

**Minutes of the
Meeting of Heanor and Loscoe Town Council
held in the Town Hall, Heanor on 3 February 2022**

PRESENT: Councillors E Hamilton (Mayor), S Bower, C Cox,
C Emmas-Williams, J Gilbert, S Grainger, B Gration,
C Gration, K Hill, S Hind, P Jones, A Longdon,
J Stones and J Ward

Also present: K Greaves (Deputy Town Clerk)
Representatives from Heanor Weenies and Heanor Vision were present for
the presentation of cheques.

The Town Mayor presented cheques to representatives from Heanor Weenies and Heanor Vision.

AGENDA

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

120 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Burrell (work), S Danvers (work), S Hart (family), T Holmes (illness), S Kruczkowski (holiday) and S Oakes (family)

Resolved: These apologies for absence were noted.

121 Declaration of Members Interests/Update of Register

The following declarations of interests were received:

Agenda Item 12 Planning/Environment/Licensing

Councillor E Hamilton – personal – member of AVBC Planning Board – leave the meeting

Councillor S Grainger – personal – member of AVBC Planning Board – leave the meeting

122 Dispensations

No request for dispensation received.

123 Public Speaking

Public Matters

No public present and no matter raised.

Police Matters

No Police present and no matter raised.

County Council

No report.

Borough Council

No report.

Outside Bodies

No report.

123 Public Speaking (cont.)

Leaders Report by Councillor Paul Jones

Capital Spend and Town Centre Action Plan

I am awaiting confirmation from Simon Gladwin of when to meet to discuss our proposals and, hopefully, link them in with the Future High Street Fund proposals if possible. I think members will agree that the capital programme ideas link in well with the Town Centre Action plan circulated by Cllr Kruczkowski at the last meeting.

Government Changes to Planning Legislation

I regret to inform members that our local MP still refuses to respond to our correspondence on this matter. It is now 17 months since our initial correspondence with him.

Future High Street Fund

I attended the Borough Councils last Full Council meeting to make representations on behalf of the Town Council supporting the purchase of the former Grammar School site, as did Cllr Kruczkowski. I am sure it was the eloquence of our arguments that persuaded the Borough Council to proceed.

As a consequence of the decision, I attended the first meeting of the Programme Board on Tuesday. Unfortunately, much of the conversation was confidential. However, I can tell members that the Borough Council recognised the significant financial contribution by the Town Council. I also, clarified, that our funding was for the development of the former Grammar School site only.

I think we must be prepared to recognise that because the funding only covers 69% of the original proposals some scaling back of the original wish list is inevitable and the community will need to recognise that when they are consulted.

The Borough Council are hoping to announce the consultants by the end of the week and they will be judged on their proposals and also how they intend to engage with us and our community about our aspirations for the whole site.

Just to remind members what the main areas for development are and the three distinct parts;

- **Heart of Heanor**

The central Market Place will continue to form the heart of the town centre, offering flexible space to support business, events, and public enjoyment. The redevelopment of the market square and aim to secure improved connectivity through public transport enhancement and pedestrian routes into the heart of the town linking pedestrian walkways to improve enjoyment of the area.

- **Heanor Hub**

The restoration and repurposing of the site of the former Heanor Grammar School is a key aspiration of the High Street bid. The project brings back this much-loved building for mixed-use business and community development and the provision of leisure facilities, which could include a cinema and food and beverage outlets on the site to encourage greater use of the town centre in the evenings. Car parking within the wider town centre will be enhanced.

- **Heanor is Home**

The development of approximately 40 affordable town centre family homes. The council are working with partners to deliver quality homes and affordable town centre living and regenerate an area of under-utilised land. The homes are dependent on securing a developer partner and will offer greater choice and availability of residential property in

123 Public Speaking (cont.)

Leaders Report by Councillor Paul Jones (cont.)

the heart of the town centre, to allow residents to enjoy easy access on foot to the town and its facilities

This is indeed an ambitious plan which must be delivered by March 2024 and so carries a number of risks because of the tight timescale.

I think it is important to make members aware that although they may not see things happening on the ground in the short-term, work is being carried out to ensure the schemes are delivered.

I am aware of a public meeting being organised by Heanor Vision for Thursday 17th February 2022, 7pm - 9pm. It has been appreciated by Heanor Vision that this may be a bit too soon for any meaningful information to be shared with the community. Therefore, I am proposing that the Town Council arrange a similar meeting in March, when, more information will be available. This may be a daytime and evening one to ensure we get the maximum attendance and engagement.

