

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2009 AT 6.30 PM**

**C148/08 Present:** Cllr F Bark, Cllr D Brown, Cllr K Frith, Cllr D Haspel, Cllr S Maskrey, Cllr M Ratcliffe.

In attendance: PC Ayre, PC Millard, County Cllr G Purdy, District Cllr P Slack, Mrs J Walls (Town Clerk).

**C149/08 Apologies for absence:** Cllr A Clamp, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr I Ratcliffe.

**C150/08 Members' Interests in Agenda Items:**

None declared.

**C151/08 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.
- c) County Councillor Report: Cllr G Purdy had circulated a written report prior to the meeting.
- d) Police Matters: A report was given on the Casualty Reduction Team's presence in the town, a bid for further CCTV funding, and other local police issues.

**C152/08 Minutes of the Meeting of the Wirksworth Town Council:**

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

**C153/08 Town Mayor's Announcements:**

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

**C154/08 Minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee:**

**RESOLVED** That the minutes and recommendations of the Environment & Planning Committee dated 7 December 2009 be approved.

**C155/08 Minutes and recommendations of the Town and Finance Committee:**

Cllr Haspel pointed out that both traders and businesses in the town had made donations to the Christmas Lights scheme. This was noted.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes and recommendations of the Town and Finance Committee dated 14 December 2009 be approved.

**C156/08 Accounts Paid – Nov:**

**RESOLVED** That payment of the attached accounts in the sum of £10247.48 be formally approved.

**C157/08 Town Councillor Representative Reports:**

Bolehill: Cllr Haspel reported on the progress with the car park and clarified the situation with regard to the walling.

Bolehill: Cllr Brown reported that BIG would be taking over the bookings for the Maydale Room, and proposals were being investigated with regard to the possible wider use of the Chapel.

Festival: Cllr Brown was pursuing the request for a copy of the Festival accounts.

**RESOLVED** That the reports be noted.

**C158/08 Future of the Learner Pool – update on further information received:**

Cllrs were reminded that they had requested further information and a joint meeting, before formulating a collective view on any proposals put forward. The joint meeting had been held, which had proved useful, and a further meeting had been provisionally arranged for March, when the results of the consultation were available, and DDDC have had time to consider these results.

A draft response from the Town Council to the consultation had been prepared, and circulated to members, as follows:

*Following meetings with representatives of the DRCC and the Anthony Gell School Foundation Governors, Wirksworth Town Council now welcomes this opportunity to respond to the consultation on the future of the Wirksworth Learner Pool.*

*Councillors all agree that the most important consideration is that this pool should be maintained, sustained and promoted as a facility for the continuing benefit of the community.*

*Whilst it may be useful and appropriate to enlarge the current trust which oversees the pool by the inclusion of local stakeholders, it is unlikely that the Town Council would be in a position to be such a member. It is noted that an outcome of this enlargement may be the ability to attract external funding, however the Town Council would be opposed to the dilution and diminishing of the role of the Derbyshire Dales District Council if this were to weaken and undermine the long term viability of the Learner Pool.*

*It is also noted that capital funding is required for improvement, modification and adaptation to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act, in this respect it is unlikely that the Town Council would be able to make any significant contribution for this or indeed future maintenance needs.*

*It is recommended that management and staffing of the Learner Pool should come under the responsibility of the Wirksworth Leisure Centre.*

*Finally the Council feels that it would be of interest to learn of any other non-council led trust operating in Derbyshire and of their successes in obtaining external funds.*

**RESOLVED** That the draft response be approved, and a copy sent to Rural Action Derbyshire.

**C159/08 Information:**

The following documents had been circulated, for information:

Correspondence:

a. From DCC re temporary closure of Library for refurbishment (circulated)

ii) Tabled at meeting:

a. DALC Circulars

- 61/2009 : DCC Parish & Town Council Forum October 2009
- 62/2009 : Training Winter 2010
- 63/2009 : Training 2010
- 64/2009 : General Circular – Membership; S137 Limit for 2010/11

b. The Playing Field (DRCC Newsletter) Autumn 2009

c. Raretrack – Steeple Grange Light Railway Society Newsletter November 2009

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The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

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Chairman