

**Minutes of the
Meeting of Heanor and Loscoe Town Council
held in the Town Hall, Heanor on 7 December 2023**

PRESENT: Councillors P Jones (Mayor), C M Cox, L Cox, J Edge, C Emmas-Williams, J Gent, E Hamilton, V Harvey, M Howard, T Holmes, A Jones, and J Ward.

Also present: A Sharpe (Assistant to the Town Clerk), and three members of the public.

Mr Kirk Monk – Assistant Director (Wellbeing), Amber Valley Borough Council attended the start of the meeting to give a presentation on the Charles Hill Playing Fields Development.

AGENDA

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

069 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Beswick (work), S Bower (family commitment), L Brunelleschi (work), S Goodrum (work), C Neale (illness), Z Parr (work), J Stones, (prior commitment) and A Stevenson (work).

Resolved: These apologies for absence were noted.

070 Declaration of Members Interests/Update of Register

Agenda item 14 – Planning/Licensing/Environment

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

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

071 Requests for Dispensation

Resolved: Dispensation was granted Councillor T Holmes that enables him to remain in the meeting on any item that he has an interest but not speak or vote due to mobility. This dispensation lasts initially until 6 February 2024.

072 Public Speaking

Public Matters

A member of the public had submitted the following question –

My question relates to spending of concern:

A hanging basket company is not a specialist supplier and is not exempt from market testing rules. The total expenditure is the trigger for the tender requirement and the standing orders do not state that sponsorship can be deducted from the trigger figure.

There is still not a full explanation forthcoming for why £39.99 of flowers were purchased for delivery from an Alfreton business.

072 Public Speaking (cont.)

Please can the Mayor explain to whom a floral gift was made to and why this was considered an appropriate use of public funds?

Please can the Mayor explain why in this councils view that there's only one supplier of hanging baskets? A quick Google search identifies many suppliers of this product and service. As such the specialist supplier exemption simply does not apply.

The member of the public was not present, so the question was read out by the Mayor who then responded as follows-

1. The question of the expenditure on flowers cannot be answered as to do so would be in breach of the Council's Standing Order 11 (b).
2. The Council have never said that it is their view that there is only one supplier of hanging baskets.

Police Matters

No report.

Outside Bodies

No report.

Borough and County Councillors Reports

Councillor Ward reported on matters relating to the Borough Council including the Cabinet Meeting held at Heanor Town Hall on 6 December 2023.

Leaders Report submitted by Councillor E Hamilton

Firstly, I feel that I need to address some of the comments made on social media suggesting we are avoiding holding meetings. The Town Council is required to hold a minimum of three meetings between May 2023 and April 2024. This meeting tonight is the 7th Full Council meeting held up to now. There have also been two committee meetings, therefore the suggestions made by some people on social media are inaccurate.

Now to deal with the positive things that are going on in the Town.

Members of the Council have continued to attend the coffee mornings at Charles Hill and events at the Red River Nature Reserve.

Later this month there is a meeting of the Future High Street Project Board.

I would like to thank Kirk Monk for his presentation on Charles Hill and for all his hard work and the hours he has committed to the project. I am very impressed with the work that has been done and it will be a valuable addition to our community when it opens up early next year. The Town Council has been instrumental in driving this development forward and it so rewarding to see that our commitment is bearing fruit.

The Remembrance Day parade went off with-out any of the concerns regarding traffic that we have had in previous years and the inclusion of the Town Council's sculpture the 'Fallen' in the parade was very pleasing. I want to thank Cllr Bower for laying the wreath on behalf of the Town Council at Loscoe as I had a Remembrance Day commitment in Langley Mill. The Christmas Light Switch on goes from strength to strength and I am positive is the envy of many of the towns in the surrounding areas.

Leaders Report submitted by Councillor E Hamilton (cont.)

People are travelling from the local towns to visit the event and even from the West Midlands to share in the experience. Many of us, myself included, had anxieties that this event would not happen because of the work taking place on the Market Place, but working with Amber Valley and the Contractors, we did deliver as good an event as we have had in the past.

