and left the meeting)

The Town Clerk advised Members that Councillor Mrs.J.L.Wood had not participated in the preparation of the report but she had supplied the allotment site plan.

Reference was made to Minute Nos. A.32/06 and A.45/06 and consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk in relation to the meeting with the tenant.

Considerable discussion ensued on this matter and it was

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That Mr.Hepple be issued with immediate Notice to Quit;
 - (ii) That the Town Clerk investigate the complaint against Mr.D.Gardiner and report back to the Committee; and
 - (iii) That Standing Orders be waived to allow the letters to go out immediately.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.35p.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 6th February, 2007 on the rising of the Allotments Committee.

PRESENT: Councillor I.Harrington (Chair), and

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

Also in attendance Mrs.P.Wilson (Town Clerk)
Mrs.B.Fryer (Principal Admin Officer)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Miss S.L.Armstrong, M.T.B.Jones, Mrs.C.Kennedy, J.W.Smith, Mrs.M.Smith, Mrs.E.Summerson and P.Welsh.

F.&G.P. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**
210/06. RESOLVED - Declaration of personal interests were received from Councillors J.C.Culine and Mrs.E.Maddison.

F.&G.P. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**
211/06. **Durham Wildlife Trust.**
Reference was made to Minute F.&G.P.195/06 and it was

RESOLVED - That the letter of appreciation be received

F.&G.P. **Sedgefield and District Advice and Information Service – Citizens Advice Bureau funding and Core Generalist Service Provision.**
212/06. Consideration was given to letter dated 2nd January, 2007 from S.Wakefield, Funding and Development Manager and Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

RESOLVED - That consideration of this matter be deferred until the next meeting to enable the Town Clerk to report on the previous decision

F.&G.P. **Sedgefield Borough Council – Walking the Way to Health Initiative.**
213/06. Consideration was given to letter dated 5th January, 2007 from J. Nutt, Sedgefield Borough Health Walks Project.

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

F.&G.P. **GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.**
214/06. Reference was made to Minute F.& G.P.89/06 and it was

RESOLVED - To receive the contents of letter dated 2nd January, 2007 from Sedgefield Borough Council.

F.&G.P. **BYERS GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

215/06. RESOLVED - i) To receive the contents of letter dated 24th January 2007 from the Byers Green Village Hall Association; and

ii) That arrangements be made for the Official Opening to be held on Wednesday 28th March, 2007 to co-incide with the Management Association's Open Evening.

CONFERENCES & COURSES.

F.&G.P. **National Association of Councillors – English Region**
216/06. **Delivering Safer Communities – 12th-14th January 2007.**

RESOLVED - That the contents of the report be received and noted.

F.&G.P. **LARGER LOCAL COUNCILS' COMMITTEE**

217/06. RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th January, 2007 be received.

F.&G.P. **LOCAL POLICING PLAN PRIORITIES.**

218/06. Consideration was given to the 10 draft local priorities which need to be ranked in order of priority.

The Town Clerk advised that Inspector A.Green had indicated he would like to address Members on this matter.

RESOLVED - That Inspector A.Green be invited to address Members at the next Council Meeting.

F.&G.P.
219/06.

TOWN COUNCIL WEB SITE.

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

The Town Clerk advised that the applicant had now withdrawn his request.

F.&G.P.
220/06.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER AND UNITARY COUNCIL PROPOSAL.

(Councillor Mrs.E.Maddison declared a personal interest in this item but remained in the meeting)

RESOLVED - To receive contents of letter dated 22nd January 2007 from Durham County Council.

F.&G.P.
221/06.

REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS.

Consideration was given to letter dated 22nd January 2007 from Communities and Local Government together with the consultation document.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the contents of the correspondence be received: and
 - (ii) That the Town Clerk arrange appropriate training on the revised Code of Conduct.

F.&G.P.
222/06.

BISHOP AUCKLAND GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Closure of Ward 3.

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

After considerable discussion on this matter it was

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Town Council support other local authorities in condemning the proposed closure of wards at Bishop Auckland Hospital; and
 - (ii) That letters be sent to the Minister for Health; local M.P; Lord Foster; Chief Executive of the Hospital and the PCT.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

F.&G.P.
223/06. **Paid Accounts.**
RESOLVED –

That payment of accounts in the sum of £8,188.02 authorised by the Chair of Committee, payment by BACS in the sum of £27,456.27 for January and reimbursement of the Imprest Account in the sum of £27,523.70 for January be approved.

F.&G.P.
224/06. **Accounts to Authorise.**
RESOLVED –

- i) To authorise the payment of accounts in the sum of £39,676.28 for January;
- ii) That Standing Orders be waived in order that payment can be made immediately.

F.&G.P.
225/06. **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.

ESTABLISHMENT.

F.&G.P.
226/06. **Millennium Volunteers.**

Reference was made to Minute F.&G.P.187/06 and consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED - That the Town Council register an interest in obtaining assistance from Millennium Volunteers.

TOWN HALL.

F.&G.P.
227/06. **Works to Clock Tower.**

Consideration was given to the report of the tenders in connection with the above work.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed and approved;
 - (ii) That the Town Clerk contact Thorn Lighting regarding the renewal of the flood lights to the clock tower; and
 - (iii) That Standing Orders be waived to enable an immediate start on the contract.

