

**Main points arising: Mayor's announcements/ Civic Hall – Library integration project/ First World War commemoration events/ Urgent business/ Minutes of Standing Committees**

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr G Bartos

Cllrs: M Beanland, L A Clarke, C Gorst, I Hollingworth, Ms R Horsman, Mrs S Horsman, P Hoyland, Mrs J Sewart, A Smith, G Smith, and Cllr West

83. Urgent Business

**RESOLVED: That the emergency motion proposed under SO 19(d) and concerning an anonymous letter received by some Councillors is accepted as an agenda item (NC)**

84. Questions to the Mayor

None

85. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. G King, B Lewis, H Murray, Mrs J Saunders, M C G Sewart and Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks

86. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None

87. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Item 78 para. 2, second sentence. Cllr Mrs Sewart asked for the reference to "These" Standing Orders for clarity be revised to read, "The remaining parts of the Standing Orders i.e. those not in bold....."

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 with the above amendment be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor (NC)**

88. Mayor's announcements

Details of the Mayor's engagements for this period available from the Clerk.

89. Civic Hall/Library integration project

Members had received a written update from Cllr A Smith on the Civic Hall/Library integration project with their agenda packs. Cllr A Smith provided a verbal update on developments since then. First, there had been an asbestos survey carried out. This found that there is asbestos in the building but this would only be an issue if it was necessary to do anything with it. At this stage this is not known, but information will become available in time for the next Steering Group meeting. Second, it has become apparent that the previous local estimate for the roof does not include the cost for insulation as required under building regulations. The impact of this is unknown, and Cllr A Smith will report back. The intention is to remain within the scope of the project in terms of cost and time.

On the roofing issue, Cllr West asked if it was a requirement to meet modern standards or simply to refurbish the roof to its original state. Cllr A Smith said that this question has already been raised and checked by Project Management at CE who insisted that it had to meet current building regulations, but he will ask the question again.

**RESOLVED: That the update from Cllr A Smith on the Civic Hall/Library integration project is received (NC)**

90. First World War Commemoration Events

Members discussed the written update provided by the Clerk on the First World War Commemoration events. Following discussion Members agreed that the best way forward would be to advertise for a volunteer coordinator within the local community.

**RESOLVED: That the written update from the Clerk on the First World War Commemoration events is received, and that a volunteer coordinator is sought from the local community (NC)**

91. Urgent Business - SO 19(d)

Several Councillors had recently received copies of an anonymous "poison-pen" letter through the post. Cllr L Clarke circulated the following motion to Members: "This letter contained allegations that are unfair, tendentious and false against a particular Councillor and a member of the Council's staff. The Town Council condemns this cowardly and malicious attack and expresses

full confidence in its staff and supports the decision of one Councillor to refer the letter to the Police for action under the Malicious Communications Act”.

Cllr Clarke proposed that this motion is passed. Members agreed that this type of correspondence is completely out of order and should be stopped. Some Members agreed that there are concerns that this sort of behaviour could progress to violence against property or people. Cllr West shared his disquiet at this information being out in the public domain. Following discussion Cllr Clarke agreed an amendment to the original motion and proposed that the Clerk seek advice from the police on how best to proceed with this issue, with an update for the next COPS meeting.

**RESOLVED: That the motion proposed by Cllr Clarke is approved, with the Clerk to take advice from the police on how to proceed on this issue, and to provide an update for the next COPS Committee meeting; that the Clerk is able to consult and prepare a press release as required (NC)**

#### 92. Minutes of Standing Committees

Cllr Hoyland noted the thanks he had received from residents of the Glastonbury Estate for the litter bins that had been placed in this area.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013 be received and adopted (NC)**

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Management and Establishment meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013 be received and adopted (NC)**

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be received and adopted (NC)**

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of Community, Order and Public Safety meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be received and adopted (NC)**

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be received and adopted (NC)**

The meeting concluded at 8.35pm