**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BAWTRY TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE NEW HALL ON 11th MARCH 2024 FROM 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs: A. Claypole, G. Scott, D. Gale, J. Gale, S. Young, D. Cartwright, P Holland,

D. Kirkham, A. Cropley, D. Kirby, J Linsley.

Mrs. A Harrison – Town Clerk

**In Attendance:** 7 members of the public, Ward Councillor Rachael Blake.

**23/24/222** Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence

I. Greer, K. Killeen (reasons provided to members)

**Resolved:** That the reasons for absence be approved.

**23/24/223** Receive Declarations of Interest (other than standing interests)

G. Scott & A. Claypole. Non-pecuniary interest in Item 13a ‘Townlink’ as the applicant was known to them.

 J. Linsley. Non –pecuniary interest in Item 16 Bawtry Art Festival - involved in managing the event.

**23/24/224** Agree Confidential Items

 Item 13(e) Taekwondo Group mats - third party correspondence/dealings.

**23/24/****225** Approval of the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting –12th February 2024

 **Resolved:** That the minutes of the above meeting be approved as a true and accurate record.

**23/24/226** Matters arising from the Minutes

23/24/206 Market Hill - Clarification provided regarding the meaning of comments regarding overhang/ownership.

23/24/210a New Hall -Consider building name - Discussion regarding the item appearing again on this month’s agenda despite the February resolution. The Clerk advised of her basis for adding the item again, which was to allow members to consider residents’ comments, which had been received, which could not be considered in 6-months’ time when the building would already have been renamed.

23/24/208 BARS – A response had been received from the Charity Commission which would be dealt with below.

**23/24/227** 15 Minute Public Discussion Period.

The Cricket Club representative advised of the reasons for their recent merger with Everton, however it was confirmed that there was no intention for these arrangements to mean a move away from the MSG. Concerns with the current trustees’ management of the facility were raised.

 The Football Club representative also confirmed they had asked for a meeting of all interested clubs/parties on the 25th March.

 Both Clubs were interested in confirmation that the facility would be open and available for their members this year as the clubs had significant membership that they served.

**23/24/228** Financial Matters

1. Approve Monthly Accounts.

**Resolved:** That the monthly accounts be approved to March 2024.

b) Bank Reconciliations –31st January 2024

**Resolved:** That the bank reconciliations be received.

c) Budget Monitoring –31st January 2024

 **Resolved:** That the budget monitoring schedule be received.

d) Appoint Internal Auditor for 2023-24 (J Marshall)

Noted that the proposed auditor was suitably qualified and independent.

**Resolved**: That Julie Marshall be appointed internal auditor for 2023-24

e) Arrangements for accounts package software year-end closedown.

 **Resolved**: That the Clerk make the necessary arrangements for the year end closedown with fees in the region of £500.00

 **23/24/229** Ward Member /CDC Officer Report

 Tickhill Road - Yellow lines now installed.

 Bus shelter – the Ward Councillor advised she was seeking a shelter on the High Street. Cllr Claypole also advised that the Town Council had asked SYPTE for the same at a recent YLCA meeting, having waited 7 years since the Councils original request.

 CCTV Gainsborough Road – Date to be confirmed

 BARS/MSG –Grants given were in two parts for the new building, including s106 monies. However, there were no claw back provisions imposed by CDC from the BARS trustees should they not retain control of the facility.

 High Meadow – yellow lines to be reinstated.

 Harworth House – No update available to date.

 Parking at the rear of Market Hill was still under review by enforcement. (Noted the Council did not have a problem with parking in this location, only a lack of any required planning permission).

 Church Street – Noted request for resident parking. It was confirmed that CDC had historically been reluctant to agree such a scheme as it would not guarantee sufficient parking for residents and it would be difficult to enforce without a designated officer.

 Station road – yellow lines to be chased up by the Ward Councillor.

 **23/24/230** Market Hill.

a) EVCI update.

 Clerk advised that a licence to cover the arrangements with MER was awaited.

b) Approve use of the car park by BRA for the following events:

Concern was expressed regarding recent press releases from BRA which were already advertised the events, despite consent having not been given. Proposed events were:

Sunday 26th May - Visit Bawtry Car Festival

Sunday 1st September - Visit Bawtry Car Festival

Sunday 1st December- Visit Bawtry Christmas Event

**Resolved**: That the above BRA events, were approved subject to suitable insurance, risk assessments and financial information being provided to the Council.

**23/24/231** Recreation lssues

No matters raised.

**23/24/232** BARS – Update to be requested regarding:

a) Alcohol licence including Designated Premises Supervisor /Personal licence.

 Members were advised that two trustees had now attended a course for a personal licence, who could in turn then be a supervisor for the facility.

b) Progress re: further trustee appointments.

Noted the CC had written to the Council advising that BARS needed to appoint a 4th trustee urgently as the governing document required 4 trustees.

Cllr Young reported that they were still waiting for incorporation of the charity to enable them to attract new trustees. The Charity seemed reluctant to seek trustees who would be happy to be appointed now.

c) Whether Bawtry with Everton Cricket Club will be a primary user in 2024

Cllr Young did not provide a clear answer on this point and indicated that the Cricket Club didn’t use the facility when it was offered to them previously.

d) Confirmation of the date of Bawtry Sports Day

This was confirmed as being held on Sunday 23rd June.

e) Communication between BARS, Primary Users & Bawtry Town Council.