Finally, for this to stack up financially there will be a housing element to the development so people will need to recognise that.

Charles Hill

Whilst attending last week's Amber Valley Borough Council Full Council meeting supporting the purchase of the former Grammar School there was a question from Cllr Ben Bellamy to Cllr Kevin Buttery about the letter from the Charles Hill CIO requesting the Borough Council make up the shortfall. In Cllr Buttery's response to the question, he made a number of slanderous comments about the Town Council's role in the delay in developing the scheme. He was either badly advised by the officers or ignorant of the facts. I am not sure which.

I did make Cllr Buttery aware during the meeting of my disagreement with him on his comments.

For information the Town Council wrote 22 emails about it up until May 2019, 14 up until May 2020 and 18 from May 2021 to November 2021. A total of 54.

I intend to write to Cllr Buttery outlying a true and accurate reflection of what has happened and requesting that the Borough Council actually engage with the Town Council on the lease which we wrote confirming we agreed in September 2021, subject to negotiation, but to which they have not begun to negotiate with us.

Welcome Back Fund

We will, hopefully, be making use of the Welcome Back Fund and I must thank the officers and Cllr Kruczkowski for their hard work on this. There will be a number of events on it which will include amongst other things;

Face painting

Sit and chat bench outside the Town Hall

Painting of the Heanor Memorial Park Gates

Childrens Rides

T-rex and Raptor Characters

123 Public Speaking (cont.)

Leaders Report by Councillor Paul Jones (cont.)

Dinosaur Trail
Street Artists
Pizza Trail Van

Boundary Commission

Members will see in the Clerk's report a reference to the boundary commission report. It is very easy to ignore this and not recognise the importance of what it says.

In respect of the Ward changes to the Amber Valley seats. The report recognises the concerns the Town Council had about the process but ignored those and stated it was for Amber Valley to address those. As a consequence, the number of Borough Councillors representing our area on Amber Valley will be reduced from 6 to 5 by merging the Wards of Heanor West and Heanor and Loscoe and having a 3 member ward instead of the 4 members now. Heanor East will retain its 2 ward members. Having read the report, I have yet to understand their rationale behind this. Although they have done the same with Codnor and Langley Mill, so it is evident they have no understanding of communities The local Conservatives wanted to merge Codnor with Loscoe and Langley Mill with Mapperley.

In respect of the wards of Heanor and Loscoe Town Council this decision is even more bizarre. Of the only three Parish Councils they looked at, they proposed that Belper have 16 Councillors in 4 Wards for a population of 21823 giving it an average per councillor of 1363, Heanor and Loscoe 21 Councillors in 4 Wards for a population of 17251 giving it an average per Councillor of 821 and Ripley having Councillors in 10 wards for a population of 19726 giving an average per Councillor of 939. For the Borough they were looking for an average per Councillor of 2536. So, no consistency there.

The other illogical decision by the Commission was to increase the number of wards in Heanor and Loscoe from 3 to 4 with the following wards:

Heanor East 7 members
Heanor West 6 members
Loscoe 7 members
And a new Ward Heanor Central 1 member.

The new ward will be based upon one side of Holbrook Street, Hands Road and Mansfield Road based upon a single electoral register for the current HWH. So, they have taken out a polling district from the current Heanor West seat and created this stand-alone seat for the Town Council. It just goes to show that their decision making makes no sense at all. These decisions will come into effect for the May 2023 election when we will have both the Town Council elections and all our Borough Council elections. I will be writing to the boundary commission for an explanation.

124 Minutes

The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 13 January 2022 having been circulated to members, were approved as a correct record, and duly signed by the mayor.

125 Items to be taken in Exclusion

Resolved: No agenda items to taken in Exclusion.

126 Town Mayors Announcements

The Town Mayor had attended the opening of the Showhomes at the Shipley Lakeside Development.

127 Town Council – Items for Decision/Action

(a) Supporting Communities – Youth Action Grant Report.
Members received the above report.

Resolved: The above document is noted.

128 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

Newsletter January 2022.

Resolved: The above document is received.

