

**Minutes of the
Meeting of Heanor and Loscoe Town Council
held in the Town Hall, Heanor on 19 October 2023**

PRESENT: Councillors P Jones (Mayor), N Beswick, S Bower, M Burrell, L Brunelleschi, C M Cox, L Cox, C Emmas-Williams, J Gent, S Goodrum, E Hamilton, V Harvey, M Howard, T Holmes, C Neale, J Stones, A Stevenson and J Ward.

Also present: A Sharpe (Locum Clerk), K Greaves (Deputy Clerk) and 8 Members of the public.

AGENDA

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

055 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Edge, (personal), A Jones (personal) and Z Parr (Other commitments).

Resolved: These apologies for absence were noted.

056 Declaration of Members Interests/Update of Register

Agenda item 22 – Planning/Environmental/Licensing

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

Councillor E Hamilton – personal – member of Amber Valley Borough Council Planning Board.

Councillor T Holmes – personal – member of Amber Valley Borough Council Planning Board.

Planning application AVA/2023/0747

C Emmas-Williams, L Cox, M Beswick and J Ward – personal as member of Amber Valley Borough Council.

Planning application AVA/2023/0687

Councillor P Jones – personal.

Agenda item 14 – Grant Application – funding Henry Garnett Festival

Councillor P Jones - prejudicial.

Agenda item 15 – Grant Application – Funding The Lions Den Boxing Club CIC

S Goodrum – prejudicial.

057 Requests for Dispensation

No request for dispensation received.

058 Public Speaking

Public Matters

The following question(s) were asked by a member of the public and partly answered at the meeting and an email sent with the final response. The question and the response are detailed below.

058 Public Speaking (continued)

Q - Why is £19,455 assigned to uncontested election costs?

This is actually the cost for the recent election as charged by the returning officer at Amber Valley Borough Council. It should read contested election costs.

Q - Locum Clerk spending trajectory means that spending will likely exceed £5,000 on the basis that these services are to be extended. Standing Orders therefore require this service to be subject to formal tender. Providers of temporary staff to councils include Oyster and Pertemps.

The Council disagrees that these staffing costs should be subject to formal tender. Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows local authorities to appoint staff and appoint on such terms as they feel is reasonable.

S112 Appointment of staff.

(1) Without prejudice to section 111 above but subject to the provisions of this Act, a local authority shall appoint such officers as they think necessary for the proper discharge by the authority of such of their or another authority's functions as fall to be discharged by them and the carrying out of any obligations incurred by them in connection with an agreement made by them in pursuance of section 113 below.

(2) An officer appointed under subsection (1) above shall hold office on such reasonable terms and conditions, including conditions as to remuneration, as the authority appointing him think fit.

[F1(2A)A local authority's power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as the authority thinks fit is subject to section 41 of the Localism Act 2011 (requirement for determinations relating to terms and conditions of chief officers to comply with pay policy statement) **[F2**and in relation to a local authority in Wales, section 143A of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (functions of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to **[F3remuneration]** of **[F4chief executives]**).**]]**

Q- £6,064.50 G. Burley and Son and Enchanted Florists Alfreton £39.99. Do Members of the Town Council think that this amount of money could have been better spent on things that would improve the cleanliness of the town centre and perceptions of safety?

The first part is for the summer floral displays and the £39.99 was for a floral gift (delivered). Members of the Town Council make decisions as a whole and as such the Council could not comment on the views of individual Members or indeed views of if the money could have been better spent on other services.

Police Matters

No report.

Outside Bodies

No report.

Borough and County Councillors Reports

The Council received reports from both the Borough Councillor and the County Councillor.

058 Public Speaking (continued)

Leaders Report submitted by Councillor E Hamilton

Members have attended a meeting of the Future High Street Project Board and have held meetings with Amber Valley Borough Council concerning the management and the long-term future of the Charles Hill Community Development. Support also continues for the CIC coffee mornings

We have held a very positive meeting with Heanor Vision concerning joint events within the town. We also shared our Action Plan with them for their public meeting tonight.

Meetings have been held with the Royal British Legion and the Church about the Remembrance Day Parade and the dedication for 'The Fallen' our public work of art.

Negotiations with Amber Valley Borough Council about the need to ensure the Christmas Lights switch on took place. The Town Council's Action Plan has been discussed and this is the first of a regular update. Talks have started with Amber Valley Borough Council about working together to have enhanced cleaning of the Town. Stab boxes are going to be fixed alongside the defibrillators at the Heanor Methodist Church on Derby Road and at the Old Fire Station.

Murals on blank surfaces

Two locations have already been suggested for this and these will be considered in due course.

Market Place

Work has finally started and I have been reassured by all concerned that it will be available for the Town's Christmas event. When finished in March its intended to be a focal point for Heanor and suggestions have already been mentioned about what events can be held in the entertainment area.

Memorial Park

Talks are taking place with Amber Valley Borough Council about making better use of the Memorial Park for events.

Banking Hub

The intention is to have this in the old cash office in the Town Hall. Preliminary talks have taken place with Amber Valley Borough Council, and they are listening to us about our future plans. As well as a Banking Hub I am also looking at the possibility of a Credit Union also being provided.

