



MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF HEDNESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 AT 7.00 PM

Meeting held at Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, WS12 4EP

Present:

Cllr Alan Pearson (Chair)
Cllr Ronald Turville (Deputy Chair)
Cllr Ann Turville
Cllr Sheila Cartwright
Cllr Arthur Roden
Cllr Garry Samuels
Cllr Debbie Cartwright
Cllr Shirley Pearson
Cllr Laura Harrison

In attendance from Hednesford Town Council:

Lindsey Smith – Chief Officer
Cheryl Kinsella – Finance Officer

Members of the Public:

There were 8 members of the public present

1. Apologies:

Cllr Paul Jones – work training

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr S Cartwright declared an interest for agenda item 15 due to being a district Councillor

Cllr G Samuels declared an interest for agenda item 15 due to being a district Councillor

3. Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th July 2024 were reviewed and approved.

Cllr Roden requested an amendment to include a comment made by Cllr R Turville stating that people should attend the meetings if they wish to know what is going on

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson

Second: Cllr R Turville

Agreed: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

4. Public Participation

A member of the public raised concerns about the state of a manhole cover on Belt Road that keeps banging and clattering each time a vehicle passes over. Cllr Pearson informed that HTC Cllrs will get onto County and provide an update. A second member of the public informed that the manhole cover is the responsibility of South Staffs Water

District Cllr Mawle provided an update on the \$106 monies from Pye Green Valley and informed that District cabinet passed the motion to take £141,000 to use in Rugeley. Cllr Mawle further informed that there is a second meeting on 9th October and enquired how Hednesford Town Council feel about this and expressed concern if the money would ever come back into Hednesford. Cllr Mawle felt that the public need to know about this

A member of the public raised concerns regarding agenda item 9 and informed that moving the meeting until 630pm would make it difficult for a lot of people who work to attend the council meetings

5. Verbal Updates from Committee Chairs

1) Finance, Operations and Personnel

Cllr R Turville Chair of the Finance, Operations and Personnel Committee informed committee was due to meet and that there were no updates

2) Regeneration and Community

Cllr A Turville Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee was due to meet and that there were no updates

3) Pye Green Community Centre

Cllr G Samuels Chair of the Pye Green Community Centre informed that nothing above and beyond what has already been discussed and recorded

4) Planning

Cllr S Cartwright updated that she has been contacted by residents regarding proposals for HMO in Stanley and concerns that the residents have. Work has started on the property but the license is not currently in place and this has been reported to CCDC

6. Finance

All members were informed of the timelines for the submission for the 2025/2026 budget

7. Community Officer Update

An update on current activities was provided on behalf of the Community Officer regarding The Hub @ Pye Green, Wellbeing Walk, Projects with West Hill and Pye Green Academy schools and the Christmas Lights

8 . CAB Q1 Report

Council reviewed the Q1 report from Citizens Advice. There were no questions or comments

9. Motion from Cllr Ron Turville

Cllr R Turville proposed starting Council meetings at 630pm instead of 7pm

A lengthy discussion took place about the reasons for changing the start time of the council meetings. 2 Cllrs present informed that changing the time would make it difficult for them to attend. It was brought to the attention of council that a previous resolution to broadcast the meetings failed and in changing the time was making it even more difficult for the public to attend. Other Cllrs said that if the public should attend in person if they wish to participate and that the council meetings are for the council and not the public.

Further disagreements took place and it was vital to engage with the community

Propose: Cllr R Turville

Second: Cllr D Cartwright

Agreed: 5

Against: 3

Abstain: 1

Action: Time of full council to be moved to 630pm

10. Hednesford Summer Festival Update from HIP

Council reviewed the report from HIP and the update on how the grant from Hednesford Town Council was spent.

11. Christmas Lights Update

Chief Officer read out a statement from HIP and their request to terminate the service level agreement to deliver the Christmas Light Switch on on behalf of Hednesford Town Council

A discussion took place about the next steps and how council realise how difficult it is to put on the same event as per previous years especially in light of the obligations

under Martyn's Law. Council further discussed the need to manage expectations going forward

Chief Officer informed that Spotty Dog Events are willing to ensure that some kind of event can be delivered alongside the running of the Hednesford Street Market which falls on the same day

Propose: Cllr A Turville

Second: Cllr R Turville

Agreed: 8

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Action: Council agreed for Spotty Dog Events to deliver an event for the Christmas Light Switch On

Propose: Cllr R Turville

Second: Cllr A Turville

Agreed: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

Action: To call an extraordinary Regeneration and Community Committee meeting to provide remit to Spotty Dog Events for delivery of Christmas Event Light Switch on

12. Motion to Move to Private and Confidential - CCTV

Proposed: Cllr A Turville

Second: Cllr R Turville

Agreed: 7

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

Action: CCTV contract to be held under private and confidential business

13. Motion to Move to Private and Confidential – Finance- Loan – interest v monies held

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson

Second: Cllr S Cartwright

Agreed: 8

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Action: Finance loan to be held under private and confidential business

16. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 630pm

Action: Meeting closed to the public and moved to private and confidential businesses regarding CCTV contract and Finance loan

17. Draft CCTV Contract

Reviewed draft CCTV contract. To seek independent legal advice to review the contract. Still some grey areas that need clarifying. Contract will not be signed until clarity is received from CCDC and legal advice

Proposed: Cllr L Harrison
Second: Cllr G Samuels
Agreed: 7
Against: 0
Abstain: 2

Action: Chief Officer to seek independent advice and report back to council

16. Finance – Loan

Further update was provided to council regarding issue with VAT payable by PGCC due to exceptional spend for 2024/2025 which has taken over the threshold and advice is needed and the impact this may or may not have on reserves

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson
Second: Cllr R Turville
Agreed: 9
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Action: RFO to seek tax advice for VAT issue

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson
Second: Cllr S Cartwright
Agreed: 9
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Action: Council agreed to use CIL to move to general reserves if the need arises

The meeting closed at

Signed:
Dated: