

**Annual Town Council Meeting
14 May 2019**

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

52 members of the public were in attendance

001 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved that Cllr James Kenyon be elected chairman for the ensuing year.

002 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The chairman's declaration of acceptance of office was signed and received.

003 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Resolved that Cllr Stanley Wilson be elected vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

004 DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The town clerk confirmed that all members had now signed their respective declarations of acceptance of office.

005 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Resolved that appendix 4, sub-section 2 of the standing orders be suspended.

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

- Security on the allotments.
- Sports facilities, especially for young people.
- The provision of cricket facilities.
- The former sports complex at Kirkby Road.
- The town clerk's experience and qualifications.
- Pigeons and cockerels on allotments.
- Fires on allotments.
- Vale Head Park and litter picking.
- The planning application for a KFC on the former market area.

006 POLICE REPRESENTATION AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Inspector Sullivan had sent his apologies so Cllr Holmes (a retired police officer) provided an update.

007 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Colvin.

Resolved that the reason for Cllr Colvin's absence be approved.

008 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr G Eccles declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 15 – internal controls and internal audit.

Cllr J Eccles declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 15 - internal controls and internal audit.

Cllr Holmes declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 35 – rental income.

Cllr Kenyon declared a pecuniary interest respectively in agenda items 9 – chairman’s allowance – and 38 – town council’s solicitors.

Cllr Mitchell declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 35 – rental income.

Cllr Wilson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 35 – rental income.

009 CHAIRMAN’S ALLOWANCE

Due to his pecuniary interest Cllr Kenyon took no part in the discussion or decision regarding this item and as such Cllr Wilson assumed the chair.

Resolved that the chairman’s allowance remain the same for the ensuing year.

At this juncture Cllr Kenyon resumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

010 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Resolved that the existing committee structure and terms of reference remain the same for the ensuing year but with the Policy Committee renamed as the Policy and Planning Committee.

011 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Resolved that the membership of the standing committees be as follows:

Finance Committee

Steve Bugge
Alan Dodson
Gordon Eccles
Jean Eccles (chairman)
Graham Hirst
Eric Mitchell (vice-chairman)
Pete Hardacre
Glen Holmes
James Kenyon
Linda Pringle
Ian Womersley
Stanley Wilson

Leisure and Recreation Committee

Steve Bugge
Ken Colvin
Gordon Eccles
Jean Eccles
Graham Hirst
Eric Mitchell
Pete Hardacre (chairman)
Glen Holmes (vice-chairman)
James Kenyon
Linda Pringle

Ian Womersley
Stanley Wilson

Policy and Planning Committee

Steve Bugge (vice-chairman)
Alan Dodson
Gordon Eccles
Jean Eccles (chairman)
Graham Hirst
Eric Mitchell
Pete Hardacre
Glen Holmes
James Kenyon
Linda Pringle
Ian Womersley
Stanley Wilson

012 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Resolved that unless otherwise stated, all meetings are to commence at 7pm and will be held in the council chamber on the following dates:

Finance Committee

Thursday 20 June 2019
Thursday 1 August 2019
Thursday 19 September 2019
Thursday 21 November 2019
Thursday 16 January 2020
Thursday 12 March 2020
Thursday 16 April 2020

Leisure and Recreation Committee

Thursday 13 June 2019
Thursday 18 July 2019
Thursday 12 September 2019
Thursday 14 November 2019
Thursday 9 January 2020
Thursday 5 March 2020
Thursday 9 April 2020

Policy and Planning Committee

Thursday 4 July 2019
Thursday 8 August 2019
Thursday 3 October 2019
Thursday 5 December 2019
Thursday 23 January 2020
Thursday 19 March 2020
Thursday 23 April 2020

Town Council

Thursday 11 July 2019
Thursday 15 August 2019
Thursday 17 October 2019
Thursday 12 December 2019

Thursday 6 February 2020
Thursday 2 April 2020

013 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved that the council's financial regulations be reviewed, approved and adopted.

014 STANDING ORDERS

Resolved that:

- Appendix 4, sub-section 2 of the council's standing orders be rescinded.
- The council's standing orders be reviewed, approved and adopted.

015 INTERNAL CONTROLS AND INTERNAL AUDIT

Due to their respective pecuniary interests Cllr G Eccles and Cllr J Eccles took no part in the discussion or decision regarding this item.

Resolved that:

- In accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended), Mr Simon Knee of Horbury Financial Services, be appointed as the council's internal auditor for the ensuing year and that the scope of internal audit for 2019-20 be the adequacy and effectiveness of; accounting records, system of internal control, risk assessment and wider internal control arrangements.
- The review of internal controls be deferred until June pending a review of 2018-19 by Mr Simon Knee.

016 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2018-19

Resolved that this item be deferred until June pending a review of the 2018-19 accounts by Mr Simon Knee.

017 ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2018-19

Resolved that this item be deferred until June pending a review of the 2018-19 accounts by Mr Simon Knee.

018 YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

Resolved that Cllr Holmes and Cllr Womersley be the council's appointed representatives to the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

019 INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The town clerk confirmed the council's insurance arrangements and that sufficient cover is held for all known risks.

Resolved that:

- The report of the town clerk be approved
- Having reviewed all known risks the level of insurance cover is appropriate.