Repair cafe / make do and mend

Contact enquiries have been made with the area region about this and information is being sent out. Talks also held with a possible venue.

059 Minutes – 07 September 2023

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 07 September 2023, were approved as a correct record, and duly signed by the mayor.

060 Executive Committee Minutes – 29 September 2023

The Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Thursday 29 September 2023, were received and consideration of a number of policies referred to in minute number 8 were deferred to the next council meeting.

In addition, council considered the recommendation to appoint an Assistant to the Town Clerk.

Resolved Andrew Sharpe be appointed as Assistant to the Town Clerk (with powers to act in the absence of the Town Clerk) for a 6-month period (from 1 October 2023) on the terms identified.

061 Town Council Items for Decision Agreed Action

Resolved:

1. The Committee structure and committee terms of reference be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.
2. The Facebook policy submitted is approved.

062 Town Mayors Announcements

Heanor Fire Station Open Day

The Mayor and Mayoress were happy to support the open day at Heanor Fire Station recognising the hard work done by the retained fire officers in Heanor. There were other support services there from the Highway Agency, First Responders and Blood Bikes. A very enjoyable day and an appreciation of what they all do on our behalf.

Mundy C of E Junior School

The Mayor and Mayoress were pleased to accept an invitation from Mundy C of E Junior School to attend their school vision and values meeting.

It was so pleasing to see parents and pupils have such a positive outlook both for our community and the school. The pupils who attended were very articulate and a credit to themselves, their parents and the school. Well done everyone.

Heanor Free Church

The Mayor and Mayoress were happy to support Heanor Free Church Coffee morning and their Harvest Festival.

062 Town Mayors Announcements (continued)

Coppice School Mini Police

The Mayor and Mayoress were pleased to support the local PCSOs in talking to a year 4 class at Coppice School about anti-social behaviour and the role of the Town Council in supporting the community. Following the talk, we all went out onto Lockton Avenue Playing Fields to see what litter and damage we could identify and discuss what we could do to prevent it. At their next class the children will be writing down ideas about what the Town Council can do to help.

063 Items for decision

(a) Christmas Lights switch-on

Resolved: The arrangements for the Christmas lights switch-on on 18 November 2023 were noted and approved.

(b) Remembrance Day Parade 2023

Resolved - that the arrangements for the Remembrance Day Parade on Sunday 12 November were noted and approved.

(c) Christmas Tree Lighting Heanor Memorial Park

Council considered a proposal from Councillor Stevenson to light up a 94ft Christmas tree in Heanor Memorial Park which would cost up to £12,500 over 5 years, plus additional costs for the tree light kits.

Resolved – that contract standing orders be suspended to allow acceptance of the quotations and the Council fund £6,000 towards this event.

(d) Conclusion of Audited Accounts 2022/2023

Resolved: that it be noted that the assurance review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended March 2023 have now been completed by the external auditor. Members had been provided with a copy of the external audit report, comments were noted, and appropriate notice published.

(e) Grant applications

Councillor S Goodrum having declared an interest earlier in the meeting, left the meeting during the discussion of the grant for the Lions Den Boxing Club and Councillor P Jones having declared an interest earlier in the meeting, left the meeting for the grant for Heanor Town Football Club.

Council considered grant applications from The Lions Den Boxing club, Carousel Craft Group and Heanor Town Football Club (for the Henry Garnett Festival).

Resolved - that the following grants be made: -

Heanor Town Football Club £1,500.00

The Lions Den Boxing Club £1,500.00

Carousel Craft Club £250.00

(f) Heanor Cenotaph St. Lawrence Church

Council considered a quotation to clean the Heanor Cenotaph at St. Lawrence Church prior to Remembrance Day.

Resolved that contract standing orders be suspended to allow the letting of the contract to IMI at a cost of £1,950.00 + VAT.

(g) Town Hall Clock

Council considered a quotation from Time Assured Limited to repair the Town Hall clock.

Resolved – that contract standing orders be suspended to allow the letting of a contract with Time Assured Limited to repair the Town Hall clock at a cost of £1,550.00 + VAT.

064 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

September Newsletter

Resolved: The above document is received.

065 Finance

(a) Bacs Payments (August)

