

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BELPER TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE
MILFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHEVIN ROAD, MILFORD, BELPER ON
TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020**

PRESENT Councillor Mallett (Town Mayor) – in the Chair
Councillors: Dwyer, Harris, N Ploughman, L Ploughman, Atkinson, Oldfield,
B Bellamy, R Bellamy, Monkman, Watson, Angharad, Porter, Cannon, Hale
and Wilkinson.

19 members of the public.

4369 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

4370 VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

None

4371 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Cllr Angharad and Cllr Atkinson as Planning Board Members for AVBC proposed to leave the meeting for Item 10 to avoid predetermination/bias allegations.

Cllr B Bellamy declared an interest in Item 11(d) as the item was within his portfolio at the Borough Council. Cllr B Bellamy would not take part in the vote but would remain in the meeting.

Cllr B Bellamy declared an interest in planning application AVA/2020/0089 due to Amber Valley Borough Council owning land next door to the proposed application and would remain in the meeting but not take part in the vote.

**4372 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS
RESOLVED**

Item 12(c) – Pride Statement – Due to the Pride statement not being released by the group until a later date.

4373 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- The organisers of the Great British High Street Award attended the Council meeting. The group sent in the application in June last year with an allowance of only 800 words to describe Belper. Belper was short listed to the finals in which 500 towns had been visited but the Purdah period began which delayed the results until 23 January 2020. The awards ceremony was held in Edinburgh in which Pauline Latham MP attended. The win has had a huge impact to local retailers it has been like a December month in terms of turnover. The winning plaque will be circulated around the shops and the group would like to ask the Council for a permanent home within the Memorial Gardens. The Mayor Cllr Mallett thanked the group for all their hard work in putting in the bid and following this through and hopefully we can continue to build on this.
- Chair of award winning Accessible Belper spoke about the success of the bespoke training session for Councillors held in the summer of 2019 in which five Councillors attended which was a disappointment

and they are now asking for further volunteers. The training went a long way to embed the Equality agenda across the town. The training session then followed a disability simulation exercise on Market Day. Accessible Belper are extremely appreciative of the recognition given from the Council. The Chair read out some feedback from the simulation session. The role of the Council has been integral in developing a culture about accessible awareness in our town. The town is now seen as leading the accessible agenda. The Mayor Cllr Mallett found the training session very informative when he attended the session.

- A Milford resident welcomed Belper Town Council to the community of Milford and Makeney and thanked the Council for keeping their promise to bring some of the Council meetings to Milford
- Nailed It – Belper Music Festival attended the meeting to talk about their grant application. They now have 11 venues and 42 acts confirmed within Belper since attending the last Council meeting. They have been in contact with No.28 as a possible non-alcoholic venue and the Community Police as they are aware drinks maybe carried from venue to venue.
- Chair of Belper Fringe which is a new organisation, will be submitting a grant application to the Council. Belper Fringe will run from 1 May to 6 June they operate all over the Town with various singers and dancers, a comedy festival and cover every artistic genre. They have filled nearly every day with at least one event. Belper Fringe are trying to make it a community event so they are working with Accessible Belper and local businesses. The group have applied for charitable status, they have to raise £5,000 to achieve this status but they are 75% there. Derbyshire sight support is their chosen charity. During the next year the group hope to be self sufficient and will not be asking the Council for any further money. The Mayor Cllr Mallett thanked Belper Fringe for continuing the Arts Festival and all the hard work involved in achieving this.
- A local community volunteer group has been formed to provide meals for people living in poverty, people suffering from austerity, anyone unemployed, lonely, in fact the whole community are welcome. The project will commence on 28 February at No.28 they already have support from Unite the Community who has donated towards the payment of rent for the next 6 months. Support has been provided from the Co-op in terms of vouchers for ingredients as they intend to provide a choice of 3 soups, 3 puddings, bread and butter, tea or coffee. The charge for this will be from £1-£5 pay, what you can scheme no cashier will be present they are just looking for voluntary donations. The problem with the event being held at No.28 is the steps that lead up to the kitchen this poses a problem with serving hot soup. The group have submitted an application for the purchase of three electric soup kettles which will remain beyond the steps.
- Chair of Belper Meadows Cricket Club has attended to support their grant application. Even though they are a cricket club they are trying to promote the club for the use of social events, corporate events and community events two of which are the Belper Fireworks display and

an outdoor film festival which was run last year and was greatly supported by 500 people. The club try to ensure that the grounds and pavilion are fit for purpose for all users, they have disability access, allow St Elizabeth's and Long Row School to use the grounds on days throughout the summer. They regularly host Derbyshire County Cricket Club within the grounds, so it needs to be of a high standard to let a professional team play. Apart from Denby they are the only County ground to do this which they are proud of. During the club's off season through the winter they don't stop they hold a weekly Youth Club which is run by their Child Welfare Officer. At least a dozen children will go to socialise and eat so local parents can get a well-earned break. In the grant application they have described a few expenses which have come about due to the recent flooding. The club is run by volunteers with 9 members on the Committee who are trying to support 130 members that play for the club.

