

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 8 MARCH 2010
AT KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE, KNARESBOROUGH**

PRESENT Cllr P Godsell (Chair)

Councillors: J Batt, B Holbrook, L Powell, J Walton, A Willoughby and C Willoughby

In attendance: Mr N Sykes (for Item 6 only)

Late arrivals: None

Early departures: None

Staff: Mrs V Maxwell (Deputy Clerk)

CSC 10/12 ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillor R Hall, Mrs A Farmer, Mrs S Head and Mr T Maude. The Chair welcomed Mr Nigel Sykes as the new Silver Band representative.

CSC 10/13 ITEM 2 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All declarations are personal, unless otherwise stated.

Councillor J Batt Item 7d) ii) - NYCC representative on Community Centre Committee

Councillor C Willoughby Member of HBC - will consider any same item at HBC in the light of any new information

Councillor A Willoughby Item 7d) ii) - Member of Community Centre Committee

Councillor P Godsell Item 7d) ii) - KTC representative on Community Centre Committee

CSC 10/14 ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held 25 January 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

CSC 10/15 ITEM 4 – KTC PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION

None received.

CSC 10/16 ITEM 5 – ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER THE URGENT DECISIONS PROCEDURE

None received

CSC 10/17 **ITEM 6 – PERFORMANCE AREA** - letter dated 11 February 2010 from Chief Executive, HBC incorporating reply from Interim Head of Leisure Museums & Arts, HBC, and to discuss the way forward.

Members were disappointed with the number of questions raised by Ms Toyne in her letter dated 28 January 2010 especially as these had all been addressed in the Town Council's formally adopted Business Plan. They were, however, pleased to note Ms Toyne's confirmation that she is currently working on a report to be considered by HBC's Corporate Management Team prior to presentation to Cabinet.

Councillor A Willoughby reported that he had been in touch with the producer of the Business Plan (Dr Simon Woodward, Leeds Metropolitan University) and he tabled Dr Woodward's response which addressed all the questions from Ms Toyne and pinpointed precisely where in the Plan the answers to all these appear. Councillor Willoughby also tabled a suggested reply to Ms Toyne which incorporated the points made by Dr. Woodward, with a copy to go to Dr Emerick of English Heritage.

RECOMMENDED: That the Town Council respond to Ms Toyne, with a copy to English Heritage, as per the proposal tabled by Councillor Willoughby (*ca*)
(unanimous)

It was felt that the letter should be sent as soon as possible to HBC and that they should be urged to act promptly in this matter as after the elections in May it was possible that a new administration would be in situ which could lead to further delays.

Councillor Batt favoured either taking the letter by hand or sending it but following it up with a face to face meeting with the Officers at HBC. Councillor A Willoughby undertook to telephone Dr. Emerick a few days following his likely receipt of the letter.

The Chair thanked Mr Sykes (Silver Band) for his attendance. He reported that the Band have a committee meeting this coming Thursday and that he would update members accordingly.

CSC 10/18 **ITEM 7 - PROGRESS ON OTHER TOWN PROJECTS**

a) Waterside Improvements – Weirside Terrace

Members had before them a draft lease drawn up by Harrogate Borough Council in respect of an area of approximately 180 square metres referred to as Weirside Terrace, Waterside.

Councillor A Willoughby was happy with the draft as it stood although he did feel it should be checked by a Solicitor.

Councillor Batt expressed his total opposition to KTC taking over a lease on this land as he felt it was a waste of taxpayers' money and would be of no benefit. He felt HBC should continue to be responsible for this piece of land.

Councillor Holbrook felt that if this area was the only piece of land between the old mill and the entrance to Waterside that still needs work doing on it and this was the only way it could be achieved, then he would support KTC taking on a lease.

Following further discussion it was:

RECOMMENDED: That the Town Council move forward to accept the lease on land at Waterside, getting the document checked by a Solicitor and returning the signed lease to HBC without further delay.

It was felt that the Town Council should have an agreed plan as to what they wished to do with the land. Councillor A Willoughby suggested that once the lease is signed, members of this Committee have a site meeting to decide what works are required then approach the Head of Parks for the necessary permission. He felt it was important to get the lease in place first as there was a possibility that it may not remain “on the table” indefinitely.

b) Farmers’ Markets in Knaresborough

- i) To consider notes of meeting held 16 February 2010 with Mr P Heald, Chair of Otley Town Partnership.
- ii) To consider e-mail from Mr P Heald dated 20 February 2010
- iii) To note interim response from County Councillor John Fort re. KTC letter seeking assurance that NYCC will not seek recompense for loss of car parking revenue from Market Place

The report of the meeting held 16 February was noted. Clarification was given that there would be a market in December but that it would take place on the second Sunday (12th) rather than the third. Councillor Walton reported that she had asked the Chamber of Trade to encourage shops to open on Market Sundays.

Members welcomed the offer of OTP to increase their current contribution of £100 per Market to £130 with OTP’s proviso that this amount be renegotiated in 6 months’ time. The Agreement would now need to be amended accordingly.

The publicity leaflet for 2010 drafted by OTP was also welcomed.

RECOMMENDED: i) That the report of the meeting held 16 February 2010 with OTP be received and noted and OTP’s subsequent offer of £130 per Market (to be renegotiated in 6 months’ time) agreed.

- ii) That the draft leaflet from OTP and the interim response from County Councillor J Fort be received and noted.

c) Allotments

- i) Land Behind Frogmire Road to Railway Line – letter dated 27 January 2010 from Chief Executive, HBC
- ii) Allotments Working Group – Working Group Chair to report on progress.

It was agreed that the letter in i) above should be passed to the Allotments Working Group.

It was noted that the YLCA Training and Development Programme 2010 offered sessions on “The Basics of Allotments” on the following dates: Monday 24 May 2010 at Riccall, Thursday 24 June 2010 at Ilkley and Wednesday 29 September 2010 at Woodsetts.

Councillor A Willoughby indicated that either he (as Chair of the Working Group) or Councillor K Hawkins (as Secretary) would decide which of them would like to attend (probably the one on 24 June) and let the Deputy Clerk know.

With regard to progress, several lines of enquiry had been made seeking land suitable for allotment use but the Working Group Chair had nothing substantial to report at present.

RESOLVED: Receive and note.

d) Community Centre and King George V Playing Field

- i) Run-off from Stockwell Avenue – Flooding of Gardens adjacent to Community Centre – letter dated 8 February 2010 from Chief Engineer (Highways), HBC

The Chair reported that work had already commenced to replace the existing dropped kerbs across the entrance to the Community Centre with hollow drainage kerbs that will discharge into the gully at the end of the entrance and also to provide an additional road gully at the start of the vehicular entrance into the Centre.

RESOLVED: Receive and note.

- ii) Knaresborough Community Centre – Councillor Godsell to report on AGM held 23 February 2010

Councillor Godsell elaborated on the reports previously e-mailed to Members. The staff at the Centre were very forward looking and many clubs and activities had started up again.

Councillors were pleased with the number of things happening and felt the Council ought to write asking to be kept informed of developments at the Centre and suggesting that KTC might be able to help towards funding of one or two smaller things, possibly with help towards the cost of an Open Day. It was also felt that KTC should suggest that the Centre publicise their room hire charges.

Councillor Batt reported that approval was likely to be given for his proposed use of £250 from his NYCC allowance towards the costs of holding cookery classes at the Centre.

RESOLVED: Receive and note.

e) Maundy Celebrations

The Chair of the Maundy Working Group (Councillor Batt) reported that arrangements for the celebrations on Easter Saturday were moving ahead and it was now a case of giving the event publicity. Banners would be going up on the lamp-posts on the approaches to the Town.

The Mayor and Mayoress had now received official invitations to the Royal Maundy on Thursday 1st April in Derby at which a nominee from Knaresborough was scheduled to receive Royal Maundy.

The replica coins for distribution to nominated residents and primary schoolchildren were being manufactured.

RESOLVED: Receive and note.

CSC 10/19 **ITEM 8 - CORRESPONDENCE** - None received.

CSC 10/20 **ITEM 9 – REPORTS FROM THE CLERK** - None

CSC 10/21 **ITEM 10 – MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS** - None received.

Date of Next Meeting:

It was noted that the next meeting of this Committee was scheduled for Monday 19 April 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Council Chamber.

The Meeting closed at 8.40 pm