

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall
FERRYHILL

Wednesday
18 JUNE 2008

TIME: 7.00PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

Councillors: S Avery, Mrs D Barber, K Campbell, D Farry, B Lamb, Miss E Martin, P Mountford, Mrs Z Roddam, K Storey

APOLOGIES

Councillors: P Atkinson, Mrs P Crathorne, T Garrett , B Gibson, P McCourt, Miss A Patchett, Mrs C Woods, V Woods

164.07-08

ETHICAL CODE – DISCLOSURE OF ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

ACTION

The following non prejudicial interests were declared:-

Councillor B Lamb in any items relating to Sedgefield Borough Council and allotments, K Campbell in any items relating to Sedgefield Borough Council, Mrs Z Roddam in correspondence item 5, Mrs D Barber in correspondence items 2 and 5 and Miss E Martin in any items relating to the Football Facility at Dean Bank Park.

165.07-08

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SUBJECT TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY)

Councillor Gibson and his wife as well as his brother Councillor Bob Gibson attended the meeting. Councillor Bob Gibson read out a statement prepared by Councillor Brian Gibson & Mrs Gibson a copy of which is on file. Following this Councillor Brian Gibson then addressed the meeting during which he accused the Executive Officer of acting with gross misconduct and accused him of being a disgrace whilst pointing at him and standing during the meeting. The Executive Officer attempted to address the issues raised by Councillor Gibson and his brother however Councillor Gibson interrupted him and left the meeting before enabling him to do so.

At this point Councillor Gibson left the meeting.

The Executive Officer advised the meeting of his requirements to release information under the Freedom of Information Act following Councillor Gibson's departure and the requirements that he must provide information unless there is a lawful reason not to do so. That as the letter in question, did not disclose any personal information and that he could not see any reason why such information could not be released, it had been released in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

At this point the Council at the request of Members had a 10 minute break to allow all those present to recover from the incident which occurred at the beginning of the meeting.

At this point Councillor Garrett left the meeting.

166.07-08**MINUTES****ACTION**

Town Council - 28 May 2008
Annual General Meeting - 28 May 2008

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Councillor Farry had submitted a non prejudicial interest on the Town Council with regard to any items relating to Sedgefield Borough Council other than that the minutes be agreed and approved as a true and accurate record *SH to amend Minutes*

167.07-08**MATTERS ARISING**

A discussion took place with regards to the proposal to remove parts of portfolio.

168.07-08**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Finance Committee - 28 May 2008
2000 Committee - 4 June 2008
Civic Amenities Committee - 4 June 2008
Recreation Committee - 4 June 2008
Freedom of Information Meeting - 4 June 2008

IT WAS RESOLVED

That these be agreed and approved as a true and accurate record.

169.07-08**MATTERS ARISING**

Some issues were discussed.

170.07-08**CURRENT OUTSTANDING PROJECTS****IT WAS RESOLVED**

That the Council agree to the priority within the report attached.

171.07-08**REPORT ON UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPORTS FACILITY****IT WAS RESOLVED**

- That the business plan, technical study and LIP applications be adopted and approved.
- That a planning application be submitted
- That a LIP application for £320,000 be submitted
- That a football foundation bid be submitted for approximately £701,044
- That any minor alterations to the proposals be delegated to the Executive Officer in consultation with the sports facility working party (S.101 LGA 1972)

172.07-08 **REPORT ON VANDALISM AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN DEAN BANK PARK** **ACTION**

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Council continue to liaise with the police to address the problems with anti-social behaviour in the park.

173.07 -08 **REPORT ON THE TOWN COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008**

IT WAS RESOLVED

- a) Note the financial performance for the year 2007/2008 and the financial position at 31 March 2008, and
- b) Approve the Statement of Accounts and the Statement of Assurance, and authorise the Chairman and Executive Officer to sign the appropriate forms.

174.07-08 **REPORT ON INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

IT WAS RESOLVED

- a) the existing excesses remain in place;
- b) the terms of the Business Interruption policy are amended to reflect 24 months cover;
- c) the limit of cover on the Fidelity Guarantee policy be increased to £500,000;
- d) arrangements be made to have properties revalued and officers be asked to identify savings of £1,750 to cover the cost, also to investigate the formula to value the properties
- e) adequate arrangements be made to obtain relevant information from all volunteers; and
- f) Members note the position in relation to Gap Insurance and Artificial pitches.

175.07-08 **REPORT ON FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the financial regulations be adopted.

DS to action

176.07-08 **REPORT ON WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

IT WAS RESOLVED

That the Whistleblowing Policy be adopted.

177.07-08 **MEMBERS REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be noted.

178.07-08 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. County Durham Association of Local Councils - Nominations for Executive Committee Members **ACTION**

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be received and if any members wish to be nominated they should do so through the Executive Officer. The Council would support any such nominations.

2. Broom Cottages Primary School - Letter of thanks for donation of plants

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be received.

3. Sedgefield Borough Council - Local Government Review – Protection of historic traditions and ceremonial arrangements transfer to Sedgefield Town Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be received.

4. Councillor B Gibson - Request for details of Executive Officers Representatives to outside bodies

IT WAS RESOLVED

It was noted that the Executive Officer had provided copies of the information requested at the meeting.

5. Ferryhill Business & Enterprise College - Issue 31 Newsletter

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be received.

6. Sedgefield Community Safety Partnership - Executive Working Group Information

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be received.

7. Sedgefield Borough Council - Cabinet Agenda & Reports, Thursday 5 June 2008

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be received.

8. Councillor B Gibson

- Letter re: Town Councils
complaints procedure

ACTION

IT WAS RESOLVED

That this be referred to the complaints investigation panel for them to deal with.

9. Councillor B Gibson

- Letter re: Representation to
outside organisations

IT WAS RESOLVED

It was noted that this information has been provided.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

CHAIRMAN