

**Minutes of the  
Meeting of Heanor and Loscoe Town Council  
held in the Town Hall, Heanor on 2 February 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillors E Hamilton (Mayor), S Bower, M Burrell, C Cox, J Gilbert, S Grainger, B Gration, C Gration, S Hind, P Jones, T Holmes, J Stones, and J Ward

**Also present:** L West (Town Clerk), K Greaves (Deputy Clerk), Leigh Turner – Future High Street Fund Project Manager, AVBC, PC 14937, PC 15832 and one member of the public.

**AGENDA**

**PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**140 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Emmas-Williams (prior commitment), S Kruczkowski (holiday) and S Oakes (prior engagement).

**Resolved:** These apologies for absence were noted.

**141 Declaration of Members Interests/Update of Register**

Agenda item 10 (c) - Charles Hill Playing Fields Development

Councillor E Hamilton – pecuniary – Trustee Charles Hill CIO

Councillor S Grainger – personal – member of AVBC

Councillor J Stones – personal – member of AVBC

Agenda item 10 (d) PWLB Application

Councillor E Hamilton – pecuniary – Trustee Charles Hill CIO

Councillor S Grainger – personal – member of AVBC

Councillor J Stones – personal – member of AVBC

Agenda item 14 – Planning/Environment/Licensing

Councillor S Grainger – personal – member of Amber Valley Borough Council Planning Board.

**142 Requests for Dispensation**

No request for dispensation received.

**143 Public Speaking**

Public Matters

No public question was raised.

Police Matters

PC Lambert 14937 reported to members that December 2022 figures show a decrease in anti-social behaviour, current hotspots are Tesco, Mount Street and Heanor Market Place. There was an increase in nuisance motorbikes and theft from motor vehicles. More Police are being trained on the ANPR system and they are looking to hold a 'safe drive' initiative locally.

Concerns were raised over the problems individuals were having getting through to 101 – the police responded to say more staff would be in place by March and the police can now be contacted via social media.

**143 Public Speaking (cont.)**  
County Council/Borough Council

No report.

Outside Bodies

No report.

Leaders Report submitted by Councillor Paul Jones

UK Prosperity Fund

I understand that the funding for the provision of a Skate Park and BMX area has been approved and that the project will be completed by the summer.

Cuppa with a Copper

I attended the following event at both Salcare and Heanor Community Centre.

Dwelling Place Warm Hub

I attended the first opening of this at the former Mansfield Road Methodist Church. This will be a weekly event every Monday morning 9.30am-12.30pm.

Amber Valley Borough Council

The Nolan principles for anyone wanting to take part in public life includes ‘Honesty, Integrity and Objectivity..’ I am afraid none of these were demonstrated by the leadership of the Borough Council at their Full Council meeting last week. The Leader launched a diatribe against the Town Council stating that the Town Council had renegaded on paying the £300000 towards the redevelopment of the former Grammar school site, that the Town Council had no intention of paying the money, and that any deal with the Town Council was not worth the paper it was written on and any of its pledges worthless. Therefore, they did not want to waste any more officers time dealing with the Town Council.

The proposals the Town Council sent to the Borough Council to agree to support the funding were the same as the Town Council have had since 2019 in the Financial Agreement it has with AVBC in respect of Charles Hill development, with the exception of asking that any income/profit generated by the development should be shared with the Town Council reflecting its investment as the Town Council are the only contributor borrowing money to help finance the scheme and therefore have to protect the investment of the Heanor ratepayers. Obviously, the proposals were subject to negotiation, which AVBC refused to do, and subsequently the Town Council received the letter 10(A). The Deputy Leader of the Borough then stated that the Town Council did not want to pay the money and do not want the people to know the truth.

It is bitterly disappointing that the Borough Council are attacking another public body with such intemperate language without taking the trouble to hold face to face meetings with the Town Council, which it has been asking for since June 2022.

Levelling up application

The Borough Council was unsuccessful in its application for funding to develop the former Science block on the Grammar School site.

