



Skipton Town Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skipton Town Council held in the Council Chambers on Thursday 16th March 2023 at 7.00pm

Those Present.

Chairman: Councillor R Judge (Town Mayor)
Councillor S Bentley (Deputy Mayor), Councillor P Madeley, Councillor K
McIntyre, Councillor C Nash, Councillor B McDaid, Councillor W Feather,
Councillor V Kettu, Councillor Morton, Councillor Noland & Councillor Courcier.

Officers: Mrs L Close (Chief Officer)
Mrs J Dean (Deputy Clerk)
Mrs H Marshall (Finance Manager)
1 member of the public

2223/133 ITEM 1 – Mayor’s Remarks

Councillor R Judge welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He also confirmed that bullying towards members of staff was not acceptable and this would be monitored.

2223/134 ITEM 2 – Apologies for Absence

Councillors Harbron and Councillor A Heseltine who had a prior engagement.
Councillor L Morgan and Councillor R Heseltine who were both ill.
Reasons accepted.

2223/135 ITEM 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None received.

2223/136 ITEM 4 – Dispensations

None received.

2223/137 ITEM 5 – Representations from public

A member of the public stated that the Chief Officers report should be included in the body of the minutes. It was confirmed this would be actioned.

2223/138 ITEM 6- Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2023 were proposed by Councillor P Madeley to be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and was unanimously resolved to be approved.

2223/139 ITEM 7 – Reports and Minutes from Committee and Sub committees Meetings

Councillor Madeley gave an update of the trader parking permits that had been recently approved with NYCC Highways.

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the following committee meetings
(Councillor Shared drive):

Events & Tourism Committee 6th October 2022 (approved by committee 26/01)
Audit & Scrutiny Committee 8th December 2022 (approved by committee 02/03)

Chairman’s Signature.....

Market Committee 16th November & 5th December 2022 and 4th & 13th January 2023 (approved by committee 08/02)
Public Services 1st December 2022 (approved by committee 02/02)

2223/140

ITEM 8 – Chief Officer Report

Following discussions from the last meeting regarding planning comments made to Craven District Council, a copy of the delegated power that is in place for this committee is shown below;

Comments on Planning Applications shall be delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee. The views of other Members of the Committee shall be sought as appropriate.

Any member can request for this to be changed, dissolved or amended and the resolution can be used as and when needed, i.e., in between committee meetings.

2223/141

ITEM 9 – Finance

The Bank reconciliation was received and noted.

The Bank Statements were received and noted.

The schedule of payments and receipts were received and noted.

No further queries were raised, and Councillor McDaid proposed to accept the above information which was agreed in favour.

2223/142

ITEM 10 – Outside Bodies representation reports.

A report from Councillor Nash regarding an update from Selrap, Sylvester Petyt Charity, The John Rimmington Trust Will and the Fairtrade Steering group, was circulated.

The Clerk would recirculate the list of members on Outside Bodies to remind everyone to update Council.

2223/143

ITEM 11 - Expression of Interests to North Yorkshire County Council

Proposed by Councillor Madeley and RESOLVED in unanimously in favour to submit an expression of interest in the following assets and services to North Yorkshire County council.

Skipton Town Hall Car Park public toilet block

Aireville Park

The Ginnel Woods

The Canal Basin.

The allotments sites currently managed by Craven District Council, Granville Street and Aireville park were discussed and it was decided to wait for the new authority to begin discussions of these sites again.

UK Shared prosperity fund, The Chief officer was asked to move forward with an expression of interest for the funding application of refurbishment of the setts and the refurbishment of the toilet block in the car park.

The changes to public transport bus service was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk could create a letter to object to the passenger transport that is under threat of withdrawal.

Chairman's Initials.....

2223/144 **ITEM 12 - Community Safety**

Councillor McDaid gave an update of the Community Safety group recent meetings and actions.

