

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT
KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE, KNARESBOROUGH ON MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2009**

PRESENT **Chair:** Councillor M Clemmitt (Mayor)

Councillors: R Archibald, B Asquith, J Batt, P Godsell, R Hall, B Holbrook,
L Powell, J Walton, A Willoughby and C Willoughby

Late Arrivals: None

Early departures: None

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mr P Crossley (Partnership Development Officer HBC) Maggie Gell (The Knaresborough Post) and members of the public for attending the meeting.

The Mayor began the meeting by requesting a minutes silence for the former Mayor of Knaresborough George Cook who died on 14th December 2009

C 09/247 ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors J Burdett, J Hawkins, K Hawkins, L Lever.

C 09/248 ITEM 2 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All declarations are personal, unless otherwise stated.

Councillor A Willoughby	Item 14a – Vice Chair of Renaissance Knaresborough Item 4 & 5b – Prejudicial
Councillor C Willoughby	Member of HBC – will consider any same item at Harrogate Borough Council in the light of any new information Item 8a) i – Prejudicial
Councillor J Walton	Item 5a - Prejudicial
Councillor P Godsell	Item 14e – Town Twinning Member
Councillor R Hall	Item 4 & 5b – Prejudicial Item 14a – Member of Renaissance Knaresborough
Councillor M Clemmitt	Item 14e – Chair of Town Twinning

C 09/249 ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED : That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7th December 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair with the following amendments
– Schedule of Accounts amount £14935.59 and Item 13d – St Michaels Hospice.

Unanimous

C 09/250 ITEM 4 – KTC PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION

a) Mr P Crossley, Partnership Development Officer HBC re item 5 b) Improved Pedestrian Signage, Renaissance Knaresborough.

(Previously KTC resolved to give, by way of a grant £2,500 to Renaissance Knaresborough for improved Pedestrian Signage- meeting 14 September 2009)

Councillors R Hall & Councillor A Willoughby, having declared a prejudicial interest in the item below left the chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Mr Crossley explained that the initial signage project previously outlined to KTC was changing due to circumstances outside of his control and that he wanted to ascertain if the grant funding of £2500 received from KTC was still acceptable? Mr Crossley went on to explain that test holes need implementing before the finger posts can be erected and that potential problems are foreseen in some areas regarding the positioning of utility supplies. As such, project costs have now increased to £16500 leaving a shortfall of £3250. Full project delivery depends upon the results of the test holes and increased funding is needed to ensure that the delivery of the project goes ahead in full or before the end of March 2010.

It was at this point that Councillor B Holbrook declared an interest in the matter and left the room.

Various questions were then raised by Councillors including, what did Mr Crossley envisage the success rate of the project to be? And, where did Mr Crossley see the shortfall in money coming from and how achievable did he feel raising the additional monies would be? Had Renaissance Knaresborough already received the £2500 from KTC? Yes.

Mr Crossley explained that he predicted that the potential problems would be putting in the fingerposts on the High Street due to the placing of utility supplies and that options for manoeuvring the posts in this area would be slim. Placement of the fingerposts in the castle area and car parks etc should be easier however, as there should be more room for manoeuvre in these areas and with this in mind he felt that it would still be possible to erect six out of the eight signs at the very least.

Mr Crossley went on to state that he was confident the additional funds required would be raised. HBC have already given £1000 towards the project and additional areas within HBC were being looked at for funding, along with other sources to raise the additional amount. Any funding raised would also be matched by Yorkshire Forward.

The chair then moved to debate agenda Item 5b

ITEM 5 b) Improved pedestrian signage – application for grant funding from Chair, Renaissance Knaresborough.

Councillors felt that it was important to promote Knaresborough and its tourist attractions and therefore it was:

RESOLVED: KTC to offer £1000 towards the test holes. *The Clerk queried, was this a further £1000 to follow the £2500 KTC had already given’, Councillors agreed.*

Unanimous

Councillors Hall, Holbrook, and A Willoughby returned to the Chamber.

b) Ward Councillor C Willoughby Harrogate Borough Council re item 8 a) i) Children’s Play Area, Nidderdale Drive, Eastfield Estate.

Councillor Willoughby explained that the Children’s play area on Nidderdale drive serves over 600 houses on the Eastfield Estate and that it is in a poor condition. HBC are responsible for the play area and have advised that they will contribute £5000 towards the cost of updating the play area but a greater amount is needed

Councillor Willoughby went on to inform other Councillors upon being questioned that there was currently no plan of the work to be done here nor of the type of equipment to be implemented as this depended very much on the amount raised. The £5000 promised by HBC would barely cover the railings at the play area and that new equipment here is sorely needed, along with the repairing of any

existing equipment that it may be possible to save. Councillor Willoughby went on to advise that work is also underway with regards to approaching other local bodies for funding too.

