

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2007**

### **PRESENT**

The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Adams, Baddeley, Deane, Deaville, Gibson, Hall, Harper, Harris (Chair), J Harrison, K Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Shaw, Sheldon and Walley.

Also in attendance Councillors Davies, Hart and Redfern.

### **88.07 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were given and reasons accepted by Councillors Betts and Proudlove

### **89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Harris declared a personal interest in Minute 94.07, as a Governor at Park Middle School.

Councillor Redfern declared a personal interest in Minute 94.07, as an acquaintance of Ms Bowers.

### **90. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2007 were approved and signed.

### **91. TOWN BURIAL GROUND**

Councillor Adams gave a verbal report of the meeting held on 19 November 2007. The flood prevention work is almost complete.

### **92. TOURISM SUB COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2007 were tabled and Councillor Rogers invited questions.

Councillor Adams congratulated the committee on an excellent calendar - a superb job. Councillor K Harrison concurred.

Reference Minute 54d; concern was expressed that public mis-perception could occur. It was suggested to the Tourism sub-committee that the wording is amended at the next meeting to read 'The owners of Biddulph Old Hall have agreed that this committee may hold a site visit at the December meeting, date to be confirmed.'

### **93. ELECTION RECHARGE**

Information had been received from the Returning Officer. It was moved to request that the re charge be spread over the next three years. Councillor Gibson proposed that a copy of this notification be given to the Finance Committee, to be taken into account when the budget and precept is set. It was likely that more by-elections would be held in the future. It was noted that this invoice was not totally unexpected – full Council elections are held every four years. Certain costs remain the same for a one seat by-election as for a full council election – eg the Returning Officer received the same payment per hour.

### **94. MOOR FIRST/PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

Notification of vacancies for LEA governors at the above schools was received. It was noted that the vacancy at Park Middle School was that of the Chair of Governors S Bowers, who is standing for re-election.

Councillor Deane requested that his name be put forward as a future prospective governor, should a suitable vacancy arise.

### **95. POST OFFICE CLOSURES**

Information was received from the Parish Assembly and noted. Councillor Jones proposed that a letters be sent noting that any other local closures will be very vigorously opposed by this Town Council. Councillor Redfern noted that consultation had already begun and some areas have had 'hit lists' published.

**96. MATTERS REFERRED FOR ACTION AND AWAITING RESOLUTION**

- a Re Minute 85a: Councillor Baddeley asked if any response had been received from First buses? Nothing further had been received, a letter and a copy to be sent to First Buses.
- b Re Minute 85b: Councillor Adams asked if any action had been taken on the rusty ash tray at the front of the Town Hall. The Town Administrator would consult with the Caretaker.
- c Re Minute 86c: Councillor Harris asked if any response had been received re the hospital suggestion? Nothing further had been received and the Administrator would write again.

**97. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED IN THE MONTH**

- a Councillor Jackson attended a meeting of the District Council last week. Mr Kevin Walters, of the North Staffs Credit Union, gave an excellent presentation. Mr Walters offered to come and speak to this Town Council. Councillor Jackson proposed that Mr Walters be invited to the February or March meetings of the General Purposes Committee. Seconded by Councillor Gibson. This was Agreed.
- b Councillor Harper asked a question re Committee membership in accordance with Standing Orders no 23(h), as he had not yet been appointed to any committee. It was agreed that Councillor Harper would consult with the Town Administrator and this item be included on the December agenda of the Town Council

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed ..... Date  
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