

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT
KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE, KNARESBOROUGH ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2009**

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

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

Late Arrivals: none **Early departures:** none

C 09/90 ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors R Hall and K Hawkins.

C 09/91 ITEM 2 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All declarations are personal, unless otherwise stated.

Councillor J Hawkins	Item 14b – Member of Town Twinning Committee
Councillor J Walton	Item 9e – Children attend Aspin Park school
Councillor J Batt	Item 7 – 2697A and 2697B – Knows applicant
Councillor A Willoughby	Item 9c (ii) – Prejudicial Item 9f – Chair of Friends of Bebra Gardens Item 14g – Vice Chair 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 9f – Member of friends of Bebra Gardens Item 4b - Prejudicial Item 5 – Prejudicial Item 9c (ii) - Prejudicial
Councillor J Burdett	Member of HBC – will consider any same item at Harrogate Borough Council in the light of any new information Item 9e – Prejudicial Item 14b – Member of Town Twinning Committee Item 6c – Chair of Emergency Response Group
Councillor L Lever	Item 6c – Member of Emergency Response Group Item 14g – Member of Renaissance Knaresborough
Councillor M Clemmitt	Item 9c (ii) – Member of Friends of Bebra Gardens Item 14b – Member of Town Twinning Committee Item 6c – Member of Emergency Response Group
Councillor P Godsell	Item 14b – Member of Town Twinning Committee

C 09/92 ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 20 April 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Minute C09/80 – Item 5b – Point 6 to read: “In the Knaresborough Conservation Area Character Appraisal draft version there was mention of the possibility of an order which would have the effect of removing permitted development rights from properties in the Conservation Area. Why was this removed from the actual document and why wasn't the order carried out?”
(*unanimous*)

C 09/93 ITEM 4 – KTC PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION

Mr Rochester – re Item 9a – suggested improvements to Market Square

Mr Rochester expressed his ideas about improving traffic flow in the market square. The objective of his ideas would be:

- i) to provide a better environment for local shops
- ii) to address the safety of pedestrians, especially children.

His main concern is that Silver Street looks pedestrianised when in fact it is not and he considers this to be dangerous.

He had two suggestions:

- i) to place bollards at the end of Silver Street to effectively make it a cul-de-sac. This would mean that traffic accessing the 16 parking spaces at that side of the Market Place would need to use Fisher Street and Chapel Street both for entering and exiting the square.
- ii) to have a traffic free day in the Market Square, possibly a Saturday or Sunday, which could start as a trial in the Summer. This would attract leisure shoppers and make for a better shopping experience.

The Chair moved to Item 9a

Councillors supported Mr Rochester's view that Silver Street would be better without traffic but felt there may be better ways to achieve this.

RESOLVED that this is put on the Agenda in around 6 weeks time so that Councillors have time to think about other options.

(*Unanimous*)

The Chair thanked Mr Rochester for his contribution.

The Chair moved back to Item 4b.

Mr A Wright - re item 5 - allocation of school places outside of Knaresborough

Having declared a prejudicial interest in the item below Councillor C Willoughby - left the chamber, took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Mr Wright conveyed his concern that 10 children from within Knaresborough had been allocated school places in Starbeck.

When NYCC closed Manor Road School 4 years ago, they had claimed there was not enough children in Knaresborough to justify keeping it open, even taking all the planned housing developments into account. However, even at this time, the children currently unable to go to go to a local school, were born and already living in Knaresborough.

Mr Wright proposed that Knaresborough Town Council:

i) That KTC write to NYCC to demand that every Knaresborough child gets a place at a Knaresborough school, & also that each & every appeal should be upheld.

ii) That KTC also demand that NYC open Manor school or identify which primary school could take another class, & take the appropriate action now to create suitable accommodation.

The Chair moved to Item 5

C09/94 ITEM 5 – TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED UNDER KTC PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION

RESOLVED: that KTC write to NYCC and ask that they give urgent consideration to the 10 families whose children have not been allocated places at Knaresborough schools. KTC believe that Knaresborough children should be given preference in Knaresborough schools. KTC expect that NYCC will right this wrong and give places to these children that live in Knaresborough.

