

MINUTES OF THE DRIFFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6 JUNE 2023 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DRIFFIELD

Present: Councillors F Smith, S Starrett, G Lucas, T Watson, A Newall, K Stack, M Rogers, G Helliwell, M Blakeston, P Rounding, and Town Clerk M Brown

PCSO Claire Watson explained that ASB was up slightly and several vehicles had been interfered with. Many “sneak in” burglaries had been reported around the town and villages and on investigation many of these buildings had not been locked.

The passive drug detector dog had been used and a small amount of drugs had been recovered.

Active Friday was progressing well with 26 young people being engaged. These Fridays will continue up to the 30 June.

Regarding the additional Police for Driffield, experienced officers will be deployed once the current Police station has completed its improvements with items such as IT. No time frame can be given. Cllr Rogers stated this needed a quicker response as 4 months in, sooner or later, residents may start asking for a refund of the additional precept being paid.

Cllr Rogers proposed to ask all co-option candidates to leave the chamber prior to voting. This was agreed with all in favour.

33/23 Apologies for Absence:

None

34/23 Declarations of Interest:

None

35/23 Registration of Gifts or Hospitality:

None

36/23 Co-option to fill Vacancies on West Ward:

Cllrs Marie and Bill Strath, Carla Bekker, and Spencer Fletcher were co-opted with all in favour. The new councillors took their seats.

It was agreed that the remaining post for West Ward should be re-advertised

37/23 Co-option to fill Vacancy on South West Ward:

Due to lack of candidates, It was agreed that the post for South West Ward should be re-advertised

- 38/23 Questions, Matters of Accuracy and Observations on the Full Town Council minutes of 9 May 2023**
- There were none.
- 39/23 Adoption of the Full Town Council Minutes of 4 April 2023**
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour and 1 abstention
- 40/23 Clerks update**
- Nothing that was not on the agenda
- 41/23 External funding officer update**
- The clerk gave a verbal update
- 42/23 Healthy Towns Update**
- Cllr Blakeston was in hospital at the time of the last meeting, but will be at the next and will then be able to give a full report and update
- 43/23 Driffield Youth Action update**
- Cllr Rounding reported on a good and positive last meeting. Lisa will shortly be full time and the AGM has been set for August.
- 44/23 To Agree the Annual Governance Statement Assertions**
- These were agreed with all in favour
- 45/23 To Agree the Annual Return for Financial Year 2022/2023**
- This was agreed with all in favour
- 46/23 To review the Standing Orders and to take note of the increase in the Government's Procurement threshold under the Public Contracts Regulations (18)**
- These were agreed with all in favour
- 47/23 To review the Financial Regulation and to take note of the increase in the Government's Procurement threshold under the Public Contracts Regulations (11)**
- These were agreed with all in favour
- 48/23 To note the Internal Auditors Report for the year ended March 31st 2023**
- This was agreed with all in favour. It was noted that thanks should be passed to the previous clerk, Claire Binnington, for her assistance in pulling it all together.

49/23 Update on Presentation Evening – Number 43 Project

Cllr Blakeston gave an outline of the basis of the evening which was positive and well attended. This was echoed by Cllr Watson who added how impressive it all looked.

50/23 Update on The Big Picture Consultation Event

The “live” painting consultation went well with much public interaction. The finished work will be placed on display in No.43. Cllr Rogers would like the artist to see the RAF painting within Alamein Barracks and will endeavour to arrange this.

51/23 ERNLLCA Councillor Training Dates

From the options given, it was agreed for the clerk to try and arrange these for 5 July at the Market Walk offices.

52/23 To consider a resolution to feature Town Council buildings on a proposed map at Market Walk for a 50% contribution of total costs

Cllr Rogers stated that this would not be in any budget. Cllr Blakeston stated that we can't set a precedent by assisting to update one window, yet not others.

Cllrs Blakeston and Cllr Rogers felt the matter should be referred to the Property and Assets committee for discussion alongside the Market Walk boxes.

53/23 Invitation to arrange a meeting to hear progress from Great Driffield AFC

Cllr Blakeston thought it would be good to have a meeting to hear their ambition plans and was happy for a letter to be sent. This was agreed, but wanted it to be noted that no budgeted funds were available. The clerk was to ask if the EFO could assist. Cllr Rounding stated that the site is well attended, by those playing and watching.

54/23 To consider a request for funding from the Small Grant Fund from Driffield Town Bowls Festival

Cllr Stack felt this should not be supported and that other groups should be able to benefit from the small amount of funds available. Cllr Starrett suggested that the funds requested should be given as we have already donated to another bowls group at the same location. It was agreed to grant a donation of £200 on this occasion, but a similar arrangement may not be available next year.

55/23 To consider a request for funding from the Small Grant Fund from the Driffield Ukulele Band

Cllr Blakeson explained that the band are a real credit to the town and would benefit from a donation of £500. This was agreed.

56/23 Adoption of the Planning Committee Minutes of 18 April 2023

These were presented for adoption by Cllr Lucas

The minutes were adopted with all in favour

57/23 Adoption of the Personnel Committee Minutes of 23 May 2023

These were presented for adoption by Cllr Rogers

Minute 05/23 Cllr Rogers clarified he would be holding initial probation reviews w/c 12/06 in an attempt to iron out any issues prior to the full probationary period being complete.

The minutes were adopted with all in favour

58/23 Responsible Financial Officers Report:

The RFO report was agreed with all in favour.

59/23 Delegates reports

Cllr Rogers welcomed all the new Cllrs to the Drifffield Town Council. He also explained that he was now chair of strategic planning within the ERYC

Cllr Blakeston asked for a Highways section of the agenda to be added for the next meeting

60/23 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 4 July at 7pm

61/23 Confidential Items

To consider two quotations for the necessary draining repairs at North End PC's

Of the quotes received, the contract was awarded to Kentworks.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

..... Signed

..... Dated