020 INVENTORY OF LAND AND ASSETS

Resolved that having been reviewed the council's inventory of land and assets was approved.

021 PLANNING MATTERS

a) Planning applications and notification of decisions

The town clerk confirmed there were no new planning notifications.

b) The former site of Hemsworth Market

The chairman confirmed that the vast majority of residents are opposed to the proposed KFC/Costa Coffee development on the former market site.

Resolved that the council formally objects to the development and that it be looked into by a working group.

c) Wakefield Council's draft local plan and land at Club Terrace, Fitzwilliam

The chairman confirmed that a meeting would shortly be arranged with Wakefield Council's planning department.

d) Planning/development at Meadow Croft, Hemsworth

Resolved that district Cllr Womersley provide an update in due course.

022 LICENSING MATTERS

The town clerk confirmed there were no new licensing notifications.

023 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the council meeting held on 5 February 2019 be approved.

024 COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Resolved that the minutes of the following meetings be adopted:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Leisure and Recreation | 19 February 2019 |
| Finance | 26 February 2019 |
| Policy | 5 March 2019 |
| Leisure and Recreation | 26 March 2019 |
| Finance | 9 April 2019 |
| Special Finance | 30 April 2019 |
| Policy | 30 April 2019 |

025 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved that the payment of accounts as approved respectively under minute no. 243 of the Finance Committee meeting held on 26 February 2019 and minute no. 272 of the Finance Committee meeting held on 9 April 2019 be approved.

026 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Resolved that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and statutory instrument 965 Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, the General Power of Competence be adopted.

027 BUDGET 2019-20

Resolved that the budget for 2019-20 be reviewed by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

028 FINANCIAL MORATORIUM

Resolved that no new contracts be entered into, pending a review by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

029 TOWN COUNCIL OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Resolved that Frenkels Forensics be appointed to conduct any necessary review of past operation and that a review be conducted by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

030 STRATEGIC PLAN

Resolved that the strategic plan be cancelled, pending a review by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

031 COMMUNITY CENTRE

Resolved that provision be made for a youth club and a (separate) licensed bar in the community centre.

032 COMMUNITY CENTRE – NEW SERVICES FOR PARISHIONERS

Resolved that the town clerk be authorized to procure a legal advice service, citizens advice service and a housing/welfare advice service based at the community centre for parishioners.

033 WATER PARK AND LAKESIDE CAFE

Resolved that a licensed bar be installed at the Lakeside Café and that the town clerk be authorized to take all necessary action.

034 VALE HEAD PARK AND HEMSWORTH CEMETERY

Resolved that district Cllr Womersley liaise with Wakefield Council to resolve the issues at the park and cemetery.

035 RENTAL INCOME

Due to their respective pecuniary interests Cllr Holmes, Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Wilson took no part in the discussion or decision regarding this item.

Resolved that the various sources of rental income be reviewed by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

036 FITZWILLIAM OLD PEOPLE'S CENTRE

Resolved that the income and expenditure of the centre be reviewed by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

037 SAUL CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

The town clerk confirmed that the council does not currently have any maintenance contracts with Saul Construction.

038 TOWN COUNCIL SOLICITORS

Due to his pecuniary interest Cllr Kenyon took no part in the discussion or decision regarding this item and as such Cllr Wilson assumed the chair.

Resolved that Richard Buxton Solicitors be appointed as the council's solicitors.

At this juncture Cllr Kenyon resumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

039 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resolved that the public be encouraged to attend and contribute to council meetings in accordance with the council's commitment to openness and transparency.

040 COMMUNITY LUNCHESES/TEAS

Resolved that provision be made to hold community lunches/teas.

041 CONCERT/FESTIVAL

Resolved that holding a concert/festival be reviewed by a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration.

042 COUNCILLORS AND STAFF MEETING AND TOUR OF PROPERTIES

Resolved that a welcome meeting be held with councillors and staff as well as a tour of council properties.

043 WALKING AND CYCLING CLUBS

Resolved that local walking and cycling clubs be supported by whatever means possible, including use of the community centre.

044 SPORT ENGLAND APPLICATION

Resolved that an application be made to Sport England to assist in funding various sports facilities.

045 HUB SURGERY

Resolved that a monthly hub surgery be introduced at the community centre.

046 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Resolved that a request be issued to Wakefield Council regarding an update on the air quality in Hemsworth.

047 1 BANK STREET, HEMSWORTH

Resolved that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee.

048 KIRKBY ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX

Resolved that the following matters be referred to a working group with any resultant recommendations to be referred to the council for consideration:

- The sale of the complex and publication of the accompanying contract.
- Publication of any other contracts pertaining to the sports complex.
- The implications of the removal of the land charge and to notify Wakefield Council accordingly.
- Clarification of the section 106 agreement.
- Payments to residents in respect of Japanese knotweed.
- The tribunal decision of 28 May 2018 and the publication thereof.
- To notify the Land Registry of the unlawful removal of the land charge.
- To submit applications for tree preservation orders and public open space.
- The future of the sports complex.

049 WORKING GROUP

Resolved that a working group be appointed consisting of the council/committee chairmen and vice-chairmen to review the matters pertaining to minute numbers 027 to 048 (2019-20) and to report back in due course with recommendations to the council or relevant committee.

The meeting closed at 21:10.