

TUXFORD

Selflessness, Integrity, Accountability, Objectively, Openness, Honesty, Leadership

The Beeches Community Centre

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2023/23

Extra Ordinary Full Council Meeting of Tuxford Town Council held at The Beeches
Community Centre, Birch Court, Tuxford at 7pm on Thursday 13 July 2023

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs J Moorhouse (JM) (In the Chair), E Cupit Atkin (ECA), P Downing (PD), I Nicholls (IN), G Frost (GF), R Patrnan (RP), M Richards (MR), S Richardson (SR), R Walker (RW), J Temple (JT), K Rutherford (KR)

In Attendance: Cllr E Griffith (Bassetlaw District Council), Lynda Ogilvie, Locum Clerk, and one member of the public

Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.02, and noted that this Extra Ordinary meeting has been called by Cllr P Downing. She reminded attendees of the rules regarding speaking during the meeting.

1. Inform Members and the Public (if any are in attendance) that the meeting is being recorded

It was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Gray, Harris and Leslie-Dakers. Cllr E Bett did not attend, having inadvertently not been informed of the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest and remind councillors to ensure their Register of Interest Information is current and up to date.

SR recorded his interest as a shop owner in the town.

Members of the Public have a right to attend Council meetings but not an automatic right of speech

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4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 June 2023 (folio ref 2023/019-22)

Cllr Cupit Atkin proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2023 be accepted as a Correct Record, seconded by Cllr Rutherford, and all in favour. Chair signed the Minutes.

5. Councillor Conduct

Chair read through the narrative of the Civility and Respect Project Pledge. Tuxford Town Council has signed up to this pledge, and Chair reminded Councillors to abide by it.

6. Rural England Prosperity Fund

RW said that a number of ideas had been put forward by Councillors for potential projects, several of which fit well into the various different categories under this fund. These include:

- Playing equipment for teenagers, including shelters
- Improvements to the Working Men's Club
- Upgrade of The Beeches Community Centre
- Conference facilities/business hub

Any application which is put in by TTC will need to be for an area which it owns or leases. Other organisations, such as the Working Men's Club can put in their own bids.

Cllr Moorhouse proposed that TTC concentrate on bids associated with the town hall site, which is owned by TTC, seconded by Cllr Richardson, and all in favour.

Members agreed the next steps and individual councillors undertook to put bids together, noting that the deadline is 18 July 2023.

7. To discuss restructuring and reform of Tuxford Town Council (PD)

Cllr Downing has withdrawn this Agenda item, but wished to record his thanks to Lynda Ogilvie and Clare Fox for their contribution to the topic papers.

8. Town Council shops (PD)

PD outlined his proposals (previously circulated) regarding the possible actions which he believe TTC should take in relation to rejuvenating the Town Centre. He suggested that TTC could take over the lease, or possibly purchase, a vacant shop, move the Town Council office into it, and rent out areas for other users.

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SR commented that there had been a significant loss of facilities and shops. Some of the issues which have affected the viability of shops include the huge rise in service costs, the economic downturn and parking issues.

Other members commented on the ongoing discussions with Bassetlaw DC about the purchase of The Beeches, and the possibility of collaboration with Bassetlaw in connection with regeneration of the town centre.

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Cllr Downing proposed that TTC take over an empty shop and move Tuxford Town Council into those premises. This proposal was not seconded, therefore it failed.

Members discussed the possibility of a shop share between interested parties, and PD will explore this further.

Parking issues were also discussed. Cllr Harris was tasked with setting up a task group to consider what can be done to tackle individual problems. As Cllr Harris was not present no information on progress was available.

9. Road Classification (PD)

Cllr Downing referred to Appendix F, which had been circulated. In this document, he highlights some of the traffic issues which affect everyone in Tuxford. He suggests approaching the County Council highways dept (VIA) to request that the classification of roads is changed, so that the section of the A road between Ollerton Road through the town is reclassified as a B road, and the B1 164 towards Markham Moor is reclassified as an A road. This had been requested some years ago, but was unsuccessful at that time.

A number of points were raised on this suggestion, including the implications for businesses in the town, and whether a weight restriction might be a more effective and quicker solution.

Agreed that PD will work with MH and the Neighbourhood Plan group on this to consider options further.

10. Ideas for possible projects

This item was covered under Agenda Item 6 above.

11. Date of next meeting: 20 July 2023

There being no further business, Chair thanked everyone for attending, and closed the meeting at 8.34 pm

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Approved as a Correct Record and Signed:

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Chair 20 July 2023