

# YARM TOWN COUNCIL



## **DRAFT**

### **Minutes of Yarm Town Council Meeting**

**held in the Town Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Lyn Casey, Cllrs Bob Wegg, Barbara Wegg, Peter Monck, Philip Addison, Chris Johnson and Pam Smailes.

Public in attendance included:

Representatives from the Showman's Guild.

Representatives from the National Allotments Society.

Cllr Tony Hampton.

Press and members of the local allotments and other members of the public

**Minutes taken by Pam Smailes (currently the town clerk is on sick leave and unable to produce the minutes).**

Apologies from

Jason Hadlow, Alan Gallafant, Chris Walker and Stephen Luwero.

Meeting opened up at 7pm with a statement from the Chair Lyn Casey, which she read out and allegedly accused the Town Clerk of harassment and bullying and that she was resigning the post of Chair and Councillor immediately and then handed the keys of the town hall to Cllr Bob Wegg.

Meeting resumed and Cllr Bob Wegg took the chair and thanked Cllr Casey for her hard work on the council and good luck for the future.

The Town Clerk then asked to make a statement and refuted the allegations made by Cllr Casey.

### **Weigh and Tolls**

**The minutes from the last council meeting for Weigh and Tolls, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were agreed and signed off by the chair.**

#### **1 Yarm fair**

The Chair of the Showman's Guild, then showed the councillors the plans which have been submitted to Stockton Borough Council and explained the changes they have been asked to address before the fair can take place and that they will be losing around 2/3 rides the fair and rides. The Chair explained that he felt confident the Guild can accommodate the changes, as they produce this type of event 50/60 times a year without any issues or concerns.

YTC is to write to SBC with the concerns of the Showman's Guild.

#### **2 Finance**

All the financial documents were explained and the councillors all agreed they should be signed off as correct.

#### **3 Heritage centre and Renovation of the Town Hall**

Cllr Peter Monck then read out to the council and public an update for the Heritage Centre, which is part of the renovation of Yarm Town Hall.

The initial cost will be £9000 to present the plans and business strategy and Cllr Johnson asked what will be the running costs and who will be paying them?

What costs will be incurred?

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Cllr Monck explained it will be run by volunteers but again Cllr Johnson asked but will YTC be responsible for the running costs and what if they are £50,000 per annum?

Cllr Monck explained that he was trying to secure funding from National Lottery for £100,000 and Newcastle Building Society will be donating £70,000 and Cllr Monck had been meeting with Stockton Borough Council to try to secure some funding.

The grant application had been made to the Heritage Lottery, Newcastle Building Society and Stockton Borough Council and estimated cost of the restoration and conversion is £300,000.

Cllr Monck outlined the purpose of the Heritage Centre, when asked by Cllr Smailes, to display artefacts and display digital images relating to Yarm History on the rolling programme of events.

It will be used by schools and other groups for educational purposes and it is not an information centre

Councillors all voted to pay the initial fee for £9000 to start the process to the STO to employ a consultant to produce audience development plan.

## 4 Yarm Gala

Yarm Gala final financial information was read out by the Clerk and came to the total of £16,000 which included the fee for the Event Manager, S. Chisholm.

## 5 Ridings of the fair.

The steam engine is not available but David Hunter has sourced and open top bus which can be used to transport the dignitaries and invited guests and the council agreed to bus being used.

## 6 Remembrance Sunday

There have been meetings with YTC, The Royal British Legion the local vicar and priest of the churches in and around Yarm.

It is important that the timings of the event and church services are adhered to, which will then allow enough time for guests and dignitaries and church guests to walk down to the Town Hall for the reading of the names of those who served and died in the wars, to be read out and not impede on the 2 minute silence at 11.00 am

## 7 Review of the location of the Yarm Christmas tree

The position of the Christmas tree was discussed and some councillors wanting it moving nearer to the town hall, while others like where it is always situated and there was vote and the tree will stay in the usual place at the side of the High Street.

## 8 Yarm Gala 2020

A suggestion was made to have a "theme" around next year's gala and to incorporate the celebrations of V.E. Day. The councillors liked this idea and it can enhance the gala if people dressed up in 1940's clothing.

## 9 Items for information for the next agenda including 200 year anniversary of the steam train

To be discussed at the next recreation meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at 6pm in the Town Hall

**The weight and tolls meeting ended and next date confirmed**

### Minutes of the meeting for Yarm Town Council

10 Acceptance of the minutes from the council meetings held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July and 22nd July and 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019, agreed by those who attended

11 Authorised payment of the accounts was agreed by all councillors

12 Correspondence list reviewed and considered by all councillors.

Minutes of Yarm Town Council General Meeting for the municipal year 2019-2020

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### **Public session..... The public are allowed to ask a question on items on the agenda.**

**13** Mike Raper asked for an appeal against his and Mike Curno's eviction from the allotments, he was told the item would be discussed "under the line session" after the council meeting had finished and the public had left.

Lady asked how she could get an item of the agenda and Cllr Johnson told her to email him and he would ask for it to be added to the agenda.

### **Petition handed to the council to stop the eviction of the men from the allotments**

**14** Discussion around the painting of the external paintwork on the Chapel in the cemetery and it was agreed to ask Brian the handy man, to complete the work, although he could only work at a safe.

This will mean only the lower paintwork will be able to be completed.

**15** Willey Flatt's football pitch bid, still waiting to see if YTC has been successful

**16** Ward Councillor Tony Hampton was invited to speak about the development of finding the information on the "section 106" monies. Cllr Hampton explained he had been in meetings at SBC all day and had been given information in a spreadsheet form and needed to go away and read and digest the information and then come back to the council.

The parking issue is still being worked on and that he reminded the council that there is small Ward budget that may be useful for the council to access in the future.

Cllr Peter Monck asked for a chair to be voted in and Cllr Johnson stated there was no rush and we can do that in the October council meeting, as some councillors were absent or on holiday.

Cllr Johnson, said "Why do we need a chair as Cllr Bob Wegg, was deputy chair and had stepped up to that role.

I Cllr Smailes, seconded that proposal.

The public session was then closed and the press and public left the town hall and the clerk spoke to the reporter from a local newspaper, on the stairs. He came back to the room and resumed the duties for the next meeting.

### **Under the line meeting**

Cllr Johnson asked to be excused from the meeting as he had to be somewhere and left the town hall.

GDPR breach was on the agenda and I informed the clerk he would be liable for any action as he had written the information and sent it off, under the new updated Data Protection legislation as he was the Data Protection Officer for Yarm Town Council.

The Clerks question to me was "Who have you been talking to?"

My answer "No one I have to follow the regulations as part of my job role as tutor for Business and Administration".

Cllr Addison explained the lady can take two actions one against the clerk and one against the council if she wishes.

**The next meeting date was confirmed for the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2019**