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

ITEM 8 a) i) Children's Play Area, Nidderdale Drive, Eastfield Estate.

RESOLVED: That KTC pledge £4000, to add to HBC's £5000 on the basis that it will give Councillor C Willoughby a foundation to seek funding elsewhere. The pledge is given on the proviso that Councillor C Willoughby comes back to KTC with a firm proposal'.

Unanimous

Councillor C Willoughby returned to the Chamber.

C09/252 ITEM 5 – BUSINESS REMAINING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S).

a) Invitation from Knaresborough Chamber of Trade asking KTC if they wish to become an Honorary Member - letter dated 29th September 2009.

Councillor J Walton, having declared a prejudicial interest in the item below left the chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

The Clerk reported that advice had been received from Mr S Prosser, Monitoring Officer HBC advising that the sensible thing would be to nominate one member from KTC. This member would therefore have a personal interest, however if funding issues were discussed etc then this interest would become prejudicial. Mr Prosser went on to advise that if all KTC Councillors became honorary members of the Chamber of Trade, many problems and prejudicial issues were foreseen.

The Clerk confirmed that The Chamber of Trade usually meets on the first Tuesday of the month except January and August. Following debate, Councillor R Archibald volunteered to become the honorary KTC member of the Chamber of Trade.

RESOLVED: Councillor R Archibald to represent KTC as an honorary member of the Chamber of Trade.

Unanimous

Councillor J Walton returned to the Chamber.

b) Improved Pedestrian Signage – application for grant funding from Chair, Renaissance Knaresborough.

See Item 4 – KTC Public Speaking Session

c) Signage – Top of Gracious Street

Councillor L Powell advised that additional wording has now been added to the signage at the top of Gracious Street. Not only does the sign in question state that the town centre coach & car park is a right turn (misleading people to thinking that the town centre is also that way) but it now also shows Harrogate with places of interest as a left turn but the places of interest actually relate to Knaresborough as opposed to Harrogate.

Councillor Walton agreed that the wording on the sign was confusing. Councillor A Willoughby provided a picture of the sign in question and also agreed it was confusing and stated that overall there was no consistency with the signage throughout the town. Councillor A Willoughby went on to state that NYCC take over this particular area in April 2010 and that it may be an idea to write to them to see if changes could tie in with the extra lane project? Following debate, it was:

RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to both Chris Mcgonigle, HBC & NYCC pointing out that several signs in Knaresborough Town Centre are misleading, in particular the sign at the location of the ongoing traffic changes.

Councillor J Batt then declared an interest in this item as a member of NYCC.

C 09/253 **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>Reference</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Details of Application</u>	<u>KTC Comments</u>
6.100.49.G.FUL 09/04826/FUL **	Graycliffe Homes	Erection of 8 dwellings (site area 0.19ha) – Land West of 19 Halfpenny Lane.	KTC object on the grounds of loss of employment land, poor access to the site, over intensive development of the site and the lack of pedestrian facilities on the site <i>Unanimous</i>
6.100.1296.B.FUL 09/05040/FUL *	Mr & Mrs A Coles	Erection of two storey and single storey side extension and conversion of roof space to form additional living accommodation with dormer window and roof light to rear – 32 The Avenue.	No objections
6.100.2544.A.FUL 09/04977/FUL *	Mr D Young	Erection of single storey rear extension – 3 & 4 Princess Close.	No objections
6.100.2627.C.OUT 09/04688/OUT **	Mrs K Hespin	Outline application for erection of 2 detached dwellings (Site Area 0.081ha) (Revised Scheme) – 10A Boroughbridge Road.	KTC object on the grounds that No.1 house is placed at an odd angle to Boroughbridge Road and will present a strange appearance to the street scene.
6.100.2726.A.FUL 09/05101/FUL *	Mr & Mrs Lee	Erection of rear conservatory – 27 Manor Road.	No objections
6.100.2733/FUL 09/04949/FUL *	Mr Burns	Erection of single storey rear extension – 28 Greengate Lane.	No objections
6.100.2735.FUL 09/04932/FUL *	Mr S Barnes	Erection of garden room to rear, raising of dormer to front elevation, roof balcony to rear – 23 Princess Avenue.	No objections

* Item for determination by Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) Head of Planning Services or Head of Planning Services/Chairman of Planning Committee.