I visited all the premises who were open, and I could see that they all appeared to be having a bumper night as I could not get into some of them. The number of people attending was high again. The Council has held a number of debriefing sessions following this event.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our staff for the work they did in organising both the Remembrance Service and the Christmas Lights Switch on, and the Councillors for the help they gave.

Warm and welcoming places grants are again available this year. Up to £1000 is available to open up a warm space or extend their opening hours. To apply please go to the Derbyshire County Council website.

As shown in the minutes of the Executive Committee, we continue to deliver against the Action Plan.

073 Minutes – 19 October 2023

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 19 October 2023, were approved as a correct record, and duly signed by the mayor.

074 Executive Committee Minutes – 27 November 2023

The Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Monday 27 November 2023, were received.

075 Mayors Announcement

During the last month myself and the mayoress have attended numerous events, namely:

28th October - Heanor Community Choir

We attended their Autumn concert held in St Lawrence Church was a well-attended and enjoyable evening with an eclectic choice of music. I would strongly recommend people attend their concerts if you get the chance.

30th October - Topping Out Event Charles Hill Community Hub

I attend the ceremony to signify the completion of the structural and roof work for the Charles Hill Community Hub something that the Town Council has been very proactive in supporting for the last 4 years and its not to see the rewards in that support. The work will be completed by January and, hopefully open in March 2024.

10th November - Gregg Cup Semi Final

Along with the Mayoress I attended the second Gregg Cup Final between Loscoe C Of E and Codnor Community Primary Schools.

075 Mayors Announcement (cont.)

12th November - Remembrance Day

Along with the Mayoress I attended the annual Heanor Remembrance parade and took the salute along with the Kings representative on a dais provided by Cllr Stevenson. The ceremony worked very well helped by the street closures supervised by a professional company. The parade had an additional ceremony at the Town Council's commissioned fallen sculpture which was very touching. The ceremony finished with a service in St Lawrence Church supported by Heanor Community Choir. I must thank Cllr Bower for laying the wreath at the Rose Gardens at Loscoe on behalf of the deputy mayor.

16th November - Gregg Cup Final

The mayoress and I attended the final between Mundy C of E Junior School and Loscoe C of E Primary School which was a very entertaining and enjoyable match played in very good spirit I presented the trophy to Mundy School who won the match in the last 10 minutes after what was a close game. The match was referred by Heanor resident and semi-professional referee Danny Middleton. I would appeal to all our local schools to take part in next year competition as it is quite evident how much the children enjoyed it.

17th November - Mundy C of E Junior School Assembly

I attended the school assembly to show the school the trophy, which is too valuable to let the holders retain, for insurance purposes. They do get a permanent trophy as a reminder of winning the trophy plus a Shield which they keep for a year until the next competition. The school was very excited to see their winning team presented with the medals and it was a very enjoyable experience. Although I must say the assembly was certainly nothing like anything I have experienced before.

18th November - Christmas Light Switch On

At the end of the busy week, I switched on the annual Christmas Lights. Firstly, can I thank the site foreman and contractors for their support in making it happen, without that it would not have been able to go ahead. Can I also thank all those who volunteered to support the event in anyway and our staff for helping us deliver another spectacular event despite the cynics within our community. The positive comments on social media and the jealousy of our rival Towns has shown that we can deliver an event which uplifts our community and supports the local business with around 5000 attending. The Mayoress and I visited as many shops as we could. Also thank you to Bert Holland, who has always been a good friend to the Town Council and of the event, for his generous donation to the Mayor's Charity. A big thank you to all those shops, Amber Sound, Shirland Welfare Brass Band, Heanor Vision, PDP Characters and Infinite Wellbeing for providing a venue for our Santa. David Vowles for the photographs and Dynamite Fireworks for the display and probably the most dramatic photography of the night.

19th November - Ripley Civic Service.

I attended the Civic Service for the Mayor of Ripley along with the Mayoress

24 November - White Ribbon Event Salcare.

Along with the Mayoress and Leader, I attended the White Ribbon event at Salcare to highlight the issues around domestic violence.

