

# HEDNESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7:30 pm ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

AT PYE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE, HEDNESFORD

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. B Gamble (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), G Adamson,  
Mrs S Cartwright, Mrs D Grice and Mrs L Whitehouse

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. A Pearson (Chairman),  
B Hardman, Mrs S Hardman and C Mitchell

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr P Harrison (Town Council Manager/Clerk) L Aitchison (The  
Marketing Room) and 2 members of the public

### 1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 August 2015 were approved as a correct record

### 2 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Norton Canes Civic Service**

The Vice Chairman had represented the Chairman at the Norton Canes Civic Service held last Sunday

#### **Defibrillator**

The defibrillator had been installed at the Pye Green Community Centre and was fully operational

#### **"Welcome Pack"**

Persimmon Homes had agreed to contribute the equivalent of £1000 towards the Town Council "Welcome Packs" that would be distributed to the residents of the nearly 500 dwellings that were being built on Pye Green Valley

### 3. LIBRARY UPDATE

The Chairman advised that this item had been included on the agenda in the confidential section of the meeting. However, information had been released by the Staffordshire County Council allowing the matter to be discussed in public

It was reported that following invitations to community groups and organisations to apply to manage and deliver library services the County Council had offered the contract for Hednesford library (and several others) to South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Foundation Trust (SSSFT). The County Council would be working with SSSFT to develop its plans with a view to signing contracts by the end of December 2015. The County Council had given an undertaking that the Town Council would be involved in this process

RESOLVED:

That the offer from SSSFT to manage Hednesford Library be welcomed and the Town Council liaise closely with the County Council and SSSFT on the formulation of plans for the future delivery of the service and offer appropriate support

4. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING STEERING GROUP**

RESOLVED:

That the report of the Steering Group held on 8 September 2015 be approved

5. **REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MANAGER/CLERK**

RESOLVED:

a) Planning

That the action of the Town Council Manager/Clerk in consultation with the principal speaker in submitting observations on planning applications as listed in Annex 1 be approved and it be noted that with respect to application 15/0346 that this was to be amended to delete reference to Hawkes Green and would now refer to Hednesford

b) Planning Spokesperson

That Cllr Mrs D Grice replace Cllr B Gamble as Planning spokesperson

c) Finance

That income received be noted and payments made be confirmed up to 31 August 2015

d) Pye Green Community Centre

That an automated secondary door at main entrance be installed at a cost £1895 and a maintenance contract for the main external automatic doors be arranged at a cost of £230 per annum

That the proposal to open up the IT Suite for general use by members of the public (similar to the arrangements in Libraries) using an appointment system be approved and the quotation from Centro Systems Ltd to carry out necessary upgrades to hardware and software in the sum £1200 with an annual fee thereafter of £42 be accepted

e) Community Council of Staffordshire – AGM – 8 October 2015

That, if possible, the Chairman of the Council be appointed to attend this meeting

f) Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association

That, if he is agreeable, Cllr A Pearson be nominated as a member to represent the Cannock Chase District on the Executive Committee and attend the AGM on 7 December

That members contact the Town Council Manager/Clerk with any motions they wish to be considered for submission to the AGM

g) CCTV Monitoring

That the report for July 2015 be noted

h) Bus Timetable Changes

That correspondence from the Staffordshire County Council Cabinet Member for Economy, Environment and Transport regarding changes to bus timetables in Cannock Chase effective from 7 September be noted

i) Options for Managing Country Parks

That it be noted that the County Council Prosperous Staffordshire select committee discussed the ten options and subsequently the Cabinet Member for Economy, Environment and Transport had issued a press release which, inter alia, stated "that we have no plans, at all, to sell Cannock Chase or Chasewater" and this matter would now be referred to the County Council Cabinet for consideration

j) Provision of Pedestrian Crossing – Pye Green Road

That the County Council be advised that the provision of a new pedestrian crossing on Pye Green Road is welcomed and that consideration needs to be given to footway provision and improvements to bus stops on land to the west of Pye Green Road

6. **ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Cllr Whitehouse raised the issue of parking near junctions and rat run of HGV lorries cutting through Eskrett Street and referred to an incident that had occurred on 3 August involving a collision with a baby in a pram. It was agreed that this matter should be referred to the Police with a request for the weight restriction order to be enforced

7. **MEMBERS ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING**

Town Centre Maintenance – Derelict Land (All Members)

Cannock Chase Council had been asked to provide information regarding the provisions of any contract for maintaining planters etc. and a reply was still awaited

With regard to derelict land the DCLG had confirmed that district councils had powers under s 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to require landowners to improve their land/property. Cannock Chase Council was aware of the situation with regard to the former "walled garden" in Cardigan Place

Update on WW1 Heritage Project (Cllr B Gamble)

A summary of the study undertaken so far by Mr S Morris had been received. It was agreed that Mr Morris be asked to give a presentation on his findings

Heritage Initiatives (Cllr D J Davis)

As Cllr Davis was not present it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting

Vehicle parking on verges (Station Road/Rugeley Road junction) (Cllr A Pearson)

As Cllr Pearson was not present it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting but, in the meantime, make enquiries as to the situation with regard to enforcement action

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT AGENDA**

Connecting Communities (C2) (Cllr G Adamson) – The Chair of Connecting Communities to be invited to a meeting to talk to the Council about this new initiative  
New Policing Arrangements (Cllr G Adamson) – The Chief Inspector to be invited to a meeting to give details of the new arrangements

Flytipping – Footpath off Sweetbriar Way (Town Council Manager/Clerk) – Cannock Chase Council to be thanked for arranging swift removal of rubbish dumped at the weekend

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm

Signed:

Dated:

Annex 1

**Council Meeting 15 September 2015 – List of Planning Applications**

15/0349	Extension – 31 Broadhurst Green	No Objection
15/0346	Signs – 9 Market Street	No Objection on planning grounds but the applicant be advised that the Council is strongly opposed to the name "Hawkes Green Veterinary Centre" being used for a premises in the centre of Hednesford
15/0311	7 new dwellings – Land off Church Hill	No Objection
15/0310	Extension – 433 Rawnsley Road	No Objection
15/0307	Extension – 6 Watermint Close	No Objections