** Item for determination by Planning Committee.

(Full details of the above applications are available from HBC's website www.harrogate.gov.uk/planning)

C 09/254 **ITEM 7 – PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:**

a) **Planning Enforcements** (i) Confidential Papers: (3) (*see unpublished minutes*)

(ii) Reports of Investigation:

- 09/00522/PR15 6.100.70 (Millennium House, Blands Hill Calcutt (investigation still ongoing))

RESOLVED: To receive and note.

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

09/04416/FUL 6.100.30.B.FUL – 41C Abbey Road - Erection of 2 storey side extension with balcony. *KTC objected on the grounds of over development of the site in a conservation area.*

RESOLVED: To receive and note.

- c) To note date of next **HBC Planning Committee – Tuesday 22nd December 2009 at 2.00pm**, Crescent Gardens, Harrogate .

RESOLVED: To receive and note

C 09/255 ITEM 8 – TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Application for grant funding:
- i) Ward Councillor C Willoughby, Harrogate Borough Council re Children's Play Area, Nidderdale Drive, Eastfield Estate.

See item 4 – KTC Public Speaking Session

- b) Harrogate Borough Council – Commuted Sums Balance Sheet – half yearly report (November 2009)

Following much debate, it was agreed that there are areas on the Commuted Sums Balance Sheet that KTC could not follow and required more understanding. A way forward was either to ask Mr S Wright to come to talk to KTC, or for representatives from KTC to meet in Mr S Wright's office to go through Commuted Sums. The Clerk pointed out that it would probably be more beneficial if members of KTC went to the office at HBC, as all the information is on their systems and would therefore be easier to follow. Councillors R Hall and A Willoughby volunteered to meet Mr Wright.

- RESOLVED:** i) That Councillors A Willoughby and R Hall meet with Mr Sean Wright, HBC in his office to go through Commuted Sums.
- ii) That Councillors A Willoughby and R Hall bring a report back to KTC after the meeting.

Unanimous

C 09/256 ITEM 9 – REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

None

C 09/257 ITEM 10 – REPORTS FROM THE CLERK

- a) Council Budget 2010/11 - To approve the Council budget for the year 2010/11

RESOLVED: That KTC accept the Council budget for the year 2010/11 (see attached)

C 09/258 ITEM 11 – TO NOTE PAYMENTS AS PER SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS NO. 354

RESOLVED: That payments as per Schedule of Accounts No. 354 totalling £11,427.95 be noted.

C 09/259 ITEM 12 – OTHER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS

None

C 09/260 **ITEM 13 – INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

- a) Councillor A Willoughby informed KTC of the funeral of the former Knaresborough Town Mayor George Cook being held Tuesday 22nd December 2009 at 12pm, Gracious Street.
- b) Councillor J Walton advised that the Christmas lights on Briggate were not working – the ‘Nativity Scene’ was not working. Councillor Walton advised that she would double check to see if they were still not working upon returning home and if so, she would contact the office.
- c) Councillor P Godsell reported that the warning signs at the former Somerfield Garage to let motorists know that there is a nearby Zebra Crossing have been removed upon the Co-op taking the garage over. Councillor Godsell advised that she will inform the Police with regards to this matter and requested that this item be put on the next Council agenda for discussion.
- d) Councillor R Hall stated that he felt that it would look better if a colour coat of arms was added to all KTC’s headed paper and asked for it to be on the next Council agenda for discussion.
- e) The Clerk reminded members of the Churches together Nativity in the Market Square on Christmas Eve at 6pm.
- f) The Clerk reported that a notice had been received from the Department of Transport advising of the stopping up of the highway at Blind Lane. The Department of Transport we asking for comments upon the matter. Councillors were asked to see the Clerk after the meeting, if they opposed this.
- g) The Clerk gave out that the next Safer Communities meeting was 5th January at 7pm.
- h) The Clerk warned Councillors that subscriptions to the YLCA in 2010 are due to increase. Notification had been received from the Yorkshire Local Councils' Associations.

C 09/261 **ITEM 14 – TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS (available at the meeting or in the Clerk’s office)**

- a) Minutes of the Renaissance Knaresborough Executive Committee meeting 17th November 2009 (previously emailed to Councillors).
- b) Harrogate & Area Council for Voluntary Service & Ripon Council for Voluntary Service – December 2009 Newsletter, The funding Bulletin, Newsletter for Volunteer Coordinators & Organisers & Events Diary.
- c) Scope – 2010 & 2011 Countrywide Collection Dates.
- d) 4Community Magazine – Issue 2.
- e) Minutes of Knaresborough Town Twinning Committee Meeting held Thursday 19th November 2009 (previously emailed to Councillors).

RESOLVED: To receive and note

Meeting ended 9.10 pm