

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 27 APRIL 2009 AT 6.30 PM**

C0119/08 Present: Cllr F Bark, Cllr D Brown, Cllr S Maskrey, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr I Ratcliffe, Cllr M Ratcliffe, Cllr J Stockell, Cllr C Whittall.

In attendance: Member of the Press, Mrs J Walls (Town Clerk).

C0120/08 Apologies for absence: Cllr A Clamp, Cllr K Frith, Cllr D Haspel, District Cllr P Slack.

C0121/08 Members' Interests in Agenda Items:

None declared.

C0122/08 Open Forum:

- a) Public Forum: No members of the public were present at the meeting.
- b) District Councillor Reports: Cllr P Slack had circulated a written report prior to the meeting. Cllr M Ratcliffe drew attention to a proposed DDDC consultation with parish and town councils with regard to public conveniences, and advised that this was on a future agenda for discussion. Cllr I Ratcliffe drew attention to the DDDC Core Strategy consultation, and members were advised that one Cllr would be attending a seminar, and the matter would be considered further at the next meeting of the full Council. She also drew attention to the recent extensions to concessionary use of the leisure facilities in the district, as a result of government initiatives.
- c) County Councillor Report: Cllr I Ratcliffe reported on DCC's measures to address the economic downturn by making sure market towns are supported. The Clerk reminded members that a presentation on retail training and buy local schemes would be given to the Annual Towns Meeting on 5 May. Cllr I Ratcliffe gave details of donations she had made from her leadership fund to various local projects. She also reported that DCC had been declared a 4* rated Council.
- d) Police Matters: There was no member of the Police Force present at the meeting, and members expressed disappointment at this fact.

C0123/08 Minutes of the Meeting of the Wirksworth Town Council dated 16 March 2009:

The minutes of the Meeting of Wirksworth Town Council dated 16 March 2009 were confirmed as a correct record.

C0124/08 Town Mayor's Announcements:

The Mayor reported on events he had attended since the last meeting.

C0125/08 Minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee dated 16 March and 6 April 2009:

RESOLVED That the minutes and recommendations of the Environment & Planning Committee dated 16 March and 6 April 2009 be approved.

C0126/08 Minutes and recommendations of the Town and Finance Committee dated 20 April 2009:

Cllr Maskrey asked for clarification on Minute TF179/08 Waltham House Railings. He felt it was inappropriate for the Town Council to make application for planning permission on behalf of Housing 21, in order to reduce the application costs, and asked the Clerk to confirm that DALC advice supported his view. The Clerk confirmed this and Cllr Maskrey proposed that the minute to be referred back to Town & Finance for further consideration.

This proposal was put to the meeting but on taking a vote, the proposal was defeated. Cllr Maskrey asked that his vote for the proposal be recorded. Cllr Whittall abstained as he had not been present at the Town & Finance meeting.

RESOLVED That the minutes and recommendations of the Town and Finance Committee dated 20 April 2009 be approved.

C0127/08 Accounts Paid – March:

RESOLVED That payment of the attached accounts in the sum of £14942.32 be formally approved.

C0128/08 Town Councillor Representative Reports:

Twinning: Cllr M Ratcliffe reported that two twinning visits would take place in May, when visitors from Die and Frankenau would be welcomed to the town.

Scarecrow Festival: Cllr M Ratcliffe reported that the Scarecrow Festival would be held once again this year, to coincide with the Spring Bank Holiday and the Welldressings/Carnival weekend.

Stoney Wood: Cllr Pollock reported that a meeting was to be held to discuss the overall future and development of the Wood, and all were welcome to attend.

Gorse Bank: Cllr Pollock reported that a Residents Association meeting had been held, and an activity afternoon was planned for 6 June. He thanked the County Cllr for her donation to the Gorse Bank Playing Fields improvements.

Festival: Cllr Brown reported that the Festival had prepared a business plan and strategy for the next 3 years, which had been submitted to the Arts Council in order to secure further funding.

Care Centre: Cllr I Ratcliffe reported that the Trustees had a new Chair, and gave an update on the present position with regard to the rental/purchase of the flats, and the proposed provision of a respite flat.

C0129/08 Information:

i) Correspondence:

- a. From DCC – Temporary Traffic Regulation Order 2009 (circulated) – Cllrs expressed some concerns about the diversion route and the problems the highways work would pose for motorists.

ii) Tabled at meeting:

a. DALC Circulars

- 11/2009 : General Circular - Age Discrimination; Managing the safety of burial grounds; ALSF, DALGS.
- 12/2009 : UK Consultation on European Commission proposal on Bus and Coach Passenger Rights.
- 13/2009 : General Circular – Executive Meeting February 2009; Final Salary Award 2008/9; DALC Minutes.
- 15/2009 : Training Circular – Chairmen; Law & Good Practice.
- 16/2009 : CiLCA Training

Cllr Bark reminded Cllrs that this was his last full Council meeting before the appointment of a new Mayor, and thanked members for their support over the last year. Cllrs expressed their thanks to Cllr Bark for his hard work as Mayor over the last year.

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The meeting closed at 7.20 pm

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Chairman