Councillor C Willoughby returned to the room

C 09/95 ITEM 6 – BUSINESS REMAINING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

a) Christmas Lights

The Chair decided to consider this item as part of Item 10a

b) Ideas for car parking

Councillor A Willoughby suggested 2 ideas for improving parking in Knaresborough

- i) Improve the layout of the Chapel Street/Fisher Street car park by removing the coach dropping off point, making Chapel Street narrower and possibly moving the recycling centre elsewhere. This would enable many more parking spaces to be created.
- ii) By bridging across the railway line, create access from the High Street (opposite Station Road) to the land at the back Age Concern, where there is potential to create a huge car park. The land is currently owned by Network Rail. Such a project has been successfully completed at Waitrose in Harrogate. It could then be possible to eliminate parking on the High Street.

At this point, Councillor J Hawkins declared a personal interest in this item – she is on the board of Age Concern.

RESOLVED to write to Harrogate Borough Council Parking Department and ask that investigations be carried out to study the feasibility of

- i) creating a large car park on the land which Age Concern currently rent part of and extending back over the railway line.
- ii) totally rethinking the spaces marked out on Chapel Street and Fisher Street car parks, including considering removing the coach dropping off point to enable many more parking spaces to be created.

(Unanimous)

c) Emergency Response Group

RESOLVED that the terms of reference state that there are between 3 and 8 members on the Emergency Response Group

(Unanimous)

d) Commuted Sums

- i) Letter dated 21 January 2009 from Head of Parks and Open Spaces, HBC

That since attending the Commuted Sums training evenings run by Harrogate Borough Council, KTC feel that they have far greater understanding of how commuted sums work. They do not wish to pursue this any further at present.

RESOLVED to receive and note

(Unanimous)

ii) Letter dated 17 April 2009 from the Head of Planning Services, Harrogate Borough Council

RESOLVED that KTC respond to the Head of Planning Services stating that it is not possible for KTC to fulfil his request of monitoring development sites and reporting when a development is starting. This system is impractical and would not work in Knaresborough because:

- i) KTC does not have a list of Commuted Sums.
- ii) KTC does not know which sites are due to pay Commuted Sums.
- iii) KTC does not know which sites have already commenced work.

(Unanimous)

C 09/96 ITEM 7 – 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>
09/01519/ADV 155.W*	Co Operative Retail	Display of 1 externally illuminated fascia sign with various window vinyls - Co Operative Retail, Chain Lane	No Objections	18 May 2009
09/01561/FUL 462.C*	Mr Matthew Molloy	Erection of single storey rear extension - 12 Greengate Lane	No Objections	13 May 2009
<i>At this point Councillor J Walton declared a personal interest in planning applications 2697.a and 2697.b – Knows Applicant.</i>				
09/01416/FUL 905.A*	Mr A Clarke	Erection of single storey side extension - 4 Stockdale Walk	No Objections	06 May 2009
09/01500/LB 2697.B*	Mr D Rance	Listed building application for the conversion of detached garage to form additional living accommodation with single storey link extension to main house, various internal alterations to include the opening of two doorways and installation of two windows to replace garage doors – Byards Cottage, Boroughbridge Road	No Objections	13 May 2009

09/01502/FUL 2697.A*	Mr D Rance	Conversion of detached garage to form additional living accommodation with single storey link extension to main house – Byards Cottage, Boroughbridge Road	No Objections	13 May 2009
09/01476/CON 2706*	Reverend Elizabeth Sewell	Conservation area application for demolition of 1.8m high wall - School House, 9 Castle Yard	No Objections	18 May 2009
09/01513/FUL 2707*	Mrs Spink	Erection of rear conservatory - 6 Borrowbydale Avenue	No Objections	18 May 2009

At this point Councillor C Willoughby declared a personal interest in the following application – she works for NYCC and sometimes works at Meadowside School

NY/2009/0152/ FUL	NYCC	Erection of open sided canopy to rear of bungalow at - The Bungalow, Meadowside Primary School, Halfpenny Lane	No Objections	06 May 2009
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* 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 09/97 ITEM 8 - PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:

a) **Planning Enforcements** – None received.