075 Mayors Announcement (cont.)

30th November - Salcare Charity Gala

I attended the Charity Gala for Salcare at Makeney Hall, Milford which was a pleasing experience which helped raised much needed funds for the charity and was an opportunity to recognise the work of their volunteers and supporting organisations

3 December - St Lawrence Church

The Mayoress and I attended the Advent inclusion service. The service was about for the recognition of St Lawrence Church becoming an inclusive church which mean that it advocates the full inclusion of all people regardless of ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. I was also pleased to be asked to light the first candle of advent.

076 Exclusion of Public

No items to be excluded.

077 Town Council Items for Decision/Agreed Action

(a) Strawson's Property – Land North of Longbridge Lane

It was noted that Strawson's Property are looking to dispose of a section of land adjacent to the proposed development on this site.

Resolved: This information is noted.

(b) Town Council Policies – (Executive minute 025/2023-24)

Resolved: The Town Council receive, agree, and adopt the following Policies, subject to minor amendments now identified at the meeting (1200 signatures in the Petitions policy and reference to all employees in the vexatious policy-

Vexatious Policy

Filming of Council meetings Policy

Petitions Policy

(c) Town Council Website – (Executive minute 028/2023-24)

Resolved: The contract to provide a new Town Council website is awarded to Itseeze.

078 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

November Newsletter

Resolved: The above document is received.

079 Finance

(a) Bacs payments – September

Payee	Description	Nett	Vat	Gross
Tudor Landscapes	WW Maintenance	59.50	00.00	59.50
A Sharpe	Locum Services	1229.75	00.00	1229.75
Security Plus	Alarm response	20.00	4.00	24.00
5 th Heanor Guides	Funding	300.00	00.00	300.00
Derbyshire UWC	Funding	1000.00	00.00	1000.00

079 Finance**(a) Bacs payments – September**

Heanor Weenies	Funding	1000.00	00.00	1000.00
Ripley Glass	50% replace glass charges	260.00	52.00	312.00
Drax energy	Electricity supply – TH	374.74	74.95	449.69
Tudor Landscapes	WW Maintenance	51.00	00.00	51.00
Kirk Contracts	Shutter cleaning	25.00	5.00	30.00
Tudor Landscapes	Car Park maintenance	68.00	00.00	68.00
Kirk Contracts	Window cleaning – TH	98.08	19.62	117.70
D Vowles	Cllr photographs	50.00	00.00	50.00
PFK Littlejohn	External Audit	630.00	126.00	756.00
Staff/Mayor	Wages/allowance	4564.74	00.00	4564.74
Derbyshire CC	Superannuation	989.82	00.00	989.82
HMRC	Paye, NI	927.83	00.00	927.83
2 nd Heanor Rainbows	Funding	1000.00	00.00	1000.00
Cleaver Thompson	Legal advice	250.00	50.00	300.00
D&DS Ltd	Water temperature monitoring	120.00	24.00	144.00
Tudor Landscapes	WW maintenance	87.07	00.00	87.07
RBL	Poppy wreath	50.00	00.00	50.00
Waterplus	TH water supply – upstairs	316.86	00.00	316.86
Waterplus	TH water supply – downstairs	34.22	00.00	34.22
AVBC	Rates	314.00	0.00	314.00
AVBC	Rates	278.00	0.00	278.00
AVBC	Rates	674.00	0.00	674.00
Waterplus	Water supply – WS	102.66	00.00	102.66
Opus Energy	Gas supply	11.06	0.55	11.61
XLN Telecom	Phone lines and broadband	219.42	43.88	263.30
Nat West	Bank charges	20.30	00.00	20.30
Opus energy	Gas supply	23.84	1.19	25.03
Total		15149.89	401.19	15551.08

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts is approved at a total of £15,551.08.

