

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Northallerton Town Council held at 7.00pm on 18th January 2021 using video/teleconferencing

Present: Cllr D Richardson (Mayor), Cllr P Atkin, Cllr P Cornfoot, Cllr P Eames, Cllr C Hutson, Cllr J Hutson, Cllr J Prest and Cllr C Young.

Also Present: Cllr D Blades; Cllr C Dickinson; Cllr I Sanderson; Cllr M Robson Leader of Hambleton District Council; M Day, 4 representatives from Northallerton BID, 3 members of the public, a member of the press and Alexandra Little, Locum Clerk.

TC453 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr G Cullen and Sgt C Hughes.

TC454 Note any Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interests were received from Cllrs C & J Hutson in relation to BID.

It was confirmed that the meeting was notified correctly and the agenda published in advance of the meeting, in line with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1 (4) (b) updated re COVID19.

Councillors were also reminded that the meeting is in public and comments should be made appropriately.

TC455 Public Participation

A resident requested that the upgrades to Applegarth Plan Area incorporate some inclusive equipment and offered to support the council with consultation for this, to include the school. Cllrs Prest and Atkin were supportive of this suggestion and Cllr Young will meet with M Day (Streetscape) and the resident to discuss further.

TC456 North Yorkshire Police

The Police report had been circulated to councillors electronically prior to the meeting

TC457 To Receive Reports from County and District Councillors

1. Cllr Atkin advised council that stallholders attending the market who do not sell food are allowed to do so under current restrictions as they are providing essential goods in line with Government guidelines.
2. Cllr Atkin advised that a combat rough sleeping initiative had begun and that Community House has been converted into units to support those in need.
3. Cllr Dickinson advised that Hambleton District Council (HDC) had been awarded £6 million from the Future High Street Fund. She also advised that the market day road closures will be reviewed at the end of March.
4. Cllr Sanderson requested that the Town Council make representation to all parties involved in the road flooding issues at Stokesley Road, as this is having a huge impact on residents. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Taylor Wimpey including HDC and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) in copy.

TC458 To Receive 2021 Presentation from Northallerton Business Improvement District (BID) by Lindsay Judd, Chairman and Guy Barker, Director

A presentation was received and councillors found this useful and thanked to the representatives for attending

TC459 Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th December 2020 were proposed as correct by Cllr Richardson, seconded by Cllr Prest and agreed unanimously.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th December 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record

Signed:
Mayor
Date:

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TC460 Administration and Initiatives

Temporary delegation of powers to the Locum Clerk were discussed.

1. It was resolved that Locum Clerk, Alexandra Little, be granted temporary powers of delegation to deal with administrative and financial matters in line with the councils Financial Regulations and that this will be reviewed at the next Northallerton Town Council Ordinary meeting

The future of the Northallerton & Villages Community Forum was discussed. They need a coordinator and secretary to continue.

2. It was resolved that Cllr Richardson will discuss this with P Cole of HDC and report back to council

Council were updated on progress of the website upgrade for information only.

Use of Zoom/MS Teams for meetings was discussed and the Locum Clerk confirmed that there is no charge to the council for use of Zoom at present and all councillors ipads have the Zoom app installed.

3. It was resolved that Zoom will continue for the next two meetings and will be reviewed again

Bonfire plans for 2021 were considered and it was the feeling of councillors that all events should be planned with the expectation that they will proceed with attention being paid to potential charges if these have to be cancelled.

4. It was resolved that the Bonfire and Santa Sunday events be planned following usual practices

Initial investigations for the potential to provide public toilets in the Town Hall had been discussed informally with HDC planning department and a feasibility study would be the next steps in order to establish if the building could support this project. Cllr Robson joined the meeting to confirm that HDC does not plan to fund future public toilets in Northallerton and that HDC had offered the previous public toilets to the Town Council but these were not accepted, instead a payment of £35,000 plus 18 months running costs was given to the Town Council to upgrade the toilets in the Town Hall, which are currently used. Cllr Richardson proposed that the potential in the Town Hall be investigated and that BID be consulted regarding any future plans, this was seconded by Cllr Hutson and agreed unanimously..

5. It was resolved that Cllrs Cornfoot and Eames arrange a feasibility study with Align Property Services and undertake preliminary discussions with BID

Council was updated on matters relating to the YLCA Health Check.