Payee	Description	Nett	Vat	Gross
Staff	Wages	4,768.80	00.00	4768.80
HMRC	Paye, NI	849.97	00.00	849.97
Derbyshire CC	Superannuation	1,004.06	00.00	1,004.06
Drax Energy	Electricity supply	367.89	73.58	441.47
Ripley Glass	Window repairs – ICR Town Hall	520.00	104.00	624.00
Waterplus	Water supply – TH	306.53	0.00	306.53
Waterplus	Water supply – TH	33.22	0	33.22
G Burley & Sons Ltd	Floral display	6,064.50	1,212.90	7,277.40
James Hall Plumbing	Leak – WS	70.00	0.00	70.00
Viking	Toilet tissue, stationery & cleaning materials	116.94	23.39	140.33
Chubb Fire & Security	Fire Alarm - OFS	197.77	39.55	237.32
Dormakaba UK Ltd	Maintenance contract	287.00	57.40	344.40
William Frost (Heanor) Ltd	Car park rental rear of Town Hall 1.08.23-31.01.24	850.00	0.00	850.00
Wish Cloud Ltd	New web pages	96.00	00.00	96.00
Enchanted Rose Florist	Flowers	39.99	0.00	39.99
AVBC	Rates	1,266.00	00.00	1,266.00
Waterplus	Water supply – WS	102.66	0.00	102.66
Descale & Chlorination Services Ltd	Water monitoring	240.00	48.00	288.00
Tudor Landscapes	Grass cutting - WS	127.50	0.00	127.50
Pictorial	Sign	20.00	4.00	24.00
Tudor Landscapes	Grass cutting – Winding Wheel	59.50	0.00	59.50
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	Fire Alarm – WS	565.57	113.11	678.68
Andrew Sharpe	Locum Clerk fees	210.00	0.00	210.00
Blue Gecko IT	IT services	45.00	0.00	45.00
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	Fire Alarm – TH	212.31	42.46	254.77
Tudor Landscapes	Maintenance – WS	81.31	0.00	81.31
AVBC	Costs uncontested election	19,455.74	0.00	19,455.74
Viking	Stationery & cleaning materials	111.79	22.36	134.15
Andrew Sharpe	Locum Clerk fees	603.75	0.00	603.75
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	Fire Alarm – WS	152.22	30.44	182.66
Opus Energy	Gas supply – OFS	8.87	0.44	9.31
Drax Energy	Electricity supply – TH	373.59	74.71	448.30
Opus Energy	Gas supply – TH	9.12	0.46	9.58
XLN	Phone lines & broadband	219.42	43.88	263.30
Smartest Energy	Gas supply – WS	60.27	3.01	63.28
Natwest	Bank charges	20.30	0.00	20.30
Cleaver Thompson	Legal advice	300.00	60.00	360.00
Andrew Sharpe	Locum Clerk fees	548.25	0.00	548.25
Total		40,365.84	1,953.69	42,319.53

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts is approved at a total of £42,319.53.

065 Finance (continued)

(b) Income for August 2023

Town Hall lettings	2143.50
Town Hall	122.12
Wilmot Street	967.75
Fire Station	1000.00
VAT Refund	12,897.08
Total	17,130.45

Resolved: This information is received.

(c) To receive June, July and August 2023 Bank Reconciliation.

Resolved: These documents are received.

066 Clerk's Report

(a) Remembrance Day and Christmas lights

The Clerk reported on the arrangements for the road closures for the above 2 events and noted the costs for marshalling the road closures would be approximately £1,000 for both using Derbyshire 4x4 Response.

Resolved – These costs be approved.

(b) **New Lighting for Christmas Market Stalls**

Resolved that the quote from CEF for new lighting pendants for the market be approved at a cost of £966.30 + VAT

(c) **FOI Complaint**

Resolved that Council note a recent FOI complaint had been accepted by the Information Commissioners Office for investigation.

(d) **Christmas Lights Fireworks**

Resolved Dynamite Fireworks to provide the fireworks for the Christmas lights switch-on at a cost of £3,500.00 + VAT

(e) **Other Christmas expenditure**

Resolved:

1) That council approve the cost now reported for Christmas characters.

2) That council approve the attendance of Amber Sound at the Christmas Lights event at a cost of £500.00 + VAT.

(f) **Future High Streets Fund**

Council were updated on the timescale for the works taking place on the marketplace.

067 Planning/Environment/Licensing

Councillors Hamilton, Holmes and Bower, having declared an interest earlier in the meeting, left the meeting during these discussions.

Councillor P Jones also left during discussion on AVA/2023/0687.

067 Planning/Environment/Licensing (continued)

Councillors C Emmas-Williams, L Cox, M Beswick and J Ward took no part in the discussion of AVA/2023/0747.

Council noted the following planning applications -

AVA/2023/0657 – 39B Lockton Avenue, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7EQ

Proposed ground floor and first floor rear extension. **Decision expected 12 October 2023.**

AVA/2023/0659 – 9 Derby Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7QG

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use for a single storey rear extension with balcony. **Decision expected 19 October 2023.**

AVA/2023/0701 – 198 Loscoe Denby Lane, Denby Village, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 8PP

Rear dormer loft conversion to form two bedrooms and a rear single storey extension. **Decision expected 9 November 2023.**

AVA/2023/0687 – Land at Fletcher Street, Newlands, Heanor, Derbyshire

Redevelopment of vacant car park to deliver 4 x 3 semi-detached dwellings.

Decision expected 17 November 2023.

AVA/2023/0737 – 68 Breach Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7NJ

Single storey front extension. **Decision expected 30 November 2023.**

AVA/2023/0747 – Amber Valley Borough Council, Market Place, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7AA

2 no. wayfinding signage totem (may affect the setting of a listed building). **Decision expected 28 November 2023.**

AVA/2023/0755 – I W O Ltd – 29C Market Place, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7EG

Construction of external staircase and parking area. **Decision expected 4 December 2023**

068 Date of next meeting

Thursday 07 December 2023