

**Town Council Meeting
4 February 2020**

Present: Councillors Bugge, Dodson, G Eccles, J Eccles, Hardacre, Hirst, Holmes, Kenyon, Mitchell, Pringle, A Westmorland, G Westmorland, Wilson, Womersley and the town clerk.

6 members of the public were in attendance

364 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Colvin.

Resolved that the reason for absence be approved.

365 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Holmes declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 – Allotments – and submitted a dispensation request to speak on the matter to impart his knowledge and experience as an allotment holder but not to vote, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Mitchell declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 – Allotments – and submitted a dispensation request to speak on the matter to impart his knowledge and experience as an allotment holder but not to vote, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Wilson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 – Allotments – and submitted a dispensation request to speak on the matter to impart his knowledge and experience as an allotment holder but not to vote, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Resolved that the respective dispensation requests of Cllrs Holmes, Mitchell and Wilson to speak but not vote on the matter concerned be approved, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

366 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Points were raised by members of the public on the following matters:

- Cemetery Road playing fields.
- Hanging baskets.
- Possible capital grants from Wakefield Council (Cllr Womersley confirmed he is looking into this).

367 CORRESPONDENCE

The town clerk reported on correspondence in respect of the following:

- a) Letter of thanks from 'Friends of Ashfield House'.

368 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the respective minutes of the council meeting held on 11 December and the extraordinary council meeting held on 23 December 2019 be approved.

369 COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Resolved that the minutes of the following meetings and their respective sub-committees be adopted:

Leisure and Recreation	9 January 2020
Finance	16 January 2020
Policy and Planning	23 January 2020

370 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved that the payment of accounts as approved at the Finance Committee meeting held on 16 January 2020 be approved.

371 COMMUNITY GRANTS AND/OR ASSISTANCE

a) Shancys Help The Needy

Resolved that use of the main hall in the community centre be given to Shancys Help the Needy in order to hold an old folks treats, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

b) 13/18 Royal Hussars Heritage Association

Resolved that the 13/18 Royal Hussars Heritage Association be given free use of the Fitzwilliam Centre for six months, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

c) Wakefield Trinity Community Foundation

Resolved that free use of the main hall in the community centre and at Fitzwilliam Community Centre for six weeks at each centre be given to Wakefield Trinity Community Foundation, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

d) St Helen's Church

Resolved that use of the main hall in the community centre be given to St Helen's Church, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

e) Hemsworth Town FC

Resolved that the request for grant funding from Hemsworth Town FC be deferred to the council year 2020-21 due to budgetary constraints.

f) Shoot Coaching Academy

Resolved that the request for grant funding from Shoot Coaching Academy be deferred to the council year 2020-21 due to budgetary constraints.

372 SEASIDE DAY TRIP

Resolved that this item be deferred pending receipt of costings.

373 ALLOTMENTS

a) Policy on the use of air rifles

Having each declared a pecuniary interest and having each submitted a dispensation request, Cllrs Holmes, Mitchell and Wilson took part in the discussion but did not vote on this matter.

Resolved that all air rifles continue to be strictly prohibited.

b) General clearance of allotment plots not in use

Resolved that after the 10 March deadline, those plots not in use are to be cleared.

c) Pest control

Resolved that the grounds maintenance manager assess and implement the optimum frequency for pest control.

d) Fence at Wanneville allotments

Resolved that the new fencing at Wanneville allotments be approved.

374 FREE ADVICE SERVICES

Resolved that the services provided by the council at the community centre – Citizens Advice, solicitor and Foundation, be restricted to parishioners only.

375 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME DISCRETIONS STATEMENT

Resolved that the local government pension scheme discretions statement be approved.

376 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2020-21

The town clerk reported on the budget discussions held at the Finance Committee meeting on 19 January 2020 and informal budget meetings held since then. The town clerk confirmed the council's current financial position and the financial pressures of the coming year. The town clerk advised caution in setting the budget and the according precept with a recommendation for an inflationary increase and particular reference to the need to maintain reserves of at least £300,000.

Cllr Womersley asked the chair of Finance that there be no further capital expenditure at Hemsworth Water Park in 2020-21, with which Cllr J Eccles agreed.

Resolved that:

- The town clerk's report be received and noted.
- The budget be approved.
- The median 'band D' amount remain at £206.50 thus with the resultant total precept being £758,888.

377 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

Resolved that in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

378 SPORTS COMPLEX, KIRKBY ROAD

Resolved that the conditional fee agreement be approved.

The meeting closed at 20:45.