

**WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL – TOWN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MONDAY 11 MAY 2009**

**TF182/08 Present:** Cllr A Clamp (Chairman), Cllrs F Bark, K Frith, D Haspel, I Ratcliffe, M Ratcliffe. In attendance – Cllr A Pollock, Mrs J Walls (Town Clerk).

**TF183/08 Apologies:** Cllr C Whittall.

**TF184/08 Members' Interests in Agenda Items:**

The following interests were declared:

<i>Cllr</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Personal/ Prejudicial</i>	<i>Reason if any</i>
I Ratcliffe	6 - Derwent Valley Mills	Personal	TC representative DVMWHS
A Clamp	9 - Music performance in Memorial Hall Gardens	Personal	TC representative NOW
M Ratcliffe	11 -Underwriting of Reusable Bags	Personal	TC representative Sustainable Wwth

**TF185/08 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting of the Town and Finance Committee dated 20 April 2009 were confirmed as a correct record.

**TF186/08 Monthly Balance Sheet & Bank Reconciliation:**

The monthly balance sheet and bank reconciliation was circulated for information.

**RECOMM:** That this be noted.

**TF187/08 Monthly Budget Balance:**

To be circulated once budget adjustments are finalised.

**RECOMM:** That this be noted.

**TF188/08 Derwent Valley Mills Partnership:**

A letter had been received from Derwent Valley Mills Partnership, seeking financial assistance from the Town Council.

**RECOMM:** That a donation of £100 be made and the World Heritage Site Co-ordinator be asked to feature the Wirksworth link in a future newsletter.

**TF189/08 10<sup>th</sup> Matlock (1<sup>st</sup> Wirksworth) Scout Group:**

A letter had been received from the Beaver Scout Leader of the newly formed Scouting movement in Wirksworth, seeking financial assistance with the purchase of craft items, resource books and uniforms.

**RECOMM:** That a donation of £200 be made, and a concessionary letting be offered at the Town Hall or Memorial Hall for fundraising purposes.

**TF190/08 Town Hall/Memorial Hall Improvements – Update:**

It was reported that two architects had now interviewed with regard to the assistance they could offer as project manager, and it was agreed that a third architect be invited to meet with the sub group within a few days. Cllr I Ratcliffe asked that the sub group could consider the purchase of an industrial dishwasher for the Town Hall kitchen, and the group agreed to look at this. The Clerk produced a quotation for the painting of the refurbished toilets, in the sum of £460.

**RECOMM:**

- a) That the report be noted;
- b) That the sub group members be given delegated powers to select a suitable architect to provide project management services, after considering the merits of the 3 interviewed;
- c) That the tender, in the sum of £460 for the painting of the toilets, be accepted.

*Cllr I Ratcliffe left the meeting at 7.10pm*

**TF191/08 Festival Request – Performance of Live Music, Memorial Hall Gardens:**

A request had been received from the Festival seeking permission to perform live music in the Memorial Hall Gardens during the Festival Trails weekend, during the monthly farmers' markets and possibly each weekend during the summer months. A discussion took place on this matter, and Cllr M Ratcliffe drew attention to complaints he had received with regard to these activities taking place in proximity to the War Memorial. It was pointed out that the gardens are not designated Memorial Gardens, but it was recognised that there was a need for a restrained approach because of the location of the Memorial.

**RECOMM:** That the request be granted, subject to laid down criteria for use (ie not excessively loud, no dubious lyrics, away from residential property and the Memorial, and appropriate to the location), and that the Clerk contacts DDDC for further advice in this connection.

**TF192/08 Quotation for Plastering, Memorial Hall Toilets:**

A quotation had been received for additional work to the Memorial Hall toilets, ie plastering of the artex on the walls, to facilitate decoration. The quotation was in the sum of £378 plus VAT.

**RECOMM:** That the quotation be accepted.

**TF193/08 Underwriting of Further Purchase of Wirksworth Town Reusable Bags:**

Cllr M Ratcliffe reported that sales of the reusable bags were going well, and he hoped the Town Council would be able to underwrite a further purchase of stock (500 bags).

**RECOMM:** That the Council underwrites a further purchase of reusable bags, in the sum of £450.

**TF194/08 Exclusion of Public & Press**

**RECOMM:** That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting, as publicity to the matters under discussion would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**TF195/08 Employment Act 2008:**

The Clerk reported that the Employment Act 2008 had received Royal Assent and most of the key provisions had come into force on 6 April. The most dramatic impact of the 2008 Act for local councils is that the existing statutory procedures for dealing with disciplinary, dismissal and grievance issues, as set out in the 2002 Act and the Employment Act 2002 (Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2004, were repealed on 6 April. Transitional arrangements are in place for ongoing disputes; however, this did not apply in the Town Council's case. The Clerk had circulated a draft copy of the ACAS draft code to all members, and recommended adoption of this code with immediate effect, with a copy of the code being sent to all staff members.

**RECOMM:** That the code be adopted with immediate effect, and staff members be issued with a copy.

*The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m*

.....Chairman