

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting, 7.00pm, Tuesday 20th June 2023 at The Community Hub, The Rings, Ingleby Barwick

Present: Cllrs Irwin, (Chairman), Barnes, Fryer, Rutland, Strike, and Watson.

In attendance – J McGeeney Town Clerk and J Stevely, Admin Assistant, Richard Bradford and Sharon Cooney from Stockton Council's Enforcement Service; 1 Local Resident; A Metcalfe, Press; Ward Councillor Faulks

- 1. Housekeeping** - The Chairman advised those present of the emergency escape procedures. It was requested that mobile phones be switched to silent. If a call was received and had to be taken Members were politely requested to leave the room.
- 2. Notice of Meeting** - Public Notice has been given in accordance Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Chairman noted the Notice of the Meeting had been published on the Town Council's website, the notice board at the Ingleby Barwick Community Hall, Beckfields and the Rings Community Hub.
- 3. Apologies for Absence** - None.
- 4. Declarations of Interest** - Cllr Barnes declared a personal/non prejudicial interest as a Borough Councillor of Stockton Borough Council, Cllr Strike declared a personal/non-prejudicial interest as a Borough Councillor of Stockton Borough Council and as Chairman of the Ingleby Barwick Community Partnership. Cllr Watson declared a personal/non prejudicial interest as a Councillor of Stockton Borough Council and owner of Fix It DIY. Cllr Fryer declared a personal/non-prejudicial interest as an employee of Ingleby Manor School and an interest in Item 13 – a Grant Application when she would be leaving the room and Cllr Rutland – the same item 13 and would also be leaving the room.
- 5. Public Participation Part 1** – Local resident Mr Pryde attended the meeting again (as he had last month). He expressed his further serious concerns about young people playing ball games near his home. He had contacted Matt Vickers MP who referred him back to the landowners. Cllr Strike would be following up with the landowners again. Mr Pryde explained how a neighbour parked his work's van to try and stop the youngsters' activities. He felt some 15 and 16 year olds were terrorising residents and reiterated a 'No Ball Games' sign was needed. Sharon Cooney, Manager of Stockton Council's Enforcement Service who was also at this meeting explained how the Enforcement team had carried out passing patrols with negative results. Mr Pryde asserted that a 'No Ball Games' sign would give the Enforcement Officers the power to deal with the situation. Richard Bradford said he was prepared to add another patrol task on to this area and for Mr Pryde to ring Enforcement immediately when an issue with young people occurs again. Cllr Strike asked whether it was possible to consider temporary CCTV should there be a suitable place to position them. Sharon Cooney said this would be one way of proving criminal damage. Mr Pryde explained that because of his work patterns it's very difficult to keep a diary of events. He also said only two residents remained from an original six due to these problems. Cllr Strike said he would be contacting the landowners. The Town Council will investigate the possibility of temporary CCTV and more patrols.

Cllr Faulks attended the meeting and referred to Item 12 on the Agenda – Borough Councillors’ Reports. Currently the reports were in bullet point form. He was informed reports were purely for Town Council meetings. He asked whether they could be expanded upon to give more information for residents. Cllr Fryer suggested information is provided before Town Council meetings take place. Cllr Faulks requested a written reply on this matter. Cllr Irwin suggested all the papers and information in its detailed format should go on to the Town Council’s website when the new one is up and running to be considered. The Town Clerk suggested Cllr Faulks provides a complete Word document.

6. **Community Safety** – Richard Bradford presented statistics to Members. He apologised for their systems still showing wards as East and West. He explained the upturn in the weather had affected the numbers of anti-social behaviour which had risen. This included noisy neighbours and parking. Where off road bikes and quad bikes are concerned he explained the offending individuals were not all from Ingleby Barwick. Sharon Cooney said the Police needed to be able to link bikes to addresses - this information would enable the Police to seize bikes and charge individuals with both anti-social behaviour and road traffic offences and this work was being continued. Cllr Watson made reference to dangerous parking on Brantingham Drive which is causing a danger to other motorists - however Richard Bradford informed her there was little that could be done to alleviate this problem.

Cllr Strike informed the meeting that funding was available and would be looking to have anti-bike barriers installed in Romano Park. He and Cllr Watson had met with Sergeant Wrintmore to discuss Sandgate junction. They has also discussed the use of the CCTV cameras located at the entrances and exits to Ingleby Barwick where the ANPR feature on the camera would be a useful tool to alleviate problems and the possibility of them being put in operation. The Town Clerk to write to the Police in this regard. PROPOSED by Cllr Strike and SECONDED by Cllr Fryer. 5 Councillors agreed, Cllr Rutland abstained.

Discussion took place on how many hours Police would be working. Cllr Strike advised it would be discussed with the Superintendent as to how the system would operate. Sergeant Wrintmore couldn’t guarantee patrols so they would be on an ad-hoc basis which would be more advantageous rather than having set times Cllr Strike PROPOSED writing to the Police for information SECONDED by Cllr Watson – carried UNANIMOUSLY.

