

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 19 DECEMBER 2011 AT 6.30 PM**

C068/11 Present: Cllr D Brown, Cllr A Clamp, Cllr B Dew, Cllr D Haspel, Cllr S Maskrey, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr I Ratcliffe, Cllr P Taylor.

In attendance: Tim Braund, River Ecclesbourne Project, County Cllr G Purdy, District Cllr P Slack, PC Millard, Mrs J Walls (Town Clerk)

C069/11 Apologies for Absence: Cllr M Ratcliffe.

C070/11 Members' Interests in Agenda Items:

None reported.

C071/11 Open Forum:

a) Police Matters: PC Millard gave details of recent incidents in the town, and the resulting action being taken. PC Millard was thanked, together with his colleagues, for their hard work over the year.

PC Millard left the meeting at 6.40pm

b) Tim Braund, River Ecclesbourne Project: The Mayor welcomed Mr Braund to the meeting. Mr Braund raised the issue of high levels of phosphate in the river. A multi-agency partnership had been formed and plans were being formulated to address several issues, but it was hoped that the Town Council could become actively involved in some way, and it was suggested that Wirksworth could become a low phosphate town. It was also hoped that the issue of invasive weed species could be addressed at the same time. The partnership hoped to have an action plan in place within 12 months. Mr Braund was thanked for attending, and was asked to forward further information to the Town Council via the Town Clerk.

Mr Braund left the meeting at 6.50pm

c) Public Forum: No members of the public were present.

d) District Councillor Reports: Cllr P Slack had circulated a written report to the meeting.

Cllr Haspel & District Cllr Slack left the meeting at 7.10pm

e) County Councillor Report: Cllr G Purdy had circulated a written report to the meeting.

Open Forum closed at 7.15pm and County Cllr left the meeting at 7.15pm

C072/11 Minutes of the Meeting of the Wirksworth Town Council:

The minutes of the Meeting of Wirksworth Town Council dated 21 November 2011 were confirmed as a correct record.

C073/11 Town Mayor's Announcements:

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

C074/11 Minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee:

RESOLVED That the minutes and recommendations of the Environment & Planning Committee dated 5 December 2011 be approved.

C075/11 Minutes and recommendations of the Town and Finance Committee:

RESOLVED That the minutes and recommendations of the Town and Finance Committee dated 12 December 2011 be approved.

C076/11 Accounts November 2011:

RESOLVED That payment of the attached accounts in the sum of £12153.96 be formally approved.

C077/11 Approval of the final draft budget and precept figure for 2012-13, as recommended by the Town & Finance Committee on 12 December 2011:

The Town & Finance Committee had now prepared a final draft budget producing a precept figure for 2012-13 in the sum of £118507 and this was presented to the Town Council for acceptance.

RESOLVED That the final draft budget and precept figure of £118507 for 2012-13 be approved by the Town Council.

C078/11 Town Councillor Representative Reports:

Heritage Centre: Cllr Brown reported that recent funding bids had failed, but a further funding application had been submitted, with a view to improving Crown Yard kitchen and updating the Heritage Centre, to make it more relevant to the town.

Wirksworth Festival: Cllr Brown reported that the newly appointed Chair of the Festival had resigned at the first meeting.

Wirksworth & District Trust Fund: Cllr I Ratcliffe had attended her first meeting of the Trust.

Anthony Gell Almshouses Trustees: Cllr I Ratcliffe reported that the Trustees had appealed against a planning decision. The Inspector was due to visit the site prior to making a decision on the appeal, but DDDC had cancelled the visit, so further information was not available at this time. Heating upgrades were currently taking place at the Almshouses.

NOW: Cllr Clamp reported that the final payment of the revenue grant for the skatepark was now being released.

Twinning Association: Cllr Taylor reported that the Association had a new Chair. Plans were under way for an official twinning visit in 2013.

Fairtrade: Cllr Dew reported that a meeting was to be held in the New Year, and that a hosting event was being planned for producers who were being invited to the town.

Stoney Wood: Cllr Pollock reported on events at the Wood planned for Christmas week, including a lantern walk, and a choral presentation at the Stardisc by Raise Your Voices. Cllr Pollock praised the Stoney Wood Group for their efforts in this connection.

Gorsey Bank: Cllr Pollock reported that he would be attending a meeting shortly, to try and move forward applications for further grant aid.

RESOLVED That the reports be noted.

C079/11 Information:

The following documents had been circulated, for information:

- i) Correspondence:
 - a. From DDDC Calendars and Christmas Refuse Collection Arrangements

- ii) Tabled at meeting:
 - a. DALC Circulars (circulated):
 - 55/2011 : General – Paye Penalties; Qualifying Period for Unfair Dismissal Claims to Increase 2012; ACAS Guidance on Social Networking; Localism : Local Action Plan in Partnership; Vacancy
 - 56/2011 : NALC Consultation – Neighbourhood Planning Regulations; Community Infrastructure Levy; Local Government Pension Scheme
 - 57/2011 : General – Financial Inclusion in Derbyshire; Community Payback; Discounts to Local Councils; Vacancy
 - 58/2011 : Derbyshire County Council Parish Liaison
 - 59/2011: General – Localism Bill receives royal assent; Vacancies.
 - 60/2011 : General – Technical Reforms of Council Tax; Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum November 2011; Parish Council Finance; Vacancy

- b. DDDC Arts Matters Winter 2011
- c. Raretrack Newsletter October 2011

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The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

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Chairman