RESOLVED: To receive and note

b) To note date of next **HBC Planning Committee – Opportunity to Speak – Tuesday 12 May 2009 at 2.00pm, Crescent Gardens, Harrogate**

RESOLVED: To receive and note

c) To note the following application **refused** by HBC (subject to conditions) **contrary to KTC's observations:**

i) 6.100.178.B.FUL – Erection of single storey rear extension, first floor side extension and formation of hardstanding to front - 12 Netheredge Drive

RESOLVED: To receive and note

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

i) 6.100.1614.AY.FUL – Erection of 21 storage units and formation of new vehicular access – land at Grid Ref. 436776 456515 Grimbold Crag Close

ii) 6.100.1921.B.FUL – Erection of first floor side extension, and single storey rear extension – 9 Appleby Grove

RESOLVED: To receive and note

e) To note the following **Notice of Appeal** against HBC's refusal of planning permission:

- i) 6.100.2401.F.FUL – Erection of detached dwelling, detached garage, formation of new vehicular access and removal of 10 fruit trees within Knaresborough Conservation area (site area 0.07ha) – Land to the rear of 1 Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough

RESOLVED: To receive and note

C 09/98 ITEM 9 – CORRESPONDENCE

a) **Suggested Improvements to Market Square** – e-mail dated 16 April 2009 from Mr D Rochester

See Minute C09/93

b) **Knaresborough Public Toilets** – Letter received 27 April 2009 from the Head of Property and Economic Development, Harrogate Borough Council

Councillors welcomed the plans for the new toilets. It was agreed that the Clerk would invite Mr John Hayton to attend a future Council meeting. (suggest it is arranged for 7pm to give him time to speak and Councillors to ask questions).

c) **Requests for 2009/10 Grant Funding:**

(i) **Knaresborough Civic Society** – Grant application received 24 April 2009 together with a List of Heritage Plaques and audited accounts for year ended 31 December 2008

RESOLVED to give Knaresborough Civic Society the £1500.00 requested **(Unanimous)**

Having declared a prejudicial interest in the item below Councillors A and C Willoughby, left the chamber. At this point Councillor M Clemmitt changed her interest to prejudicial and also left the room, all taking no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

(ii) **Friends of Bebra Gardens** – Grant application received 5 May 2009 together with audited accounts for year ended 31 March 2008

RESOLVED to give Friends of Bebra Gardens the £500 requested **(Unanimous)**

Councillor A Willoughby, Councillor C Willoughby and Councillor M Clemmitt returned to the chamber.

d) Matters arising from the Annual Town Meeting

i) **A59 through Knaresborough** – Letter dated 29 April 2009 received from the Highway Asset Manager, NYCC

RESOLVED to respond to the letter saying that KTC are very grateful for the positive reply and asking

- i) that he write and advise what restrictions can be applied to the A59 specifically to prevent HGVs using the High Street.
- ii) how long will it be before a full, substantive and detailed response can be obtained following liaison with his colleagues at County Hall, the local Area Office (Starbeck) and at HBC?
- iii) when could we expect restrictions to actually be put in place on the High Street?

ii) **Dog fouling in Knaresborough** – Letter dated 29 April 2009 received from Environmental Protection Manager, Harrogate Borough Council

RESOLVED that the Clerk diary a letter to be written to the Street Cleansing division in 4 weeks time (8 June 2009), should they not by then have responded to KTC's letter that was forwarded to them by the Environmental Protection Manager HBC.

e) **Aspin Park School's 40th Anniversary** – letter dated 30 April 2009 from Head Teacher

Having declared a prejudicial interest in the item below - Councillor J Burdett left the chamber, took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

RESOLVED i) that Councillor J Walton seek clarification as to how Aspin Park School would like the Council to help with their 40th Anniversary.
ii) that this item is place on the next Council meeting on 1 June 2009. **(Unanimous)**

f) **Urgent Health & Safety Works – Knaresborough Castle and Bebra Gardens** – letter dated 1 May 2009 from Principal Parks Officer, HBC

RESOLVED that KTC reply to the Principal Parks Officer urgently with the following wording:

“Thank you for the information regarding fencing being custom made to match, and painted black.

Regarding any increased costs for a superior job, you seem to have misunderstood regarding budget. Whilst you have no budget available please be aware that money is available from other sources.