7. **Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 16th May 2023** – The minutes were presented to Councillors for approval. PROPOSED Cllr Fryer and SECONDED by Cllr Barnes. RESOLVED the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting.

8. **Clerk and Chairman’s report** –

- **Town Meeting – 27th June 2023** – The Town Clerk advised the Annual Town Meeting would be held at the Hub on Tuesday 27th June. She had looked at the facilities at Tesco but felt the Hub would be more suitable. Several user groups had been invited to attend. The Clerk asked for details of the Catholic Church to be able to invite them.
- **Benches** – The Clerk had received a request from Andrew Duffell to look at updating benches as they had become shabby. The Town Clerk said this would be considered in next years’ budget but she would contact Stockton Borough Council on the matter.
- **Community Governance Review** - The Town Clerk had formally written to Stockton Borough Council and the Boundary Commission relating to the undertaking of a

Community Governance Review. She was informed by Stockton Borough Council that it could go back to the Boundary Commission for it to go Parliament. Still awaiting updates from Stockton Borough Council. Until the situation is resolved – this is to remain as a Standing Item on future agendas.

- **Toucan Crossing at Blair Avenue** – The Town Clerk had received notification from Stockton Borough Council requesting any comments on this matter. She asked Councillors send in any comments to enable her to respond.

9. Committee Minutes and Committee update reports – Town Council Policies.

Policy Committee – 6th June 2023. Cllr Irwin gave an overview of the Policy Committee.
PROPOSED – Cllr Irwin SECONDED by Cllr Watson.

Events Committee – 8th June 2023. Cllr Strike gave an overview of the Events Committee.
PROPOSED – Cllr Strike SECONDED by Cllr Rutland.

Finance Committee – 13th June 2023. Cllr Irwin gave an overview of the Finance Committee.
PROPOSED – Cllr Irwin SECONDED Cllr Rutland.

10. Town Council Policies – to be agreed.

- Lone Working Policy – PROPOSED Cllr Irwin SECONDED Cllr Watson.
- Internal Control, Internal/External Audit Procedures PROPOSED Cllr Irwin SECONDED Cllr Strike.

11. Freedom of Information Request – The Town Clerk had received an FOI request relating to the hire of the small room in The Hub at the end of May by Councillors Watson and Watson (the Conservative Party). The Town Clerk responded to the FOI with information within the appropriate timescale.

12. Borough Councillors' Reports

NORTH WARD

No 17 Bus route
Police meeting
Sandgate junction update
Off-road bikes
The Muddies
Greenside
Barwick Lane
Underpass lighting
Overgrown bushes
Collapsed/Missing Manhole covers
Lamp post bin Lowfields Avenue
Fallen Tree
The Rings area
Potholes
Pennydarren Way

Damage to footbridge handrails

SOUTH WARD

Highway maintenance schemes – Blair Avenue, Barwick Lane
Broken manhole cover outside Robinson's Estate Agent
Romano Park/All Saints
Beckfields Trail

- 13. Grant Application** – at this point Cllrs Fryer and Rutland left the meeting. The Town Council had received a Grant Application from the NHS Blood and Transfusion Service for the sum of £1,824.00. This organisation had originally held blood donor sessions at Beckfields Community Hall – then due to Covid it was used for Covid vaccinations. Following this, the sessions were held at The Sporting Lodge which had been free for a period of time then latterly Judges Hotel which had closed. They moved to Acklam, however, numbers dramatically diminished. Many blood donors from Ingleby Barwick with more than 1,000 regular donors. It was proposed to use Beckfields Community Hall. Following discussions Cllrs AGREED on the funding. Cllr Strike suggested funds from Seamer Windfarm be used. PROPOSED Cllr Irwin SECONDED Cllr Watson. Cllrs Fryer and Rutland returned to the meeting.
- 14. Finance – Monthly Reports** - The Town Clerk presented the Town Council's financial transactions for the General Account from 1st to 31st May 2023 and the Hub Account from 1st to 31st May 2023. In addition, the Town Council's Bank Reconciliations from 1st to 31st May 2023. These figures were checked against the Town Council's Bank Statements and signed by Cllr Fryer. RESOLVED all the financial transaction and bank reconciliation statements against the Bank Statements be APPROVED.
- 15. Finance** – The Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 is due to be submitted by 30th June 2023. The following documents were presented for approval.
- i. End of Year Accounts 2022/23
 - ii. Internal Audit Report 2022/23
 - iii. Annual Return 2022/23
- All UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
- 16. Planning Applications** – Details of Planning Applications up to week ending 28th May were submitted.
- 17. Matters of Concern to Councillors** – Informed the meeting the Town Council were no nearer to speaking to Stockton Council's Enforcement Team about her matters of concern.
- 18. Date of next Town Council Meeting** – The date of the next Town Council Meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 18th July at the Rings Community Hub.
- 19. Public Participation** – Part 2. – None.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm