

Spennymoor Town Council

Minutes of the proceedings of a Meeting of SPENNYMOOR TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Spennymoor on Tuesday 22 December 2015 at 6:45pm

Present: Councillor Mrs P Lawton (Town Mayor) and

Councillors, J.Daley, N Foster, I Geldard, J.V Graham, S Jones, Mrs.E Maddison, B.McAloon, J.McGough, C.Nelson, G.D.O'Hehir, J Parkin, A.Smith, D Taylor, K Thompson

Also in attendance: C Ranson (Facilities Manager)
Mrs.J.Woods (Minutes Officer)

9 Members of the public

APOLOGIES:Councillors, Miss S.Armstrong, J.Culine MBE, G.Darkes, J Marr, and Mrs K Thompson

59/15 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

A declaration was received from Councillor S.Jones.

60/15 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received from Members of the Public in accordance with Standing Order 13.

61/15 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the council Meeting held on 24 November 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

62/15 **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meetings of the under mentioned Standing Committees of the Council be approved:

Policy & Resources Committee	1 December 2015
Facilities Committee	8 December 2015
Recreation Committee	8 December 2015
Special Policy & Resources Cttee	15 Decmber2015
I.T Working Party	10 September 2015
I.T Working Party	26 November 2015
Special Committee	14 December 2015

63/15 **MAYORS COMMUNICATIONS**

A schedule detailing the functions attended by the Mayor since the last meeting was circulated to Members:

Date	Event
26/11/15	Town Mayor attended Ox Close 'School Council' meeting
26/11/15	Town Mayor attended the open day at Lothian House
27/11/15	Town Mayor attended Casino Games and Nearly Paloma Tribute with Stockton Council
27/11/15	Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended Spennymoor Town Council's Christmas Lights Switch On
03/12/15	Town Mayor attended a Christmas Party at Clarence Court
04/12/15	Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended the Civic Dinner
05/12/15	Town Mayor was presented with a cheque at Asda
05/12/15	Town Mayor attended a Christmas Fayre at Lothian House
07/12/15	Deputy Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Hartlepool Council
09/12/15	Town Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Durham County Council
09/12/15	Town Mayor attended Ox Close Reception Class Concert
10/12/15	Town Mayor attended Enchanted Parks at Gateshead Council
11/12/15	Town Mayor attended Civic Christmas Charity Night at Shildon Council
13/12/15	Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended Civic Carol Service
14/12/15	Deputy Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Ferryhill Council
14/12/15	Town Mayor attended Rotary Club's Annual Christmas Message
15/12/15	Town Mayor attended Ox Close's Yr1 &2 Christmas Concert
15/12/15	Town Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Chilton Council
16/12/15	Town Mayor attended Ox Close's Yrs 3-5 Christmas Concert
16/12/15	Deputy Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Seaham
16/12/15	Town Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Peterlee Council
17/12/15	Town Mayor attended Christmas Lunch at Clarence Court
17/12/15	Town Mayor attended Dementia Action Alliance at Akley Heads
19/12/15	Town Mayor attended bag pack at Asda
20/12/15	Deputy Mayor attended Civic Carol Service at Great Aycliffe
20/12/15	Town Mayor attended Civic Carol at Spennymoor Independent Methodist Church

The Town Mayor thanked local schools, children and Rainbow singers for their attendance at the Carol Service. Thanks were also given to all Councillors and staff for their support in Spennymoor becoming Dementia Friendly.

64/15 **PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**
Members considered the schedule
RESOLVED That the information be received and noted.

65/15 **MAYORAL KEY DATES FOR DIARIES**
Members considered the report of the Facilities Manager
RESOLVED That the dates for Mayoral/Civic events are approved

66/15 **PRESENTATIONS**

S137 Grants

RESOLVED The Town Mayor presented cheques to:

- a) Trinity Methodist Church
- b) Middlestone Moor Old Peoples Yearly Trip
- c) Mrs Aston

67/15

BANK MANDATE

Members considered the request from Councillor C.Nelson

RESOLVED - The removal of Councillor C.Nelson Deputy Leader from the bank mandate. and the addition of Mr C.Ranson Facilities Manager and Mrs J.Woods Finance and Administration Assistant to the bank mandate.

68/15

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION POLICY

Members considered the report from the Facilities Manager

RESOLVED – That the draft policy is agreed

69/15

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE COUNCIL

Members considered the report from the Leader of the Council

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report are noted

70/15

MIDDLESTONE MOOR BUS SHELTER

Members considered the report from the Facilities Manager

RESOLVED – That section 3 of the report be accepted

71/15

ALBION STREET FENCE

(Cllr S.Jones declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting)

Members considered the report of the Facilities Manager

Members moved to accept the recommendations contained in the report

The following amendment was moved by Councillor K.Thompson

- 1) That public consultation takes place in regards to fencing off our football fields, and subsequent loss of public amenity.
- 2) Should it be agreed that fencing is to go ahead it should be introduced through a three financial plan.
- 3) That in the short term we look to resolve the problem through signage and consultation with outside agencies.

A recorded vote was taken on this amendment

FOR: Councillors, Mrs E.Maddison and Mr K.Thompson

AGAINST: Councillors, J.Daley, N Foster, I Geldard, J.V
Graham, B.McAloon, J.McGough, C.Nelson,
G.D.O’Hehir, J Parkin, A.Smith, K Thompson

ABSTENTIONS: Councillor S.Jones

Therefore the amendment was defeated

A recorded vote was taken on the original motion to accept option
three of the report

FOR: Councillors, J.Daley, N Foster, I Geldard, J.V
Graham, B.McAloon, J.McGough, C.Nelson,
G.D.O’Hehir, J Parkin, A.Smith, K Thompson

AGAINST: Councillors, Mrs E.Maddison and Mr K.Thompson

ABSTENTIONS: Councillor S.Jones

-- RESOLVED – That section 3 of the report be accepted

72/15

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members are requested to move the following motion:

“That in accordance with the provisions of S1 of the Public Bodies
(Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by S100 of the Local
Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the press and public
for the remaining items of the Agenda by reason of the confidential
nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be
prejudicial to the public interest”.

73/15

ESTABLISHMENT

Members considered the draft response circulated by the Facilities
Manager

RESOLVED – That the circulated draft response be agreed and that the
Town Mayor signs for immediate posting.

There being no further business the Town Mayor declared
the meeting closed at 7.15pm

Councillor Mrs P Lawton

Town Mayor