

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT
KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE, KNARESBOROUGH ON MONDAY 9 MARCH 2009**

PRESENT **Chair:** Councillor P Godsell (Mayor)

Councillors: B Archibald, B Asquith, J Batt, J Burdett, M Clemmitt, J Hawkins, K Hawkins, B Holbrook, L Lever, L Powell, J Walton, A Willoughby, and C Willoughby.

Late Arrivals: none

Early departures: none

C 09/46 ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor R Hall

C 09/47 ITEM 2 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All declarations are personal, unless otherwise stated.

Councillor K Hawkins Member of HBC – will consider any same item at Harrogate Borough Council in the light of any new information

Items 4a and 9c – works for Nuffield Private Health, competitor to the NHS

Councillor J Hawkins Item 15c – Member of Town Twinning Committee

Councillor A Willoughby Items 11a, 15a and 15b – Member of Renaissance Knaresborough

Councillor C Willoughby Member of HBC – will consider any same item at Harrogate Borough Council in the light of any new information

Item 6 – Prejudicial – 0033/73A

Councillor J Burdett Member of HBC – will consider any same item at Harrogate Borough Council in the light of any new information

Item 6 – 556.T – Member of Town Twinning Committee who use the Club Room at Knaresborough Town Football Club

Item 6 – 0076/FUL – Governor at Aspin Park School

Item 15c – Member of Town Twinning Committee

Councillor L Lever Items 4a and 9c – Works for the NHS

Items 11a, 15a and 15b - Member of Renaissance Knaresborough

Councillor M Clemmitt Item 6 – 556.T – Chair of Town Twinning Committee who use the Club Room at Knaresborough Town Football Club

Item 15c – Member of Town Twinning Committee

Items 4a and 9c – Speakers known to Councillor through work

Councillor P Godsell

Item 6 – 556.T – Member of Town Twinning Committee who use the Club Room at Knaresborough Town Football Club

Item 15c – Member of Town Twinning Committee

C 09/48 ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 16 February 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair:

Minute C 09/44 - Item 14 g) - “YLCA’s aim” in the second line to be replaced by “NYCC’s aim”

C 09/49 ITEM 4 – KTC PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION

Mr John Forster and Mrs Pat Hewitson, Knaresborough Governors of the Harrogate and District Foundation trust re item 9c.

John Forster talked to the meeting about the Knaresborough governors’ role as a communication channel between the people of Knaresborough and Harrogate District Hospital. He expanded on the report submitted at item 9c). He said he believed the Quality of Patient Experience working group to be the most important one and the governor’s greatest achievement to be the further development of the Education Liaison Scheme to include all local secondary schools and Harrogate College.

Pat Hewitson expanded on the role of the Quality of Patient Experience Working Group which monitors complaints and any trends within them so that remedial action can be taken. That way the group can assure the board of Directors that work is being done to protect the patients’ interests. Mrs Hewitson noted that the number of complaints at Harrogate Hospital is in fact very low.

John Forster and Pat Hewitson expressed their readiness to talk to any group in Knaresborough with an interest in the Harrogate and District Foundation Trust.

In answering questions, they assured Councillors that everything possible was being done to maintain high standards of cleanliness and infection control. Indeed, as stated in the report, Harrogate recorded some of the lowest MRSA and C Difficile figures in England.

Councillor C Willoughby asked if Harrogate Hospital had a policy to procure any required items locally (e.g. food). Pat Hewitson said that they do use local suppliers wherever possible, indeed they have often managed on a small budget by buying locally. She said she could find out more about procurement if Councillors would like her to.

Councillor J Walton said she had nothing but praise for Harrogate District Hospital. Mr John Forster and Mrs Pat Hewitson said that Harrogate District Hospital always welcomed feedback, both positive and negative.

In answer to a question from Councillor K Hawkins, Mr John Forster talked about the challenging financial position for NHS Trusts but expressed his confidence that Harrogate and District could meet it successfully.

Councillors thanked Mr John Forster and Mrs Pat Hewitson for their time and valuable contribution to the meeting.

C 09/50 ITEM 5 – BUSINESS REMAINING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

a) Councillor Asquith re ‘the re-opening of the railway crossing gates’

The Deputy Clerk noted that, despite a written request, no representative from Network Rail had been forthcoming to attend the meeting.

Councillor Asquith reported that she had approached Network Rail three times about the railway crossing gates and had had no response.