Priorities for the year 2021 were considered and the following were considered for action in 2021:

Allotments

Applegarth Play Area

Basement Improvements

Public Toilets

6. It was resolved that an agenda item be included in the February meeting to agree required actions and to identify budget allocation for these priorities.

TC461 Finance

Payments and receipts were circulated. Cllr Atkin requested further information for the NYCC invoice relating to IT support, the Locum Clerk will request a breakdown from NYCC for this item and circulate to councillors.

1. It was resolved that payments be made and receipts noted.

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TC462 Assets and Facilities

The Amenities Report and Inspection Summaries were received and noted.

1. It was resolved that the Locum Clerk liaise with the Amenities Manager regarding items in need of action

Continued improvements to Bullamoor play area were discussed and an update given by M Day of Streetscape. A proposed plan for the relocation of equipment and positioning of new items was circulated to councillors.

2. It was resolved that the Locum Clerk submit grant applications to the Police Safety Fund and HDC Making A Difference Fund to assist with the cost of the Bullamoor project

M Day also outlined proposals for other amenities spaces. Cllr Richardson proposed that a meeting took place on site at Applegarth with the resident in TC455 and that other stakeholders were consulted about this. This was seconded by Cllr Young and agreed unanimously.

3. It was resolved that Cllr Young will meet with the resident and M Day and feedback will be brought to the next meeting

Councillors discussed the issues on the high street footpaths with lack of gritting in bad weather. Not all shopkeepers clear the paths outside their premises and it was suggested by Cllr Atkin that the Amenities team may be able to support the winter gritting programme.

4. It was resolved that the Locum Clerk will investigate this further and feedback back to a future meeting

Ownership and maintenance of the two notice boards - High Street and Station - was considered

5. It was resolved that Cllr Dickinson will investigate this further and report back to council

The Grass Cutting Tender is due for renewal this year.

6. It was resolved that the grass cutting contract will be put out to tender immediately

2020 Christmas Illuminations were discussed. Cllr Richardson asked for any outstanding questions regarding these to be raised at this meeting, as it was important to learn from last year and move forward positively.

Cllr Prest noted that he had received many positive comments about the lights and that it was time to move forward for the benefit of the people who live in the town, Cllr Cornfort added his agreement to this. Thanks were offered to Cllr Young for all of her efforts, in difficult circumstances, to ensure the display was successful.

It was noted that provision has been made in the 2021 budget to continue to upgrade the lights. Cllr Prest proposed that Cllr Young takes the lead in organising the Christmas Illuminations for 2021, with the help of other councillors as required. This was seconded by Cllr Richardson and agreed.

7. It was resolved that Cllr Young takes the lead in organising the Christmas Illuminations for 2021 and all recommendations come back to Full Council for approval

8. It was resolved that Christmas Plus be invited to join an extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to discuss requirements for 2021

9. It was resolved that the contract for the Christmas Illuminations maintenance, expiring June 2021, be put out to tender

10. It was resolved that the child's motif from 2020 be created for the 2021 display

11. It was resolved that the children's competition be launched to schools immediately for the current year

Cllr Richardson explained there was a fault with the underground cable in the Churchyard, which is a Town Council responsibility. The electrical cabinet was replaced and the cable was temporarily bypassed to allow the lights to be operated safely.

12. It was resolved that the remedial work for this cable be completed as soon as possible

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TC463 Planning

Planning Applications were considered.

It was resolved that Northallerton Town Council has no objection to these applications

TC464 Correspondence

1. Correspondence which has been circulated by emails between meetings requires no further action
2. The minutes of the JBC meetings were noted
3. A poster detailing the Census 2021 was shared with councillors
4. Residents' concerns had been received regarding dogs being exercised in the play area at Bullamoor. Signs have been ordered and erected to advise dog owners that dogs are not allowed in this area.

TC465 Employment and Training Matters

Councillors commented that it would be useful for the YLCA to provide training courses in an evening for those councillors who have day time work commitments

1. It was resolved that the Locum Clerk will give this feedback to the YLCA

The Amenities Apprenticeship advert is live but there have only been 3 applicants so far.

2. It was resolved that this advert be extended to allow for additional applicants and the Locum Clerk will contact Northallerton and Bedale school to request they circulate the advert to relevant young people.

TC466 Next Meeting

It was resolved that the time and date of the next meeting would be 7.00pm on Monday 15th February 2021 and the Clerk be notified of any items for the next meeting agenda by Monday 8th February 2021

Signed:
Mayor
Date: