

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 JANUARY 2007

PRESENT

The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor; Councillors Baddeley, Brown, Deaville, Gibson, Hall, J Harrison, K Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Lovatt, Proudlove, Rogers, C Stone, D Stone and Walley.

Councillors Hart, Meredith and Redfern were also present.

101. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and reasons accepted from Councillor Booth. Councillor Adams was absent from the meeting

102. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rogers declared a personal interest in Minute 104; he travels along the alleyway several times a day, but reserved the right to speak on the item.

Councillor Gibson declared a personal interest in Minute 104; his son leases premises adjacent to the Well Street entrance of the alleyway.

Councillor Meredith declared a prejudicial interest in Minute 107; as a director of CVS.

103. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2006 were approved and signed.

104. MOORLANDS TOWN PARTNERSHIP

A proposal to light the alleyway between and parallel to John Street and High Street as a Moorlands Town Partnership project has been received. It suggests that the Town Council contribution be £2000. This was Agreed.

105. TWINNING ANNIVERSARY

Councillor Meredith gave a brief outline of the suggestions given by the Twinning Committee for ways to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of Twinning between Biddulph and Fusignano.

The proposal to commemorate the event had been agreed in principle by the Civic Committee. It was agreed that the suggestions should be referred to the next meeting of the Civic Committee.

106. COUNCILS CONNECT

Councillor Meredith again expressed concern about possible redundancies in Biddulph Council's Connect if the District Council goes ahead with the proposal to stop accepting cash payments. Concern was expressed about sale of Town Council goods and tickets for events.

Councillor Redfern, as the Portfolio Holder for operational matters at the District Council, reported that redundancies are not Council policy. An audit will be carried out before any decision is made.

Councillor Redfern was invited to report back to a future General Purposes meeting following the audit.

107. NEIGHBOURHOOD AGENTS

A letter and report was received from Jill Norman, CVS Chief Officer, to offer to attend a future meeting to explain the pilot Neighbourhood Agent project with report. The initiative was welcomed. Councillor Proudlove proposed that Ms Norman is invited to a future General Purposes committee meeting. This was Seconded by Councillor Jones and all were in favour.

108. CORRESPONDENCE

- a Letter of thanks for use of A527 boards received from Biddulph Moor Village Hall and Moor First Parents Association.
- b Letter of thanks received from Art in the Arms, plus information on future plans to improve the display area and to hold three exhibitions a year.

109. MATTERS REFERRED FOR ACTION AND AWAITING RESOLUTION

Councillor Lovatt reported that the County Council has renewed its membership of the Coalfield Community Campaign as from today. Councillor Jackson expressed thanks to Councillor Lovatt who has been tenacious in pursuit of this.

110. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED IN THE MONTH

- a Councillor Rogers reported on the Licensing Committee meeting held on 12 January 2007. Dempsey's licence had been revoked and the premises are now closed.
- b Councillor Lovatt received a telephone call with reference to the planning application at 40 Mow Lane. The appeal has been dismissed.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed Date