(b) Bacs Payments - October

Payee	Description	Nett	Vat	Gross
Tudor Landscapes	Maintenance	29.08	0.00	29.08
Richo Uk Ltd	Photocopier charges	166.43	33.29	199.72
Chubb F&S Ltd	Fire monitoring charges	182.13	36.43	218.56
Chubb F & S Ltd	Intruder alarm contract	196.11	39.22	235.33
Groundwork GN	Red River LNR SLA	2,500	500.00	3,000
Heanor Town FC	Gregg cup sponsorship	300.00	0.00	300.00
AVBC	Christmas road closure	40.00	0.00	40.00
Leisurelites	Remove bunting	800.00	160.00	960.00
Tudor Landscapes	Road closure map	51.00	0.00	51.00
Pride Electrical	Electrical services	613.40	122.68	736.08
Total Hire & Sales	Road closure signs	178.62	34.50	213.12
James Hallam	Christmas event insurance	389.00	0.00	389.00
Viking	Stationery/postage	89.11	16.92	106.03
Dynamite Fireworks	Fireworks display (Christmas)	3,500	700.00	4,200

079 Finance (cont.)

(b) Bacs Payments - October

Payee	Description	Nett	Vat	Gross
Staff/Mayor	Wages/allowance	5,535.10	0.00	5,535.10
Derbyshire CC	Superannuation	978.76	0.00	978.76
HMRC	Paye, NI	1,163.79	0.00	1,163.79
Carlin Security	Security Services	225.00	0.00	225.00
DALC	Councillor training	90.00	0.00	90.00
D&DS Ltd	Water temperature monitoring	120.00	24.00	144.00
AVBC	Road closure	20.00	0.00	20.00
Moorleys	Remembrance O of S	114.00	0.00	114.00
Tudor Landscapes	Removal of signs	42.50	0.00	42.50
Tudor Landscapes	Removal of rotten benches	71.00	0.00	71.00
Viking	Water for water cooler	37.98	7.60	45.58
Tudor Landscapes	Secure Town Hall front door	98.75	0.00	98.75
Heanor Vision	Donation – Cinema in the Park	1,650.00	0.00	1,650.00
Total Hire & Sales	Road closed signs	108.90	21.78	130.68
Initial	Sanitation units	941.19	188.24	1,129.43
AVBC	Premises Licence	180.00	0.00	180.00
Chubb F&S Ltd	Fire alarm service	83.43	16.69	100.12
Chubb F&S Ltd	Emergency lighting service	103.03	20.61	123.64
James Hall Plumbing	Heating callout	70.00	0.00	70.00
Derbys ACF Band	Remembrance Marching band	500.00	0.00	500.00
Heanor Town FC	Donation to Fireworks Display	1,500	0.00	1,500
CEF Ilkeston	Lighting festoon	966.30	193.26	1,159.56
Petty Cash	Reimbursement	82.65	0.00	82.65
PDP Storybook	Christmas event characters	685.00	0.00	685.00
Tudor Landscapes	Remove graffiti	17.00	0.00	17.00
The Works	Christmas books – Santa gifts	250.00	50.00	300.00
Waterplus	TH water supply – upstairs	316.86	0.00	316.86
Waterplus	TH water supply – downstairs	34.22	0.00	34.22
AVBC	Rates	314.00	0.00	314.00
AVBC	Rates	278.00	0.00	278.00
AVBC	Rates	674.00	0.00	674.00
SWALEC	Electricity supply – WS	334.83	16.74	351.57
Waterplus	Water supply – WS	100.54	0.00	100.54
Opus Energy	Gas supply – WS	13.85	0.69	14.54
Derbyshire 4x4 Response	Remembrance - road closures	700.00	0.00	700.00
Derbyshire 4x4 Response	Christmas - road closures	350.08	0.00	350.08
Opus Energy	Gas supply – TH	294.19	14.71	308.90
Drax Energy	Electricity supply – TH	316.44	63.29	379.73
XLN Telecom	Phone lines and broadband	219.42	43.88	263.30
Nat West	Bank charges	23.80	0.00	23.80
Amber Sound	Christmas Event	500.00	100.00	600.00
Total		29,139.49	2,404.53	31,544.02

Resolved: Payment of the above accounts is approved at a total of £31,544.02.

079 Finance (cont.)

(c) Income for September 2023

Town Hall lettings	911.00
Town Hall	40.00
Wilmot Street	2236.50
50% Precept	132702.50
Environment/events	0.00
Town Hall Rents	0.00
Total	135890.00

Resolved: This information is received.

(d) Income for October 2023

Town Hall lettings	2,665.50
Town Hall	775.56
Wilmot Street	924.25
Fire Station	2,000
Environment/events	6.12
Town Hall Rents	0.00
Total	6,371.43

Resolved: This information is received.

(e) Bank Reconciliations – September and October 2023

Resolved: The above documents are received.

(f) Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2023 (backdated to 01/04/2023)

Resolved: The Town Council acknowledge and approve implementation of the above document.

(g) Income, Expenditure and Balance Sheet for 6 months accounts
1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023 (Executive minute 022/2023-24)

Resolved: The Town Council, receive and agree the Income, Expenditure and Balance Sheet for 6 months accounts 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023.

(h) Precept 2024-25 – (Executive minute 023/2023-24)

Resolved: The Town Council agree the Precept for the financial year 2024 - 2025 to be £281,409.00. A 6% increase on last year's precept figure.

(i) Fees and Charges 2024-25 (Executive minute 024/2023-24)

Resolved: The Fees and Charges for the financial year 2024-2025 to be agreed as per Appendix One to the report.

(j) To consider quotation for remedial work to Heanor Cenotaph

Following the recent cleaning of Heanor Cenotaph, IMI provided a quotation of £1,811.60 (net) for lime pointing, and letter re-enamelling.

Resolved: That the quotation be approved to be funded from the Events budget.

080 Grants

Resolved: The following applications for grant aid be approved:

Shipley Hall Cricket Club Refurbishment of pavilion roof	£500.00
Infinite Wellbeing (IW). Provision of free and subsidised activities to the community	£2000.00 (Agreed in principle, DELEGATED to the Town Clerk, Mayor, and Leader to discuss banking details.

081 For Information

(a) Clerk's Report

Remembrance Day and Christmas lights

The Clerk wishes to thank all involved at these events. They were very successful and de-brief meetings have been held in respect of both. The findings of these meetings will be shared at the next Events Committee meeting.

The defibrillator sited on The Old Fire Station was deployed on 12 November 2023 – unfortunately we have been unable to locate this piece of equipment. We continue to liaise with the emergency services.

The Town Council office will close at 12 noon on Thursday 21 December 2023 and re-open at 9am on Wednesday 3 January 2024.

(b) Miscellaneous

Derbyshire Law Centre – AGM, Thursday 7 December 2023, Annual Report 2022-2023

082 Planning/Environment/Licensing

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.**

AVA/2023/0777 – 15 Sunningdale Avenue, Marlpool, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7BS

Single storey detached double garage and access. **Decision expected 15th December 2023.**

AVA/2023/0789 – 61 Western Drive, Marlpool, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7DP

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed hipped roof to gable construction to create loft conversion. **Decision expected 11th December 2023.**

AVA/2023/0797 – 100 Ilkeston Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7DT

Erection of a single storey ground floor extension to the side and extension of the first floor to the side and rear. **Decision expected 19th December 2023.**

AVA/2023/0851 – 68 Lee Lane, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7HN

Proposed rear extension. **Decision expected 26th December 2023.**

TRE/2023/0369 – Jasmine House School, 34 Ilkeston Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7DT

T1 pear. Very close to neighbours' extension and situated in poor position. Low amenity value. Remove & treat stump. Juvenile fruit tree to be planted in a more suitable position in front garden of property. **Decision expected 9th January 2024.**

082 Planning/Environment/Licensing (cont.)

AVA/2023/0860 – 2 Loscoe Grange, Loscoe, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7JZ

Proposed partial reconstruction of existing side extension, alterations to window & door apertures and proposed external material pallet. Internal applications to the dwelling and creation of off-street parking. **Decision expected 17th January 2024.**

Resolved; to note the above planning applications.

Councillor Hamilton left the meeting whilst these were discussed. Councillor Holmes remained as per his dispensation.

083 Date of next meeting

Resolved: Thursday 11 January 2024.