Although KTC have heard that the mechanism for locking/unlocking the gate has been lost by Network Rail, Councillor J Batt stated that there are drawings of these mechanisms and so it could be re-cast.

In view of the poor response by Network Rail, Councillor A Willoughby suggested KTC approach the Highways authority (currently HBC, soon to be NYCC) as the highway is currently being obstructed.

RESOLVED: that KTC write to both Network Rail and Highways at HBC to keep up the pressure on them to open the railway crossing gates **(Unanimous)**

C 09/51 ITEM 6 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: That observations be made to the Planning Authority upon the planning applications in Knaresborough stated hereunder, as indicated opposite each application:

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Details of Application</u>	<u>Observations</u>	<u>Return by date</u>
09/00505/FUL 556.T*	Knaresborough Town Football Club	Erection of 6 pole mounted floodlights (Revised Scheme) – Knaresborough AFC Football Ground, Manse Lane	No Objections	4 March 2009
09/0057/TPO 2116.B*	Mrs Griffiths	Raising of lower canopy, reduction of lateral canopy and thinning of 1 Cherry, tree T1 of Tree Preservation Order 1/1994 – 6 Ash Tree Road	KTC object as this cherry tree is very old and attractive. The tree should be left to grow undisturbed. It is an important part of the street scene	6 March 2009
09/00525/FUL 2443.C**	Mr Albert Renton	Erection of detached dwelling and formation of new vehicular access (Site Area 0.04ha) (Revised Scheme) – Land Adjacent Coniston, Wetherby Road	No Objections	13 March 2009
09/00736/RG3 2685.A**	Mr Les Williamson	Erection of single storey rear extension (Revised Scheme) – 4 Hawthorn Avenue	No Objections	18 March 2009
County Matters 0076/FUL	NYCC	Installation of a kitchen ventilation system at Aspin Park CP School - Wetherby Road	No Objections	16 March 2009
<i>Having declared a prejudicial interest in the following County Matters application, Councillor C Willoughby left the room and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.</i>				
County Matters 0033/73A	NYCC	Retention of Elliot Unit 3305 at King James’ School - King James’ Road	KTC Object: KTC would like to see the temporary units replaced with permanent facilities (unanimous)	2 March 2009

(Councillor C. Willoughby returned to the Chamber)

* Item for determination by HBC Head of Planning Services or Head of Planning Services /Chairman of Planning Committee

** Item for determination by Planning Committee

C 09/52 ITEM 7 - PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) **Planning Enforcements** – (i) Confidential Papers: (3) (*See unpublished minutes*)
 (ii) Reports of Investigation(s):
- Case No. 09/00004/PR15 – Former Marios Restaurant, 15 Waterside

RESOLVED: To receive and note

b) To note the following applications approved by HBC (subject to conditions) **contrary to KTC's observations:**

i) 6.100.1321.E.ADV – Display of 1 halo illuminated fascia sign, 1 externally illuminated hanging sign – 36 High Street (*KTC comments: KTC object to this application for signage as the proposals are too bold for the centre of our historic market town in a conservation area. Harrogate Borough Council guidelines say advertising should be discreet, but this is not discreet*)

ii) 6.100.2694.A.FUL – Conversion of coach house to form detached dwelling (Site Area 0.003ha) – Old Trinity Vicarage, Windsor Lane (*KTC comments: KTC object to this development due to its poor access. This is from a narrow drive with a blind spot on Windsor Lane and any extra cars could be a hazard*)

RESOLVED: To receive and note

C 09/53 ITEM 8 - HBC PLANNING COMMITTEE - TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2009 AT 2.00PM CRESCENT GARDENS, HARROGATE.

The date of the above meeting was noted.

C 09/54 ITEM 9 – CORRESPONDENCE

a) Castle Girls School – letter dated 19 February 2009 received from the Head of Property and Economic Development

RESOLVED: that Councillor C Willoughby contact Emma Marshall informally to see if she is aware of any spare capacity at the former school. (Deputy Clerk to request a hard copy in the meantime)

(unanimous)

b) Local Transport Plan – Letter dated 2 March received from The Corporate Director, Business and Environmental Services, Harrogate Borough Council

RESOLVED: to defer this item to the next Council meeting to give Councillors opportunity to view the Local Transport Plan on NYCC website. (Deputy Clerk to request a hard copy in the meantime)

(unanimous)

c) Report by Governors of the Harrogate and District Foundation Trust for the year 2008 – email dated 2 February 2009 received from the Knaresborough Governors H.D.F.T

RESOLVED: KTC write thanking Mr John Forster and Mrs Pat Hewitson for coming and reporting in person on the above

C 09/55 ITEM 10 – REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

a) To approve the recommendations of KTC Community Services Committee Meeting held 23 February 2009

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Committee be approved. **(Unanimous)**

b) To approve the recommendations of KTC Footpaths Working Group Meeting held 25 February 2009

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Working Group be approved.

