

MINUTES OF THE DRIFFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY APRIL 4TH 2023 AT 7.00pm IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COMMUNITY CENTRE, DRIFFIELD.

Present: Councillors, M Blakeston, G Lucas, A Coleman, F Smith, M Garrard, S Fletcher, A Newall, T Watson, G Helliwell, S Starrett, J Fletcher, P Rounding, P Stocker, K Stack and Town Clerk M Brown.

PSCO Claire Watson reported a slight increase in shop theft, 5 incidents of public order and 4 of criminal damage which included the incident at Northfield School. No indication of when the new Policing arrangement of "Operation Uplift" will start was given.

Claire made it clear that any incidents should be reported – no matter how small to 101. This was re-iterated by Cllr Stack.

Stuart Bradshaw, and Jolyon Lawson gave a summary on the current position surrounding the Driffeld Childrens Outing which has run since 1922. The committee was made up of 5 members, but 2 have since resigned. Total trip goes have declined steadily for the last decade or so and it is now felt that "new blood" is needed to inject fresh ideas to take it forward. Stuart explained that Trustees, not just volunteers, are needed to allow trip day to continue and that they would be happy to speak to anyone with an interest.

Cllr Blakeston thanked Stuart and Jolyon for attending and explained the council will be fully behind the current team in trying to find new people. This would be through the Wolds Volunteering Network.

254/23 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr M Rogers

255/23 Declarations of Interest:

Minute 270/23 Lockwood Street - Cllr Rounding and Cllr Starrett declared a non-pecuniary interest on Lockwood Street as they own a property there.

256/23 Registration of Gifts and Hospitality:

There were none.

257/23 Questions, Matters of Accuracy & Observations on the full town council minutes of 7th March 2023:

There were none.

258/23 Adoption of the full town council minutes of 7th March 2023:

The minutes were adopted with all in favour and 1 abstention.

259/23 Clerks Update

Nothing to report other than what is on the agenda.

- 260/23 External Funding Officer Report:**
- Fiona is currently on leave, but the clerk noted that we were sadly unsuccessful with the Awards for All funding application which will reduce the amount we can spend on entertainment over the Coronation.
- 261/23 Healthy Towns Project Group Update:**
- Cllr M Blakeston explained the group had not met since the last meeting so no update was available.
- 262/23 Driffield Youth Action Update:**
- Cllr Rounding stated that a good job was being done by the current team and that the AGM would soon take place. DYA meet on a Wednesday at 6pm and Paul encouraged Cllrs to visit.
- 263/23 To note thank you email from former TC Claire Binnington**
- The council thanked Claire for her support over the years and celebrated this with a farewell party in March.
- 264/23 Application 23/00685/reg3 Erection of a building consisting of 44 Dwellings following demolition of Existing at Deira Court Driffield YO25 5JP**
- Cllr Rounding believed that sheltered housing should be provided in the town centre eg: Queen street, King Street, old cattle market site, whilst the present Deira court site could be used as starter homes for new singles/couples. Cllr Newall raised concerns that only allowing 4 assistance bays for 44 dwellings seemed rather low, whilst Cllr Smith sought assurances that if the proposed heat pumps did not meet their expectations, then remedial works would need to be carried out. Finally, confirmation is needed on the final colour of the cladding (the local paper showing one colour, and the plans another) and confirmation that the cladding met all current fire regulations.
- 11 of the Council voted in favour (with 3 against) of the development subject to a positive outcome of the above queries.
- 265/23 Application 23/00574/plf External alterations and internal alterations with installation of satellite dishes and air conditioning units to rear to facilitate change of use of ground floor from Bank (class E) to Betting Office (Sui Generis) AND 23/00575/pad Display of 1 externally illuminated projecting sign, 1 internally illuminated box sign, 1 digital screen and window vinyls. Both located at Barclays, 61 Market Place, Driffield, YO25 6AF**
- Driffield Town Council want it to be noted that they object to the proposals due to the many issues that gambling can bring.
- The Council voted unanimously with 14 against that the plans should not be passed based on economic and social reasoning.
- It also voted unanimously with 14 against that the plans for signage should not be passed as it is in a conservation area and is felt that signage of this type is not suitable.

266/23 To note the possible demise of Drifffield Trip Day and to consider a resolution to assist in the process of advertising for new trustees

Cllr Blakeston noted that the RNLI had been receptive to the idea of putting games out on the beach for the trip children to enjoy.

The council **AGREED** to put a call out for assistance on social media using the Wolds Volunteering Network and other methods at its disposal such as Facebook. It was also **AGREED** to add details on trip day to the Welcome Pack and website.

267/23 To consider a resolution to write a letter of thanks to the Drifffield Leader upon the closure of their printed copy

This was **agreed** with all in favour.

268/23 To consider a resolution to donate from general reserves a contribution to the crowd fund in a show of solidarity and support to Drifffield Northfield Infants School in the wake of the recent break in and subsequent vandalism.

Cllr Blakeston had visited the school and was shocked with what he saw with any photos not conveying the true scale. The biggest concern being not only the damage, the impact of it on the mental health of the children. Cllr Blakeston proposed a donation from general reserves to be made to bring them all together. Cllr Fletcher suggested an amount of £1000.

This was **agreed** with all in favour.

269/23 To consider a resolution to give a donation from the small grant fund to the annual Drifffield Rec. bowls club tournament.

A £200 donation was **agreed** with all in favour.

270/23 To consider a resolution to write to ERYC that when and if an application is submitted, a full consultation with the residents of Lockwood Street and those in the surrounding area is carried out.

It was noted that ERYC are potentially looking to sell the land on Lockwood Street to build 30 or so houses. The last consultation was in 2016 and many of the current residents know nothing about it. Many would much prefer a park over housing.

It was felt by all in attendance that should an application be submitted a full consultation with local residents would be needed and a letter would be sent to ERYC for this.

This was **agreed** with all in favour.

271/23 To consider a resolution to give a donation from the small grants fund to the Drifffield Rec Gala Day

A £200 donation was **agreed** with 11 in favour, 1 against, and 2 abstentions.

272/23 Adoption of Personnel Committee Minutes of 7th March 2023

The minutes were presented by Cllr G Lucas

The minutes were **adopted** with all in favour.

273/23 Highway Matters inc concerns re: Lighting on Riverside to the dentist, speeding on Riverside to the dentist and parking on the junction from Riverhead to Riverside.

Cllr Rounding confirmed that after 3 years, the double yellow lines on Lockwood Street had finally been installed.

Cllr Stack commented that a resident wrote to ERYC requesting pedestrian warning signs to be fitted on Riverside. Additionally, there has not yet been a visit by the highways team to talk to the council about their concerns over speeding on. The clerk is to follow up.

274/23 Responsible Financial Officers Report:

The RFO report was **agreed** with all in favour.

275/23 Delegate Reports:

Due to the election date, there was discussion over when the next full town council meeting would be held and its proximity to the AGM. Further clarification would be needed with ERNLLCA and would be communicated.

Cllr Blakeston thanked all the councillors for their input over the last 4 years and wished all those standing the best of luck.

Sincere thanks were also given to Cllr Joyce Fletcher who since first standing in 2003 had decided to stand down.

In view of the confidential nature of the following items it was agreed with all in favour to exclude the press and public

276/23 To consider a resolution to agree a salary increment for two operatives as agreed in budget deliberations from 1st April

This was **agreed** with all in favour.

277/23 Date of Next Meeting:

TBA

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

..... Signed

..... Dated