

MINUTES OF THE DRIFFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 6 February 2024
Time: 19.00
Venue: The Council Chamber, The Community Centre, Driffield

Chair: Cllr G Helliwell
Vice Chair: Cllr G Lucas

Present: Cllrs G Helliwell, G Lucas, P Symons, M Rogers, S Fletcher, W Strath, M Strath, A Newall, T Watson, B Smith, S Starrett, F Smith, C Bekker, and Town Clerk M Brown

1 member of the public was present

233/24 Public Discussion and Comment:

PC Phillips informed the council that no burglaries or thefts had taken place in the town since the last meeting. There had been 4 assaults and 5 suspicious instances of “door knocks”. Peddlers licences have been checked in those circumstances and moved on if necessary. No ASB logs taken and lots of interaction with local villages and schools has been done.

234/24 Apologies for absence:

Cllrs P Rounding, K Stack, M Blakeston

235/24 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Fletcher declared an interest in 249/24

236/24 Registration of Gifts or Hospitality:

None

237/24 Questions, Matters of Accuracy and Observations on the Full Town Council minutes of 9 January 2024

None

238/24 Adoption of the Full Town Council Minutes of 9 January 2024

The minutes were adopted

239/24

Clerks update

The clerk informed the council that the application for the Town Development officer role had been submitted and thanked Mark Blakeston and Nicola Knaggs for their support with it.

A meeting with ERNLLCA has been arranged for Monday 4 March to go through the Scheme of Delegation, Financial Regulations, and Standing orders. This will take place at the Council offices on Market Walk.

It was confirmed that the Bike Lock challenge will launch on the 15 February on the market. The Big Picture is progressing well, but it was hinted that the forecast for the end of the week may affect progress.

A reminder was given that the chairs of each committee would need to prepare their annual report for presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting that will take place during March.

The second audit has been booked for Monday 19 February and will take 2-3 days.

240/24

Healthy Towns Update

None

241/24

Driffield Youth Action update

Cllr Helliwell reported that everything was well with DYA.

242/24

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

This was deferred to the March meeting

243/24

To consider a resolution to support a Pride event during 2024

This item was withdrawn

244/24

To consider a resolution to arrange and adopt an investment strategy

It was picked up at the audit that Driffield Town Council needed an investment strategy. Advice was sought from ERNLLCA and from that conversations were then held with Arlingclose who gave their price for preparation of such a strategy. Due to these very high costs, Cllrs Rogers felt that the council should look at other councils who already have strategies in place.

Councillors W Strath, and A Newall offered to look in this in more detail and report back their findings at the next meeting.

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

245/24 To consider a resolution to amend section 11.1 h of the Model Financial Regulations to that shown

Cllr Newall suggested that the wording be changed to “below £1500”.

This was **agreed** with all in favour and 1 abstention.

246/24 To consider a resolution to approve the Market improvement project

The clerk has reported that a grant submission will be made to ERYC for the purchase of 10x gazebos and signage. This will all be appropriately branded.

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

247/24 To consider a resolution in install a waste bin on New Walk

Cllr Lucas asked if this was something that the original developer should have fitted? This was echoed by Cllr Rogers. It was noted that there is currently only one bin on New Walk.

Cllr B Smith suggested that a letter be written to ERYC to ask them to supply and fit an additional bin at their expense.

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

248/24 To consider a resolution to change the town bus route

Cllr Helliwell commented that a number of residents have asked for the bus route to include New Walk and would it be possible to update it. Cllr Starrett asked how many would actually use the route if it was actually changed.

Cllr Rogers proposed to leave the route as it was unless ERYC are willing to add more funding to ensure New Walk, and other new developments are not missed out.

This was **agreed** with all in favour and 2 abstentions

249/24 To consider a proposal to donate to Driffield Skatepark the £1500 from Driffield Trip Day to match fund their insurance costs

Cllr Fletcher explained that the Skate Park run fund raisers every year, but insurance costs have increased significantly. The team at the Skate Park are

undergoing training so that pupils from Kings Mill are able to attend, which also adds additional costs. Any money saved would go to new equipment.

This was **agreed** with all in favour

250/24 To consider a resolution to write to ERYC to ask them to remove the parking charges for disabled badge holders on Cross Hill Car Park

Cllr Symons noticed that car parking charges applied to disabled badge holders on Cross Hill car park - but can park on double yellow lines in the town. He feels that if the charges in Cross Hill could be lifted, it may alleviate parking issues in other areas.

It was **agreed** with all in favour to write to ERYC to ask if the fees could be removed.

251/24 Consider a resolution to add 2 further signatories to the Mayors Charity Bank account and elect a new chair and secretary. Or, alternatively to close the entire account and move funds to the main Council account.

Cllr Helliwell informed the council that the Mayors charity fund bank account was costing £5 per month in charges, and asked if it could be rolled into the main bank account.

Cllr Bekker asked the clerk if he would be happy with this from a work/time perspective – which he was.

Cllr Rogers shared the views of the council that this was a good idea, but asked for confirmation from ERNLLCA and the auditor to ensure there was no legal or other reason why they should be kept separate.

It was **agreed** with all in favour to close the account – subject to the authority from the auditor and ERNLLCA.

252/24 Highway Matters

Cllr Rogers asked if there had been any reply to the requests for action from ERYC to the road repair on Spellowgate – to which there has currently not been.

Cllr Watson asked if an official complaint could be logged about the lack of action as it was very disappointing to have had no response.

It was **agreed** to write to Alan Menzies and Anne Handley to highlight this ongoing issue.

- 253/24 Temporary closure of meeting for public discussion and comment**
- A member of the public felt that the bus route was discriminating against the new developments
- 254/24 Adoption of the Personnel Committee Minutes of 7 November 2023**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Rogers
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour
- 255/24 Adoption of the Personnel Committee Minutes of 9 January 2024**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Rogers
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour
- 256/24 Adoption of the Events Committee Minutes of 16 January 2024**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Newall
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour
- 257/24 Adoption of the Environment Committee Minutes of 16 January 2024**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Watson
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour
- 258/24 Adoption of the Planning Committee Minutes of 16 January 2024**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Lucas
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour
- 259/24 Adoption of the Property & Asset Committee Minutes of 30 January 2024**
- These were presented for adoption by Cllr Rogers
- Cllr Rogers explained that there was nothing specific to report on No.43 and that options were still being considered as to what to do with the building. Cllr Newall offered to assist Cllr Rogers with the removal of the Post Office counter.
- The minutes were adopted with all in favour

260/24 Adoption of the CCTV Committee Minutes of 30 January 2024

These were presented for adoption by Cllr F Smith

The minutes were adopted with all in favour

261/24 Responsible Financial Officers Report

The report was adopted with all in favour

262/24 Delegates reports

None

263/24 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 5 March 2024

The meeting closed at 20.15

..... Signed

..... Dated