- A member of the public spoke about the Chapel on Kilbourne Road in which his business is on the first floor opposite the Chapel. It is their understanding that Amber Valley Borough Council are looking into a compulsory purchase order on this building and there have been several suggestions so far that it could be flats, youth centre or even a community theatre. This area has a severe parking problem the building has no provision for parking and no means of creating any. The only means of parking is on the road. There are cars lined up from 8.30am to 9.30am this road can be classed as a 'death trap' there are articulated lorries using the road to serve Tesco's store, Co-op and the local Pub. The building itself is dilapidated that it is almost beyond repair especially when you consider the internal damage caused by the present owner. The member of the public would like the Council to consider for the building to be demolished and the area created into a car park for the existing residents.
- A member of the public came to talk to the Council about recycling there are plenty of recycling opportunities around Belper at St Peter's Church which makes money from this recycling initiative. The group are working with Transition Belper to see if they can support their tetra pack collection. They would like to work with Belper Town Council to bring more recycling opportunities to Belper.
- Cllr B Bellamy who is a Borough Councillor addressed the Council about his role as head of Community Safety along with Cllr Atkinson who is his Deputy who takes up more than the lion's share of that role. They held a meeting with the new head of the local police for Amber Valley Inspector Paul Stevenson they raised with him that all Councillors get information on matters of anti social behaviour emails, phone calls, parking and many other issues. They would also like to establish regular meetings with him in the future. Inspector Paul Stevenson started his Policing in Amber Valley and in Belper 16 years ago and has been through the promotion process to learn his craft. Belper are really going to benefit from him working for us locally. Inspector Paul Stevenson has asked for Cllr B Bellamy to raise awareness with the local community and Councillors that there are a number of instances after the event being reported they still

want these reporting by either 101, online, or through the Borough Councillor who would report those incidents on their behalf to the Police. They are encouraging people not to wait to report these matters due to extra CCTV being centred around the areas of particular problems so hot spots are covered. It has been reported that many crimes have been solved due to surveillance footage being used in court already.

Another matter to report is on the Great British High Street Awards a thank you to all who were involved along with Accessible Belper putting Belper on the map. Residents can expect more from the Town Council moving forward it would be great to retain this award.

4374 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
RESOLVED To agree as a true record Minutes 4354-4368 of the Full Council Meeting held on 14 January 2020.

4375 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE
RESOLVED To note the draft minutes of the Facilities, Environment and Local Economy Committee held on 28 January 2020.

4376 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Mayor reported his attendance together with his Consort at the following events-
21 January – St John’s School – Eco Garden
5 February – Chevin House – High Street, Belper

4377 FINANCE
RESOLVED
a) To note the 31 January 2020 bank reconciliation figures.
b) To note and agree the income of £1,216.00 and expenditure £28,427.40 as at 31 January 2020.
c) To note the Council’s monthly bank statements
d) To consider insurance quotes for the Council’s insurance policy due to expire on 28 February 2020.
Agreed to renew with their current provider at a cost of £3,417.00.
e) Approved the addition of the Responsible Financial Officer to all Belper Town Council and associated bank and Charity accounts held.

Cllr Angharad and Atkinson left the Meeting

4378 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
The Council considered the applications and decisions circulated.

- Planning applications and appeals
RESOLVED - To make no comments on the applications listed on the agenda
- Neighbourhood Plan Working Group update
RESOLVED – To note the Submission Neighbourhood Plan went to

Amber Valley on 28 January 2020.

Planning Application AVA/2020/0089 – Ada Belfield House and the development of seven dwellings.

RESOLVED - Agreed for the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group to meet the applicants and to consider a response on behalf of the Council.

- Planning application decisions

RESOLVED - To note

- Planning applications/decisions circulated at the meeting

RESOLVED - To make no comments on the applications circulated at the meeting with exception of the Public Path Diversion for part of footpath 162, Council are in support of this order.

Cllr Angharad and Atkinson returned to the Meeting

4379

GRANT APPLICATIONS

- (a) Nailed It – Belper Music Festival

RESOLVED Agreed to support the application at a cost of £800.00.

- (b) Derwent Brass

RESOLVED Turned down the application due to this being a retrospective application. The Council would encourage the Brass Band to submit grant applications for future planned projects as they would like to support them.

- (c) Belper Meadows Cricket Club

RESOLVED Agreed to support the application at a cost of £3,000.00 from General Reserves.

- (d) Belper Community Enterprises Ltd

RESOLVED Clerk to gather further information regarding the shortfall on the serpentine walk project.

- (e) PR Promotions

RESOLVED Agreed to support the application at a cost of £250.00 to cover the matinée performance to benefit residents who claim benefits.

- (f) Welcome Meals Project

RESOLVED Agreed to purchase three Soup Kettles at a cost of £35.00 each.

- (g) Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre Response

RESOLVED To note and to publicise what they do on our website.