F.&G.P.
228/06.

IT EQUIPMENT.

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the report of the Town Clerk be received and implemented;
 - (ii) That Standing Orders be waived to enable access to special offers that are available.

F.&G.P.
229/06.

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

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

F.&G.P.
230/06.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.

Reference was made to Minute F.& G.P.183/06 and it was

- RESOLVED - That the contents of the letter dated 22nd December, 2006 be received.

GARAGE GROUND SITES.

F.&G.P.
231/06.

Rear of Clyde Terrace.

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

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

F.&G.P.
232/06.

THE BREWERY FIELD, SPENNYMOOR.

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

Considerable discussion ensued on this matter and it was

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the recommendations numbered 1-5 of the Town Clerk's report be approved; and
 - (ii) That the present tenants be given a deadline of the end of this playing season for the signing of the lease.

F.&G.P.
233/06.

TOWN HALL SHOPS.

Rental.

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk.

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

F.&G.P.
234/06.

BUDGET REPORTS.

RESOLVED -

That the Budget Reports for November and December, 2006 showing year to date Financial Information be received and noted.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.40p.m.

Councillor I.Harrington
Chair

P.&H.
81/06.

PLANNING DECISIONS.

(Councillor G.Tolley declared a personal interest in this item but remained in the meeting)

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

Members raised a query on payments to Town Council of S.106 monies in respect of new housing developments.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be received and noted;
 - ii) That the Town Clerk continue discussions with Sedgefield Borough Council on the release of S.106 monies.

P.&H.
82/06.

FOOTPATHS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY.

C.152/Clyde/Whitworth Terrace.

RESOLVED - To receive the Notification of Footway works.

P.&H.
83/06.

Footpath Diversion Order.

RESOLVED - To receive the Order; Notice of Order and site location plan in connection with the above at land off Butchers Race, Green Lane Industrial Estate associated with planning application 7/2006/0477/DM.

P.&H.
84/06

Bridleway No. 29 Spennymoor Parish – Temporary Bridleway Closure.

To report receipt of letter dated 24th January, 2007 from Sedgefield Borough Council in connection with the above.

P.&H.
85/06.

COUNTY DURHAM LOCAL ACTION 21 PARTNERSHIP

Newsletter Winter 2006 Issue 33

RESOLVED - That the Newsletter be received.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.01 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, 13th February, 2007 on the rising of the Planning and Highways Committee.

PRESENT: Councillor J.W.Smith (Vice-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, Mrs.S.I.Plews, Mrs.M.Smith, G.Tolley, F.Walker and W.Waters.

Also in attendance Mrs.P.Wilson (Town Clerk)
Mrs.B.Fryer (Principal Admin Officer)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs.C.Bainbridge, I.Harrington, F.E.Ryder, Mrs.C.Sproat, Mrs.E.Summers, P.Welsh and Mrs.J.L.Wood.

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

80/06. RESOLVED - No personal or prejudicial interest was made by any Member.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.

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

81/06. Reference was made to Minute S.&A.70/06 and further consideration was given to this deferred matter.

RESOLVED - That the Town Clerk advertise the concession for a mobile outlet at Jubilee Park to ascertain possible interest and report the matter back to Committee.

S.&A. **Jubilee Park Bowling Green.**

82/06. Consideration was given to the letter dated 11th January 2007 from the Hon.Secretary of Spennymoor Town Bowling Club.

RESOLVED - That permission be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions and that the Town Council agree to sponsor the County Game.

S.&A.
83/06. **Land at Middlestone Moor.**
Consideration was given to letter dated 16th January, 2007 from Ronden Builders Ltd., in connection with land off the Football Field at Albion Street.

RESOLVED - That the Town Clerk arrange a site meeting with the applicant; local Ward Members and Chair and Vice-Chair of Committee

S.&A.
84/06. **Play Areas**
Consideration was given to a programme for the replacement of play equipment.

RESOLVED - That the Town Clerk take on board all comments made and a working party be formed to progress this work.

S.&A.
85/06. **CEMETERIES AND CLOSED CHURCHYARDS.**
North East War Memorials Project.
RESOLVED - To receive Newsletter No. 4, Winter 2006.

S.&A.
86/06. **APPRECIATION.**
RESOLVED - That the following letter of appreciation be received and noted:-

- i) Email from G.Livett re: function held on 26th January 2007

S.&A.
87/06. **SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP.**
To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Working Group held on 8th January, 2007.

S.&A.
88/06. **COUNTY DURHAM ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2006.**
Consideration was given to letter dated 28th December 2006.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the Town Clerk submit the two schemes discussed i.e. Cow Plantation and the wetland area in Jubilee Park; and
 - ii) That Standing Orders be waived to enable the entries to be made immediately.

S.&A.
89/06. **MIDDLESTONE MOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE.**
Consideration was given to letter dated 31st January, 2007.

RESOLVED - That permission be granted to fit a new kitchen but that the Town Council's Electrician fit the central heating timer switch.

S.&A.
90/06. **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.
91/06. **TUDHOE CRICKET CLUB**
Reference was made to Minute S.&A.66/06 and consideration was given to the verbal report of the Town Clerk.

Considerable discussion ensued on this matter and it was

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

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.40 p.m.

Councillor J.W.Smith
Vice-Chair