

MINUTES OF THE DRIFFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 09 JANUARY 2024 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DRIFFIELD

Present: Councillors G Helliwell (Chair), G Lucas (Vice Chair), M Blakeston, M Rogers, S Fletcher, W Strath, M Strath, A Newall, T Watson, B Smith, S Starrett, F Smith, C Bekker, admin assistant P Danby, and Town Clerk M Brown

205/24 Public Discussion and Comment:

None

206/24 Apologies for absence:

Cllrs P Rounding, K Stack

207/24 Declarations of Interest:

None

208/24 Registration of Gifts or Hospitality:

None

209/24 Questions, Matters of Accuracy and Observations on the Full Town Council minutes of 5 December 2023

193/23 – Cllr Watson stated that it should read SSSI and not SSI

210/24 Adoption of the Full Town Council Minutes of 5 December 2023

The minutes were adopted

211/24 Clerks update

The clerk thanked all councillors that attended Scrambling which had proved very successful with coverage in the local press, radio, and TV. Thanks were also passed to the Tidy Team, residents and businesses for taking part.

It was confirmed that subject to weather The Big Picture would be starting on 18/01/24, was hoped to be complete by the time of the bike lock trail launch during the school half term break.

The new window display is now in, with thanks to those who support it.

Details on Annual Parish Meeting will be circulated shortly and committee chairs were reminded of their requirement to prepare a report on the previous 12 months for submission.

212/24 Healthy Towns Update

Cllr Blakeston reported that the Humber Teaching Trust is looking to invest in Alfred Bean hospital to improve it, and make it environmentally sound. Yorkshire Health Partners are in the process of launching the Acute Respiratory Hub at Alfred Bean. This is available for any patient registered at either of the Driffield practises and will aid with chronic conditions such as asthma.

This is collaboration between the Yorkshire Health Partners, the ICB, the League of Friends, and the Dobson Family Trust.

213/24 Driffield Youth Action update

Cllr Helliwell reported that they have recently won a Lifestyle competition which is excellent news. Everything is going well, and funds are good.

214/24 Co-option to fill a vacancy on West Ward

Paul Symons was co-opted with all in favour. Cllr Symons took his seat.

215/24 To consider a resolution on the future of the council's use of H&S consultants

This was deferred to the February meeting

216/24 To consider a resolution to write to ERYC requesting them to tarmac further parts of the car park in West Garth

This was agreed with all in favour.

217/24 To consider a resolution to record all full town council meetings

Cllr F Smith felt that this should not be done by the council as it will stifle debate. Cllr Smiths views where agreed with 0 for the proposal to record, 9 against, and 4 abstentions

Cllr Blakeston reminded all attendees that anyone is able to record the meeting should they wish.

218/24 To consider a resolution to support a Pride event during 2024

Cllr Helliwell informed the council that a local pub landlord has approached us to ask if we would invoke the Saturday Market Charter for such an event. Cllr Blakeston felt that we needed to know more about the event prior to making any decisions.

It was agreed for Cllr Helliwell to seek further information and move the discussion to Februarys meeting

219/24 To consider a resolution to support publication of the devolution on social media and the wider public

After an overview by Cllr Rogers, It was agreed that information should be shared where possible but only to inform people as to what was happening

220/24 To consider a resolution of an offer from ERYC to run the town bus service for an additional day (Monday or Wednesday) until March 2025

Cllr Newall expressed concern over what would happen when funding ended and would the service stop. Cllr Blakeston was all for the increase in days offered and it should be seen as a positive step that. He accepted what Cllr Newall was saying, but that if ERYC are offering support, then we should accept, but make it clear it will only run until the date offered.

Cllr Helliwell was in support, but felt that the timetable needed to be monitored and could devolution bring any benefits? Cllr M Strath has been told by residents that the lack of service on a Monday was a real hardship. This was echoed by Cllr Bekker who said that as DWCC was on a Monday adding the service to that day would really help encourage people to join in.

Cllr F Smith asked for any press release to please ensure that attention was given to a clear end date.

Monday was agreed as the additional day with all in favour.

221/24 To consider a resolution to increase the number of personnel committee members to 5 and co-opt accordingly

As we are near to the AGM, Cllr Rogers felt this was a decision that was best left until then.

This was agreed with all in favour.

222/24 To consider a resolution to agree the precept for the financial year 2024/2025

Cllr Newall asked for any press release to focus on the price increase over the percentage increase.

The precept was agreed with all in favour.

223/24 Highway Matters

Cllr Lucas asked for a letter to be sent to ERYC to ask them to fix the lighting at the entrance to West Garth. This was agreed.

Cllr Newall has logged an issue with the footpath on Lockwood Street using the ERYC online logging system and is awaiting a reply. The Clerk and admin assistant reported ongoing issues with this system to which Cllrs Rogers and Blakeston asked to be informed of in writing

- 224/24 Temporary closure of meeting for public discussion and comment**
- None
- 225/24 Adoption of the Environment Committee Minutes of 12 December 2023**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Watson
- The minutes were **adopted** with all in favour
- 226/24 Adoption of the Events Committee Minutes of 12 December 2023**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Newall
- The minutes were **adopted** with all in favour
- Cllr Blakeston asked for a letter of thanks to be sent to Brian and Barbara Fairfield for their continued support of Scrambling. This was **agreed** with all in favour.
- 227/24 Adoption of the Planning Committee Minutes of 12 December 2023**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Lucas
- The minutes were **adopted** with all in favour
- 228/24 Responsible Financial Officers Report for October 2023**
- The report was **adopted** with all in favour
- 229/24 Responsible Financial Officers Report for December 2023**
- The report was **adopted** with all in favour
- 230/24 Delegates reports**
- None
- 231/24 Date of Next Meeting**
- Tuesday 6 February 2024

232/24

Confidential items

To consider the employment of an additional member of staff for the office with support from ERYC

Cllr Rogers wanted to confirm to the council that this was not a member of office staff, but a collaboration with ERYC

Cllr Blakeston confirmed that the new post of Town Development Officer was to be match funded by ERYC to drive town centre development.

The filling of this post was agreed with Cllr Blakeston and the clerk to move on the job specification circulated

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

..... Signed

..... Dated