4380

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

(a) Cllr Porter spoke about Belper in Bloom and Blooming Milford as they are two separate groups entering the East Midlands in Bloom Awards. Cllr Porter, Chair, Kathy Fairweather and David Moreton will be attending the East Midlands in Bloom Annual General Meeting on 20 February 2020. Community group and outdoor team will be conducting all the work for the East Midlands in Bloom entry this year. Accessible Belper have advised the group that there are issues with street furniture in Belper along with the floral displays in the street which will be taken on board this year in the scheme.

Cllr Porter also attended a meeting of the Derwent Valley Community Railway Partnership who meet up infrequently but Cllr Porter meets up with this group in between the meeting dates. There has been movement with

this as Cllr Porter is currently looking at a paper produced on the improvements to the Station and the facilities that will be open there. The Council would like to have more Public toilets within Belper in that area this issue has been handed to the Toilet Working Group to come up with a specification so Cllr Porter can present this to the Railway Company and Derbyshire County Council.

Cllr Porter along with Cllr Cannon and Adrian Farmer spoke about the jitty access to the Railway and Cllr Porter will be putting in an application for funding from the Railway Company to help towards this.

Cllr Porter has also been visiting the local churches as the Town Council do not currently have much involvement. There are currently 16 church communities within the Parish of Belper. Cllr Porter has visited 4 of these to date. Cllr Porter attended the Milford Baptist Chapel two weeks ago for a Sunday service it was a lovely atmosphere. Cllr Porter was made aware of their relationship with the School they offer their facilities free of charge to the School.

Cllr Watson had attended the Fleet Arts meeting at which he was advised that they have produced murals for the new library at the request of the Council and now County Council have stated they do not want the murals so all of them have been produced and the developers have paid for them.

RESOLVED This matter will be added to the next Facilities, Environment and Local Economy Committee to be considered further as to where the redundant works could be located within the town. Town Clerk to write to Cllr Lewis and copy in Cllr Makin, Cllr Short and Cllr Taylor to ask why the County Council have made this decision.

(b) Appointment of Pride in Belper representative

RESOLVED Appointed Cllr B Bellamy and Cllr L Ploughman as the new representatives.

4381

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION

1. St Georges Day Flags and Bunting scheme

RESOLVED Accept the current scheme, except for the Pride flags and bunting put up for the months of June to September. The package offered will include a St George and Pride flag for the same cost.

2. East Midlands Railway Consultation

RESOLVED Town Clerk to write a targeted response to East Midlands Railway not in favour of their proposals presented in the consultation and to Alfreton Town Council in support of their letter received.

3. Severn Trent Community Grant Fund

RESOLVED Delegated bid applications to Cllr Hale, Cllr Harris and Cllr Atkinson

4. DALC Circular 01/2020 and Newsletter

RESOLVED To note

5. Armed Forces Covenant

RESOLVED Approved the proposed version produced by DALC of Armed Forces Covenant. Cllr N Ploughman appointed as the Armed Forces Champion.

6. Lease Variation cost for St John's carpark

RESOLVED Approved the cost of £500.00 to Geldard's Solicitors

7. Derbyshire Community Health Services response regarding Babington

Hospital

RESOLVED Town Clerk to ask William Jones Chief Operating Officer of Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust to come for a question and answer session at the next Full Council meeting.

8. Derbyshire Constabulary Town and Parish Councils Evening.

RESOLVED To note

9. Donation to Great British High Street Award Group

RESOLVED Agreed no further donations to be given

10. Purchasing Land registry deeds for land next to River Derwent at Milford

RESOLVED Agreed to purchase deeds and also to contact the land owner to ask if this could be used as a Community Area.

11. Changing Places Facility in the Coppice Carpark

RESOLVED Agreed to put the works for the Changing Places Toilet Facility out to tender for a 'key in the door' priced project managed facility for the new modular toilets which would include a changing places facility to include all the works including planning permission and groundworks and that to be financed from a Public Works Loan.

12. East Midlands in Bloom Entry 2020

RESOLVED Agreed large town category entry on behalf of Belper in Bloom at a cost of £50.00

13. Removal of Payphone at Whitemoor Lane

RESOLVED Opposed to the removal of the payphone.

14. Youth provision in Belper by BLEND

RESOLVED Agreed to outline proposal received at an initial cost of £10,885.75 for Year 1, £10,976.56 for Year 2, £11,067.67 for Year 3 and £11,160.71 for Year 4. The remaining money from the grant payable to Drop Inn will pay for Year 1 along with the shortfall from reserves.

15. Belper Town Council logo

RESOLVED Agreed for the Youth Council to continue work on Belper Town Council logo

17. Belper Town Council Award Scheme

RESOLVED Agreed the Award Scheme.

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, a resolution to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, in order to discuss these items has been resolved.

4382 Pride in Belper group statement

RESOLVED Belper Town Council stand in unity with Pride in Belper group and support the whole statement.

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed

Town Mayor

Date 10 March 2020