

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 21 MAY 2019
MINUTES

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

44 members of the public were in attendance.

001 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – 2018-19

Cllr Kenyon opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

It was agreed that the respective minutes of the annual town meeting held on 24 May 2018 and the electors' meetings held on 23 August 2018 and 14 March 2019 be approved.

002 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Kenyon reported that he is new to the role having only been in post for a few days, consequently there is nothing as yet to report but that the new council is keen to hear the views of parishioners.

003 MATTERS RAISED FROM THE FLOOR

A parishioner asked if councillors are going to argue rather than work together? Cllr Kenyon replied that last week's annual council meeting had gone really well and that there were lots of ideas and all councillors will work together.

A parishioner asked about the Fitzwilliam Centre and its ownership? Cllr Kenyon replied that it is held in trust by Hemsworth Town Council.

A parishioner asked if Wakefield Council collects the precept? Cllr Kenyon confirmed that is the case.

A parishioner said that he was fed up with the underhand attitude of the last council.

Cllr Kenyon replied that the new council will be open and transparent and that an open public question time will return to council meetings.

A parishioner asked if it is worth keeping the Lakeside open during the winter? Cllr Kenyon replied that the Lakeside will be reviewed and it is likely that a license application will be submitted.

A parishioner said that she uses the park a lot and that a service cannot be judged on its income alone.

Cllr Kenyon said that Cllr Womersley will negotiate with Wakefield Council regarding the future of Vale Head Park.

Cllr G Eccles said that the café needs its license back as it is an excellent venue for weddings and functions.

Cllr J Eccles said that events such as festivals will be held in the park and the facility will generally improve.

A parishioner asked if/when there would be an allotment holders meeting?
Cllr Kenyon replied that a meeting will be held in the near future.

The meeting closed at 7.33pm.