

WHALEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7AA
Town Clerk: Mrs S Raybould Tel: 01663 733068
e-mail: whaleybridgetowncouncil@supanet.com

Meeting: Annual Town Meeting
Date: Friday, 20th April 2012
Time: 7.30pm
Venue: Mechanics Institute
Present: See attached Attendance Register (20 attendees)

MINUTES

The Annual Community Award for 2011/12 was presented to Mrs Sheila Walton

T/2012/01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Taylor, Ray Wild, Swift and Mr A Bowles.

T/2012/02 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 15th April 2011 were a true and correct record and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

T/2012/03 Town Council Report – Chairman, Cllr Jon Goldfinch

The Annual Report 2011/12 was received. (Copy attached)

T/2012/04 Report from Derbyshire County Councillor – Cllr Barrie Taylor

Cllr Lomax read out a written report received from Cllr Taylor. (Copy attached)

T/2012/05 High Peak Borough Council Reports

Cllr John Pritchard

Cllr Pritchard gave his report. (Copy attached)

Cllr David Lomax

Cllr David Lomax reported that the Labour Party had taken control of the Borough Council following the May 2011 local elections.

He had served on the Communities and Standards Committee. The Going Local Scheme had been discontinued but a regeneration grant for Whaley Bridge was still included in the budget.

He reported on waste collections and the changes in collecting cardboard which had caused many problems. Recycling waste continued to be a major issue and a brown-lidded bin will be

introduced soon alongside the green and black bins.

Construction of the Goyt River Bridge remains a non-priority item for High Peak Borough Council.

Planning enforcement issues had been poorly handled and slow to be resolved.

A survey had been carried out by High Peak Community Housing but it was noted that the results were not binding on HPBC.

Investment in major projects continues and refurbishment work on Buxton Crescent had commenced.

The Borough Council had not increased council tax and grants for insulating buildings were easier to obtain.

No additional money had been allocated to youth provision but if the planned cuts to the service proposed by Derbyshire County Council are implemented then HPBC may invest more in providing youth services in the High Peak.

There will be public consultation on the options for locations for future building development later this year.

T2012/06 Safer Neighbourhoods Team (Derbyshire Constabulary)

There was no representation from the team present.

T2012/07 Producing a Local Neighbourhood Plan

A booklet (by the Campaign to Protect Rural England), called "How to Shape Where You Live: a guide to neighbourhood planning", was circulated.

Cllrs Goldfinch and Pritchard outlined the process involved and the Town Council's current views. (Report attached)

T2012/08 Questions and Resolutions

Roy Green was concerned about the number of potholes along New Road which is unsurfaced and unadopted. He stated that only half of the residents living along New Road were willing to contribute towards a resurfacing scheme. Some of the problem was attributed to large HGVs using the road to access businesses. He suggested that a weight restriction of 10 tons be imposed along New Road.

Cllr Goldfinch stated that Derbyshire County Council (the authority responsible for highway maintenance) is not prepared to spend any money on unadopted roads unless or until these roads are brought up to adoptable standard by other parties first. Residents living in houses fronting unadopted roads are legally responsible for the road

in front of their houses.

Barbara Pritchard asked whether there would be community consultation by DCC on reducing street lighting. She stated that if the consultation was undertaken during August, then additional time should be allowed for responses due to people being away on holiday and this should be brought to the attention of DCC.

Roy Green stated that he thought High Peak Community Housing was an efficient organisation. He was concerned that HPBC may not manage the housing stock so efficiently should management be returned to the Borough Council. It was noted that HPCH was paid by HPBC to manage, maintain and improve the housing stock as an "Arms Length Management Organisation " (ALMO).

Roy Green registered concern about additional wheelie bins and wished to know where these bins would be situated. He stated that additional bins would cause enormous problems, especially for residents of Cromford Court where there was no provision for more bins.

Cllr Pritchard responded saying that the aim is to reduce the amount of waste material going to landfill sites and encourage more rubbish to be recycled. He recommended that Mr Green speak to the warden at Cromford Court to ask her to contact the recycling promoter at HPBC to negotiate for better facilities at Cromford Court.

Robert Gurney asked whether a traffic survey had been undertaken at the junction of Whaley Lane (Reservoir Road) and Market Street as traffic tailed back at busy times.

Cllr Goldfinch replied that no traffic survey had been undertaken to date.

Robert Gurney expressed concern about inconsiderate parking on double yellow lines in the centre of the town. It was noted that parking offences were no longer the responsibility of Derbyshire Constabulary, but that controlling parking and issuing penalty parking tickets had been taken over by the Park Smarter organisation, operated by High Peak Borough Council.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

.....**Chair****Date**