Voter ID

The next local election will require mandatory voter ID if you are voting at the polling station. However, it was reported in *The Guardian* earlier this week that just 10,000 people have applied since the scheme opened. That is 0.5% of the total number of people who might need the document. *The Guardian* reports that, at this rate, it would take eight years to issue the new ID to all those who need it.

The Electoral Commission has written to ministers arguing that, due to “insufficient” preparation time, it is no longer possible for the voter ID requirement to be delivered in a way that is “fully secure, accessible and workable” ahead of the elections in May this year.

#### **144 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 12 January 2023, having been circulated to members, were approved as a correct record, and duly signed by the mayor.

#### **145 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 25 January 2023, having been circulated to members, were approved as a correct record, and duly signed by the mayor.

#### **146 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on Wednesday 25 January 2023 were received by members.

#### **147 Items to be taken in Exclusion.**

**Resolved:** No items to be taken in Exclusion.

#### **148 Town Mayors Announcements**

No announcement given.

#### **149 Town Council – Items for Decision/Action**

##### **(a) AVBC – Future High Street Fund**

Amber Valley Borough Council do not accept the terms of the proposed agreement submitted by the Town Council. They have cancelled their initial invoice to the Town Council and will seek an alternative funding source.

**Resolved:** Amber Valley Borough Council's Deputy Leader, Councillor Tony Harper is invited to attend a future meeting of the Town Council.

##### **(b) Leigh Turner – Project Manager – Update on Future High Street Fund Project.**

Leigh Turner updated members on the FHSF project. Mr Turner received and responded to the following questions from members.

Q What is the current situation in relation to the former Science Block?

A There is a Planning Application for demolition (PDR/2023/0001)

Q Will the raising of the Market Place include the front of the shops?

A Yes the Market Place is to be lifted and raised to combat flooding and this will include the front of shops at the rear of the Market Place. The boundary of the site will be shared at public events in February.

Q Why wasn't the Science Block demolished first?

A The Main Building, as a fundamental listed building in the Town Centre, and Heanor Market Place were a priority to obtain the Future High Street Grant. With the main building having a listed status and weather causing significant damage, it had to remain the priority when COVID and the war in Ukraine caused funding issues. AVBC are still exploring financial options to address the building.

Q Who receives income from the Telecom mast?

A The income from the mast is not significant but there are lease agreements for the property owner to receive rental income. The property is owned by AVBC.

**149 Town Council – Items for Decision/Action (cont.)**

(b) Leigh Turner – Project Manager – Update on Future High Street Fund Project. (cont.)

Q How much revenue is received, where can details of this be found?

A I don't have the financial details to give a conclusive answer, but if you submit a Freedom of Information request to the Borough Council, officers will be able to provide a breakdown.

Councillors E Hamilton, S Grainger and J Stones left the meeting.

(c) Charles Hill Playing Fields Development

Having sought legal advice, and following instruction from the Council, the Clerk has responded to the Borough Council's Deed of Variation on the Funding Agreement. AVBC Legal Executive has responded that she is seeking instruction and will revert back as soon as possible.

**Resolved:** This information is received.

(d) PWLB application

The Town Council has made contact with the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils. They have been notified of the Town Council's resolution to take out a PWLB loan to co-fund the Charles Hill Playing Fields Development and subsequently received the application form and process required to be completed before the application will be considered.

**Resolved:** Further action will be subject to a response from ABVC in respect of the Funding Agreement.

Councillors E Hamilton, S Grainger, J Stones returned to the meeting.

**150 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils**

January newsletter.

