

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SILSDEN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON
THURSDAY 3rd January 2013**

Commenced 7.30pm

Concluded 9.00pm

Present: Cllrs A Conway, Huggins, Naylor, Jump and Atkinson. Police [1] Public [5]

Cllr Atkinson in the chair.

1. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Bell-Jump, Savage, K Conway, Robinson and Croft. The council also noted and accepted the resignation of Lee Asquith. A letter of thanks to be sent and BMDC notified.
2. No declaration of interest on items on the agenda was made.
3. POLICE update was given it was noted that 20 crimes had been committed in the area over the last month with 11 being burglaries, arrests made accounted for 9 of these burglaries.
4. The minutes of the meetings of Silsden Town Council held on 6th Dec 2012 were signed as a true and accurate record.
5. ADJOURNMENT – PUBLIC ENQUIRIES – None requested
6. Noted Cllr Thornton’s response to our questions regarding make up of the steering group. “In broad terms the aims of a Steering Group will be to oversee the development of the project to transition and thereafter to ensure that the premises and activities meet and continue to meet the needs of the community and its users. Initially it would meet monthly. It is envisaged that the Steering Group will comprise the following: Estate Manager (chair), Public Halls Manager, Principal Libraries Officer, a Ward Councillor, and a representative each from the Town Council, User Group, Community Groups, and Disabled Forum. Discussions on setting up and participation in the Steering Group will take place in the New Year whereupon revised proposals will also be available. Council officers will contact you with details nearer the time”. The clerk to ask for clarification of the term ‘user group’ ‘community groups’ and ‘disabled forum’ [we have had a request from a member of the public who wishes to be on this forum for the disabled] and which ones as proposed to be included, as this council believes it needs to be as wide a representation as possible, the description as disabled compliant as possible – what does this mean a proper access ramp is paramount but health and safety measures means that it must not impede either disabled or abled bodies wishing to use the pavement to walk past the Town Hall. The council noted this proposal is to increase the footfall into the Town Hall please can you clarify how you envisage this happening? If the ramp was created would it be transferred to the ownership of the building and if so what impact will this have on the utilities companies, given that their access is located in that area.
7. Setting of Precept –Having taken into account the reduction in base rate figures, possible capping next year and the £11.5k required to cover the cost of one election the council has proposed to set the precept at £50700 for the coming financial year. This figure will be subject to full ratification at the February 2013 main meeting.

8. ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE.

Agreed the following payments:

L Gatenby	Salary	1160	40.00
N Varnam	garden service	1161	152.00
Faxsol	webhosting	1162	240.00
L Corcoran	Salary	1163	657.65
Mrs G Bazylewicz	Salary	1164	72.71
IR	Tax	1165	38.72

9. PLANNING:

12/04957/FUL | Installation of a single micro scale wind turbine (14.97m to hub, 5.6m diameter blades) | Green Acres Fishbeck Lane Silsden West Yorkshire BD20 0NP-
Objection on grounds as detrimental to the visual amenity and greenbelt setting.

10. BMDC consultation on enlargement of primary schools- Noted the following response sent after consultation with Aireview and Steeton Primary.

Following these meetings all parties have agreed upon the same remedy as a solution for the problem of expansion of either Aireview or Steeton the points they made are as follows: The expansion of Steeton by means of a new build whilst welcome would be problematic both in terms of planning consent and in the constraints this would have on the day to day running of the school - playground facilities, dining hall capacity, no whole school assembly. The vehicular access to the school is severely constrained at present with no possibility of improvement to accommodate additional cars. The preferred option is to expand Aireview by means of a new build preferably located near the reception block. This would utilise the larger playground and provide modern fit for purpose teaching facilities. Expansion by internal reorganisation may be required but this should be limited as this option is far from ideal given the nature of the Victorian building which houses most of the school. Vehicular access for Aireview is better set out than that available at Steeton. This option would have the benefit of providing increased capacity in Silsden which should reduce the need for Silsden children to go to Steeton thus increasing the opportunity for Steeton children to go to a Steeton school which would be in line with extant planning permissions in both Steeton and Silsden for residential housing.

11. Council looked at plans and agreed that they liked the plans in principal, though no seating is to be included. Cllr Jump will arrange further meetings with the gardeners and Cllrs Bell-Jump, Atkinson and Conway. To finalise plans to bring back before council with costings for ratification.

12. In partnership with Parks and Landscapes homes have been found for the 60 saplings from the woodland trust. These should be planted around March time. The council has agreed to fund 60 tree shelters at approximately £200 for the saplings.

13. REPORTS To note any other verbal reports from councillors

FH stated he was still investigating the idea of a monthly mixed market and council agreed to ask residents whether they thought this an acceptable idea or not via the next consultation.

AN along with SEG are looking to do a major clear up of the beck and would like the council to consider match funding of no more than £1000 to ensure the project goes ahead. Council could only agree in principal at this point and an official request once figures known should be submitted to full council.

14. Agreed the date for next meeting as the 7th of Feb. 2013

Being no further business the chair closed the meeting at 9pm.

.....
Chair
7/2/13