



Skipton Town Council

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Skipton Town Council held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday 6th March 2024, 6.30pm

Those Present.

Chairman: Councillor S Bentley

Councillor P Madeley (Deputy), Councillor L Morgan, Councillor A Heseltine, Councillor C Harbron, Councillor B McDaid, Councillor D Noland, Councillor S Morton, Councillor C Nash, Councillor W Feather & Councillor R Judge

Officers: Mrs L Close (Chief Officer), Mrs J Dean (Deputy)
2 members of the public

2324/129 ITEM 1 – Mayors Remarks

Councillor S Bentley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2324/130 ITEM 2 - To accept apologies for absence.

Councillor R Heseltine, Councillor K McIntyre, Councillor A Higgins & Councillor V Kettu – who all had prior engagements - *accepted*
Councillor M Courcier were absent.

2324/131 ITEM 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None declared.

2324/132 ITEM 4 – Dispensations Requests

None received.

2324/133 ITEM 5 – Representations from the Public

A member of the public, Mr A Perrow, spoke regarding a document he had circulated prior to the meeting, to members of the council to advise that the Chairman of the Tarn Moor Trust had been elected against the guidance of the charities scheme document and that decisions and breach of trust had occurred.

Councillor P Madeley spoke to members and Mr Perrow and further questions and discussions were submitted.

SO 3e

2324/134 ITEM 6 – The Exclusion of the Press and Public

Proposed by Councillor Morton, seconded by Councillor Nash to resolve to close the meeting to press and public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Councillor P Madeley spoke against this motion and advised that the matter was not for private and that nothing should be hidden from the public.

Councillor Harbron and Councillor Noland spoke in favour of the motion and advised that matters could arise which involved people not present or aware and caution should be given to keep things confidential at this stage.

The Chief Officer confirmed to the meeting the advice she had submitted to members was that potential matters could be determined as confidential.

5 votes in favour of this motion

5 votes against this motion

Cllr Bentley used her casting vote to keep the meeting open to the public.

2324/135 ITEM 7 – Tarn Moor Trust

Proposed by Councillor Morton and seconded by Councillor Noland
That this council refers allegations that the council has failed to show due diligence in its role as custodian trustee of Tarn Moor estate to the Charity Commission.

Cllr Morton spoke in favour of this motion and Cllr Nash asked the Chair to move to the vote.

3 in favour, 6 against, motion failed.

Proposed by Councillor Madeley and seconded by Councillor R Judge

That the custodian trustees should seek legal advice.

Cllr Madeley spoke in favour of obtaining legal advice.

Councillor Nash proposed an amendment to the motion, that legal advice be sought on whether this Council should refer this matter to the Charity Commission.

Seconded by Cllr S Morton, *3 votes in favour, 5 against, amendment failed.*

Councillor Nash proposed an amendment to the motion.

That the council seek legal advice providing it does not cost more than £10,000.

This amendment was not seconded.

The Clerk advised that further detail on options available regarding legal advice could be provided for the Full Council Meeting on the 14th March 2024.

Votes to the original motion.
3 against, 7 in favour, 1 abstention

Councillor C Nash left the meeting at 19:20pm

Councillor P Madeley gave a status in which he declared he was a whistleblower and he wanted Council to confirm they did not want him to stand down as nominated trustee.

Members did not put a motion to the meeting for Cllr Madeley to stand down.

The meeting closed at 19.30pm