**Resolved:** The above document is received.

**151 Finance**

(a) Bacs Payments (December - wages January)

Payee	Description	Nett	Vat	Gross
Derbyshire CC	Superannuation	909.18	00.00	909.18
HMRC	Paye, NI	894.46	00.00	894.46
Staff/Mayor	Wages/allowance	4761.84	00.00	4761.84
Pride Electrical	Emergency light repair – TH	130.00	26.00	156.00
De-fib Store	De-fib cabinet	60.00	12.00	72.00
James Hall Plumbing	Drains and radiator	395.00	00.00	395.00
Chubb F & S Ltd	Fire Risk Assessment – TH	489.00	97.80	586.80
Tudor Landscaping	Toilet decorating – WS	193.00	00.00	193.00
Tudor Landscaping	Toilet tiling	238.00	00.00	238.00
AVBC	Rates	1237.00	00.00	1237.00
XLN Telecom	Phone lines and broadband	237.17	47.43	284.60
SJAB	1 <sup>st</sup> Aid Cover – Xmas	375.00	75.00	450.00
Opus Energy	Gas supply – TH&WS	1662.90	332.58	1995.48
Page Whelan	Christmas Cards	168.00	33.60	201.60
Hilltop Visual	Audio/visual equipment	6681.93	1336.38	8018.31

## 151 Finance

### (a) Bacs Payments (December - wages January)

Tudor Landscape	Parish sign	235.00	00.00	235.00
Opus Energy	Gas supply – FS	190.86	9.54	200.40
Pictorial	Xmas correx board	36.00	00.00	36.00
Nat West	Bank charges	22.75	00.00	22.75
Page Whelan	War Graves Leaflet	325.00	00.00	325.00
Pride Electrical	Light to lift plant room	100.00	20.00	120.00
Chubb F & S Ltd	Work to intruder alarm	448.62	89.73	538.35
Ricoh UK Ltd	Photocopier rental/copies	145.35	29.07	174.42
Waterplus	Water supply – WS	80.10	00.00	80.10
Drax Energy	Electricity supply – TH	547.63	109.53	657.16
Drax energy	Electricity supply – TH	482.64	97.94	580.58
<b>Total</b>		<b>21046.43</b>	<b>2316.60</b>	<b>23363.03</b>

**Resolved:** Payment of the above accounts is approved at a cost of £23,363.03

### (b) Income for December 2022

Town Hall lettings	2491.00
Town Hall	00.00
Wilmot Street	2330.50
Fire Station	2000.00
Environment	00.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6821.50</b>

**Resolved:** This information is received.

### (c) Bank Reconciliation – December 2022

**Resolved:** This document is noted.

### (d) Town Council Debit Card

**Resolved:** A Town Council debit card is approved

## 152 Items for Information

### (a) Clerk's Report

#### Councillor Vacancies

Under Section 85 of the Local Government Act (failure to attend meetings for a period of 6 months) Councillor S Danvers has lost her seat on Heanor and Loscoe Town Council.

Under Section 85 of the Local Government Act (failure to attend meetings for a period of 6 months) Councillor S Hart has lost her seat on Heanor and Loscoe Town Council.

#### Planning Application Decision Delays

AVBC have experienced a delay in decision making on applications. This was due to a number of vacant officer positions and a shortfall of planners in the jobs market. There is now a number of planning consultants in place which will hopefully help the burden in the coming months.

The commemorative sculpture is scheduled to be installed in Heanor Memorial Park week commencing 20 March 2023.

The smashed side door of the Town Hall has been repaired. The individual who caused the damage has been identified and has received a summons through the post to attend court.

**152 Items for Information (cont.)**

(b) For Information

Parish and Town Council Liaison Forum – 5.00pm, Monday 13 March 2023 at County Hall, Matlock.

**Resolved:** This information is received.

Councillor S Grainger left the meeting.

**153 Planning/Environment/Licensing**

**AVA/2022/1113 – 3 Stainsby Avenue, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE7 7EL**

Proposed alteration and extension to rear elevation.

**AVA/2022/0843 – Retirement Home, Ashfield House, 34 Mansfield Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7AQ**

Proposed first floor extension to create 8 bedrooms with ensuite and kitchen/living areas.

Councillor S Grainger returned to the meeting.

**154 Date of Next Town Council Meeting – Thursday 2 March 2023.**