Please re-consider modifying the railing at the upper part of the castle steps. Here you propose to add a top strip to railings that are bent, and have already been unsatisfactorily modified. Extra horizontal strips were bolted on some years ago and these are now bowed and out of place.

Also please re-consider modifying the handrail on the steps from the castle area down into the moat. We would very much prefer a new handrail here.”

(If any further information is needed, please contact Andrew Willoughby on 01423867987 or 07761605917.)

Councillors considered the suggested gating of Nanny Goat Hole as a separate issue.

RESOLVED that KTC include in the letter the following:

“Regarding the suggestion of a gate at Nanny Goat's hole we have not seen enough evidence that this is needed. We want this part of our town to remain open and useable by the public at all times. A gate would make this area less welcoming. Gate opening and closing could be a problem: what time would it be locked on Summer Evening? Or if the proprietor was ill or on holiday?

We do not want a gate fitting here and suggest the money would be better spent providing a mesh protection above the roof of the café. Various make-shift nets have been in place here over the last fifty years.”

C 09/99 ITEM 10 – REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

a) To approve the recommendations of KTC Community Services Committee Extra Meeting held 20 April 2009 (including 6a work to be carried out in 2009-10 on the Christmas Lights).

RESOLVED: that the recommendations of the Committee be approved.

b) To approve the recommendations of KTC Office Services Committee meeting held 27 April 2009

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

- c) To note the minutes of KTC Footpaths Working Group meeting held 29 April 2009

The minutes were duly noted

C 09/100 ITEM 11- REPORTS FROM THE CLERK

- a) **Kicking Wall at King George V Playing Field** – the Clerk reported that she had received an e-mail from the Technical Officer – Parks and Playgrounds, HBC, informing KTC that Patrick Kilburn had asked her to go ahead and order the goal end (Kicking Wall) and arrange for it to be installed. The Manufacturer has advised that delivery will be in 4-6 weeks. Installation will take place as soon as possible after delivery.
- b) **Report re use of Urgent Decisions Procedure** – this was duly noted

RESOLVED: to receive and note.

**C 09/101 ITEM 12 – OTHER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS -
None**

C 09/102 ITEM 13 - INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- a) Councillor J Walton asked if the Railway gates had been opened and was informed that they had.
- b) Councillor B Asquith queried whether the garish yellow seats at the train station had been taken away due to complaints. Councillor A Willoughby confirmed that HBC had taken them to be repainted.
- c) Councillor L Powell reported that she had received complaints about the traffic problems caused when 3 lorries delivered to Tesco at 8.30am the other day.
- d) Councillor M Clemmitt stated that Town Twinning are still looking for 7 more beds for guests coming over from Bebra for the Bed Race weekend.
- e) Councillor P Godsell thanked Councillors for their help and guidance over the past year, as this was her last Council meeting as Mayor.

C 09/103 ITEM 14 – TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS

- a) Rural Matters, April 2009 newsletter of Yorkshire and The Humber Rural Affairs Forum sent to Councillors by email.
- b) Minutes of Knaresborough Town Twinning Committee Meeting held Thursday 12 March 2009 sent to Councillors by email
- c) Leaflet detailing Public Sector Equality Duties produced by the Equality and Human Rights Commission
- d) Harrogate & District Access Group – Minutes of Quarterly Meeting held 19 March 2009
- e) Campaign to reopen the Skipton-Colne train line – appeal by SELRAP for Councillors to support them by writing to NYCC. For more information go to www.selrap.org.uk
- f) North Yorkshire Waste Partnership – Newsletter Performance Matters, Issue Two, Spring 2009
- g) Minutes of Renaissance Knaresborough Committee Meeting held 17 March – agenda and minutes previously sent by email.
- h) Harrogate & Area Council for Voluntary Service – News letter The Funding Bulletin, May 2009 and Events Diary, May 2009
- i) Harrogate District Sports Council – notice of AGM to be held Wed. 20 May 2009 at Harrogate Hockey Club, Ainsty Rd, Harrogate
- j) Clerks & Councils Direct, May 2009

RESOLVED: Receive and note.

Meeting ended at 9.55pm