- Sgt Evans reported 29 burglaries in the last 90 days, which can be attributed to just one or two individuals.
- There have been several break ins to sheds at the allotment sites at Broughton Road and Middletown, and the Police are working with the Council on this.
- Over the last 90 days there have been 4 incidents of antisocial behaviour at the Bus Station, and 2 crimes. Work is ongoing regarding issues involving anti-social behaviour towards people mooring their boats on the canal.
- Sgt Evans expressed that most young people in Skipton do not cause any issues, but there are a small number that most of the incidents of anti-social behaviour can be attributed to.
- Often the reason behind the behaviour can be very complex, and lockdown has had a big impact. Early intervention and support is key. The Police are reintroducing themselves into the schools and the college.
- At the last meeting there had been some issues discussed regarding individuals coming from outside the area causing issues, this appears to have stopped.
- Sgt Evans feels that the messages from STAND are getting out to people on nights out in Town, and he feels that the premises are taking their responsibilities seriously.
- Sgt Evans also reiterated the importance of problems being reported. If problems are not reported, then the Police don't know they are happening.
- Reviewing that the CCTV on Keighley Road is now operating.
- Schools to follow up with the Girls school and also to invite the PRU.
- Street Angels. Jenny to put something on the Council webpage for recruiting volunteers and look at what is done in other areas.
- Concerns around litter and glasses around the streets
- Cllr Noland about a date for an initial litter pick
- James will take the idea of a 'Keep Skipton Tidy' campaign back to the Youth Council to see if this is something that they could lead on?
- Sera Brooks to discuss the issue of glasses being taken out of venues with the STAND members, Jenny and Stacey to liaise re beer mats

Chairman's Initials.....

2223/145

ITEM 13 – Committee Structure

Councillor Madeley addressed the meeting regarding the committee structure of the Council and the proposed changes he would like to be considered.

Councillor Nash proposed the following recommendation from Finance and Policy Committee.

Audit & Scrutiny & Complaints merge with Planning
Subcommittee for planning with a ward balance
Amalgamate Events & Market but maintain separate budget and staffing and meet every 2 months.
Scrutiny to be added back into T of R
Strategic plan to be added into T of R for F&P
Staffing before every Full Council meeting
Consideration of numbers for Committees and terms of reference and to be taken back to April F&P ready for adoption at the May Annual meeting.

This was seconded by Councillor Stephen Morton.

Councillor Madeley proposed an amendment to this motion being that an extraordinary Council meeting was called for the information to be presented at. Councillor Nash advised that she is against this amendment as there were too many meetings.

Councillor McDaid seconded Councillor Madeley's amendment and this was supported by 8 votes.

The original motion was supported unanimously.

RESOLVED To accept the recommendations of the committee structure made by Policy and Finance Committee. An extraordinary Council meeting was called for the information to be presented to, after further work was completed on it.

8 votes in favour, Councillor Nash recorded her vote against.

2223/146

ITEM 14 – Easter Eggs

It was noted that donations of Easter Eggs could be delivered to the office by Thursday 30th March for them to be donated to SELFA. It was confirmed that SELFA welcomed these donations.

2223/147

ITEM 15 – Honorary Freeman

Proposed by Councillor Bentley and RESOLVED to offer a Honorary Freeman to a resident in Skipton. The details would be confirmed.

2223/148

ITEM 16 – The Exclusion of the press and public.

The Committee and its sub-committees will be considering business of a confidential nature, and the press and public will therefore be excluded by resolution from meetings (Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, s1 [2]).

Chairman's Initials.....

Pursuant to SO1a, The Mayor changed the order of the agends.

2223/149

ITEM 18 – Complaint

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would take no further action on the complaint, and that the complaint was closed.

(unanimous)

It was **RESOLVED** that the complaints policy be reviewed to ensure that timescales for appeals are clear, and that these timescales are communicated to complainants.

(unanimous)

It was **RESOLVED** that at the next appropriate meeting the Code of Conduct be added to the agenda, and it be made clear how Members should conduct themselves with staff.

(unanimous)

2223/150

ITEM 18 – Management & Staffing

RESOLVED to employ the services of a HR consultant. *All in favour*

RESOLVED to formally accept the business case and to start a process of proposed redundancy and initial consultation with post holders. *11 votes in favour.*

RESOLVED to accept the business case and proposed changes to employee's contract of hours and to enter into initial consultation with post holders. *9 votes in favour, 3 against*

2223/151

ITEM 19- Notification of Business for a Future Agenda

The Clerk should be given seven clear days' notice of items for the agenda of the next meeting although the absolute statutory minimum notice period is three clear days.

With no further business to be transacted the meeting was closed at 20.50pm

*The next meeting of Full Council is the
Annual General meeting of the Council
scheduled for
Thursday 18th May 2023 at 7pm*

Chairman's Initials.....