C 09/56 ITEM 11- REPORTS FROM THE CLERK

a) Yorkshire Forward Free One Day Courses in Knaresborough for Volunteers in the Community- email from Councillor A Willoughby dated 28 February 2009

The Deputy Clerk reminded Councillors of the courses. Councillor A Willoughby stated that the business plan writing course this Saturday needed more attendees if it was to go ahead.

b) Annual Town Meeting 2009 – to consider any urgent items arising.

The Deputy Clerk reported that the only urgent item was the railway gates, which were dealt with earlier in this meeting.

The minutes for the Town Meeting will be available at the Council Meeting on 30 March 2009.

C 09/57 ITEM 12 - ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT SCHEDULE No. 345

RESOLVED: That Payments as per Schedule of Accounts No. 345 totalling £7487.12 be noted. **(Unanimous)**

C 09/58 ITEM 13 – OTHER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS

Motion from Councillor A Willoughby ‘That KTC strongly favours heritage style lamp posts within the conservation area’

Councillor A Willoughby outlined the problem of the gradual removal of historic lampposts which were being replaced by cheap modern alternatives. An example is the two lampposts at Gallon Steps, Kirkgate, which are due to be changed and, which, for cost and health & safety reasons, are likely to be replaced by modern lamps (subject to listed building consent)

Councillor K Hawkins and Councillor C Willoughby expressed support for Councillor A Willoughby’s motion and expressed the opinion that the Highways Authority should have responsibility for protecting Knaresborough’s heritage.

RESOLVED: i) that KTC strongly favours heritage style lamp posts within the conservation area
ii) that KTC write to County Councillors making them aware of this resolution and asking for their support **(Unanimous)**

C 09/59 ITEM 14 - INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- a) The Deputy Clerk reported that the Blind Jack Working Group were in discussion with HBC over the ownership of the new Blind Jack statue. In the interim, she has arranged for the statue to be covered by KTC's insurance (at no extra cost) until the current policy expires at the end of March.
- b) The Deputy Clerk reminded Councillors about the Commuted Sums Training on 10 March 2009 at the Cairn Hotel (7pm)
- c) The Deputy Clerk advised Councillors that the Committee System was going to be discussed at the next Office services meeting on 16th March
- c) Councillor K Hawkins congratulated everybody who had worked on the Blind Jack statue on their great success
- d) Councillor P Godsell commented on the favourable letter from Arnold Kellett in the Knaresborough Post regarding the Blind Jack Statue
- e) Councillor A Willoughby requested that Councillors pass comments on the draft for the Interpretation Panel for Viaduct Terrace before leaving the meeting. The panel will be situated on top of the railings at the viaduct end.
- f) Councillor B Asquith commented that the Blind Jack statue belongs to the Working Group at the moment and it is up to them who they give ownership to.
- g) Councillor L Lever said despite many approaches to Julia Stack, Community Safety and CCTV Manager, Harrogate Borough Council re CCTV camera at Bond End she had thus far had no reply. She will continue to try and contact her.

C 09/60 ITEM 15 – TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS

- a) Renaissance Knaresborough Newsletter Issue 3 Winter 2009 sent to Councillors by email
- b) Minutes of Renaissance Knaresborough Meeting held 20 January 2009 sent to Councillors by email
- c) Minutes of Town Twinning Meeting held 21 January 2009 sent to Councillors by email
- d) Harrogate Borough Council's Leeds City Region Internal Communications' Group Newsletter – Issue 1, February 2009
- e) Ripon Cathedral Development Campaign – Newsletter Spring 2009
- f) Alzheimer's Society - Harrogate & District Branch Newsletter, February 2009
- g) The Standards Board for England – Town and Parish Standard Newsletter, Issue 4, February 2009
- h) Magazine Clerks & Councils Direct - March 2009 issue

RESOLVED: Receive and note.

(Unanimous)

Meeting ended at 8.35pm