129 Finance

(a) Bacs Payments (December - wages January)

Payee	Description	Nett	Vat	Gross
Staff	Salary/Wages/Mayoral allow	4256.25	00.00	4256.25
Opus Energy	Gas supply – TH + WS	981.91	196.38	1178.29
Opus Energy	Gas supply – FS	117.97	5.90	123.87
AVBC	Rates	1237.00	00.00	1237.00
AVBC	Replacement bin	20.00	00.00	20.00
Morris Vermaport	Lift service - TH	57.50	11.50	69.00
Ricoh Uk	Photocopier rental/copies	108.63	21.73	130.36
DRAX	Electricity supply – TH	462.48	92.49	554.97
Page Whelan	Certificates	65.00	13.00	78.00
Pictorial	Xmas banner	50.00	10.00	60.00
SJAB	First aid cover	327.00	65.40	392.40
AMP Electrical	Outside Lights - WS	315.00	63.00	378.00
Tudor Landscapes	Decorating - WS	925.00	00.00	925.00
R Mullard	Update Mayor's Board	45.00	00.00	45.00
Pictorial	Door sign	25.00	5.00	30.00
Tudor Landscapes	Decorating - WS	485.00	00.00	485.00
Excel	Hand sanitiser	39.90	7.98	47.88
Petty Cash	Various	87.66	10.60	98.26
Viking	Postage/stationery	202.37	14.37	216.74
Pictorial	Noticeboard repairs	75.00	15.00	90.00
HMRC	PAYE, NI	1020.44	00.00	1020.44
Page Whelan	Christmas cards	138.00	27.60	165.60
Derbyshire CC	Superannuation	923.14	00.00	923.14
XLN	3 x line rental + calls/broadband	216.21	43.24	259.45
Total		12181.46	603.19	12784.65

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts at a cost of £12,784.65.

129 Finance (cont.)

(b) Income for December 2021

Town Hall lettings	1323.75
Fire Station	2000.00
Town Hall Rents	333.33
Environment/events	440.00
Wilmot Street	3185.75
Town Hall	314.10
Total	7596.93

Resolved: This information is received.

(c) Bank Reconciliation – December 2021

Resolved: This information is received.

130 Items for Information

(a) Clerk's Report

University Hospital Derby & Burton Trust has confirmed that they are able to extend the telephone appointment system for the phlebotomy service at the Old Fire Station, Heanor to 31 March 2022. The phonenumber will be open for making appointment from 12.00 noon to 1.00pm on 01332 789309.

Change in Polling Station for May 2022 Elections:

William Gregg VC Leisure Centre will replace Marlpool Junior School.

Lockton Avenue Playing Fields Changing Rooms will replace Heanor Children's Centre.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published final recommendations setting out new electoral arrangements in Amber Valley. Information relating to the review is available at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/east-midlands/derbyshire/amber-valley>.

Alan Longdon has been co-opted as the Councillor for Heanor East Ward.

Resolved: This information is received.

Councillor E Hamilton and S Grainger left the meeting at this point.

Councillor K Hill took the chair.

131 Planning/Environment/Licensing

AVA/2022/0007 – 39B Lockton Avenue, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7EQ

Proposed two storey rear extension.

PDR/2021/0062 – Heanor Home Discount 1 Godfrey Street, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7GD

Application to determine if prior approval is required for conversion of shop to residential dwelling.

PDR/2021/0063 – Old Bakery, 1 Godfrey Street, Heanor, Derbyshire

Prior notification for a proposed change of use from Class E to two C3 dwelling houses.

AVA/2022/0020 – 27 Coppice Drive, Marlpool, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7BW

Two storey side extension.

131 Planning/Environment/Licensing (cont.)

AVA/2022/0017 – 69 Laceyfields Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7HL
Construction of three detached residential bungalows.

The Town Council objects to this application.

This site is at the junction with Breach Road and very close to another junction, that with Meadow Gardens.

The access from Laceyfields Road would seem to be shared with no.69 which crosses the footway near the two junctions. This could prove problematic with movement of a number of vehicles in all directions at the same time.

The access to the proposed properties would be very steep and could be dangerous in icy conditions. Should permission be granted it should include a condition that all hard surfacing is of a permeable material.

The plots themselves have very little private amenity space.

The proposed boundary treatment with the planting of an evergreen hedge does not compensate for the loss of what already exists and would affect wildlife and contribute to climate change.

Councillor E Hamilton and S Grainger returned to the meeting. Councillor E Hamilton returned to the chair.

132 Date of Next Town Council Meeting – Thursday 3 March 2022