Concerns regarding a lack of replies to the primary users and the Council. Cllr Young advised the trustees were meeting on the 12th March and would respond thereafter.

(Members agreed to approve an EGM on Wednesday 20th March at 7pm to discuss the future of the MSG).

(The meeting was suspended temporarily to allow further feedback from the Club representatives. Club representatives then left the meeting).

**23/24/233** Highways – Consider request from Church Street resident for the Town Council to lobby CDC & support a residents parking scheme on the street.

Members expressed their concerns about simply moving the parking issues to elsewhere e.g. School Walk etc. Members would prefer to look at seeking parking provision for those working in Bawtry to reduce pressure on on-street parking.

**Resolved:** The Council to approach BRA for any developments for workers parking, including at the former auction site and it was agreed that the Ward Councillor would ask for the current position of CDC about a resident parking scheme.

(The Clerk to also advise the resident that she could now contact the police on 101 regarding parking on the “H” lines blocking her garage).

**23/24/****234** New Hall

(a) Approve “Townlink” Radio Antenna Agreement

 **Resolved:** The antenna agreement be approved

(b) Receive resident concerns re: proposed name change & consider Bawtry Community Centre/Hub.

Members advised that they did not want to alter their decision to name the building Bawtry Town Hall.

(c) Consider ‘live’ art exhibition in main hall by art groups

**Resolved**: That the art groups be invited to donate pictures for display in the conference room which the Council would agree to frame. In addition they would be asked if they wanted to provide framed pictures (for sale) in the main hall. The Clerk to investigate secure systems to hang the pictures in the hall.

(d) Approve electrical costs including 5-year condition report & new panel

**Resolved:** That the electrical costs by AEL Electrics Ltd be approved

(e) Taekwondo Group - Consider issues with storage of mats

Moved to confidential session.

**23/24/235** Town Centre Strategy Working Group

Members had discussedmeasures to mitigate overhang at their recent meeting. It was noted that measures to prevent overhang could be retrofitted if required.

**23/24/236** Events Working Group Update

No matters reported**.**

**23/24/237** Consider Arts Festival Additional Funding in Default for 2024

Members had received details of the funding requested.

 **Resolved**: That the additional funding in default be agreed, but BRA would be advised that the Council would also expect them to make a notable contribution.

**23/24/238** Grant Application – Mayflower Primary School

Members had received the grant application for funding towards a sensory area at the school

 **Resolved:** That a donation of £300 be approved.

**23/24/239** Approve updated Grievance and Disciplinary Policies

 **Resolved:** That the policies be approved subject to a staffing committee being appointed at the annual meeting.

**23/24/240** Planning Issues.

a) Planning Applications

**24/00071/COU** Martin Grange Martin Grange Farm Lane Bawtry

Change of use of buildings and facilities for use as football training academy for a period of 3 years (Retrospective).

Members had no objection to the application, but were disappointing that the application was retrospective and that there were no penalties for applicants (other than the usual risk of refusal).

b) Planning Determinations

 **21/00583/FUL** 7 Lancaster Drive Bawtry. Erection of 2.6m high breeze block walls/horizontal timber fencing with vertical steel columns – ***Granted***

**23/24/241** Report on Meetings & Representatives

Police meeting attended.

Clerk noted meeting with CDC planned for Wednesday to discuss the feed pillar connections which could require a closure of parts of the car park for one day.

**23/24/242** To receive any Additional Correspondence

None.

 **23/24/243** Items for Future Agenda & Next Meeting – 8th April

Consider investigating the availability of parking provision for Bawtry workers.

**23/24/244**  Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960

 That in light of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public be excluded.

**23/24/245** New Hall (e) Taekwondo consider issues with storage of mats.

Members were advised of recent issues with the delivery and storage of mats for the Taekwondo group.

 **Resolved:** That should the organiser not revert to the Clerk regarding suitable arrangements for storing the mats, within the 14 days already provided, the sessions would be suspended until the matter was resolved.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.30pm

**Chair: ……………………….……………. Dated…………………………………………**

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| **Payees** | **Description** | **Amount** |
| Waterplus | Hall- water surface charges | 60.07 |
| Excel Parking  | Management fees ECN Jan | 448.80 |
| Viking Trees & Gardens | Tree survey – recommended works inc Mkt Hill | 3888.00 |
| Need a Hand Ltd | Cemetery – burst pipe/tap repair | 165.00 |
| Various | Salaries – Feb | 5389.38 |
| HMRC | Tax & NICs - Feb | 1451.73 |
| The Pension People | Pension contributions – Feb | 306.98 |
| EDF | Mkt Hill electricity | 15.00 |
| EE | Mobile phone  | 37.06 |
| Today Publications Ltd | Newsletter - Bawtry Today  | 144.00 |
| Yu Energy | Wharf St electricity | CREDIT |
| Opus Energy | Hall- electricity  | 139.31 |
| Sky Business | Broadband  | 29.94 |
| iZAN Business Solutions | Microsoft 365 email subscription  | 116.78 |
| MKS Groundcare | Grass cutting contract | 978.00 |
| A Harrison | Signage –hall/cemetery  | 21.66 |
| A Harrison | Quarterly allowance | 200.00 |
| Torne Valley Country Stores | Handymen PPE | 66.00 |
| McCarthy Decorating Services  | Joinery – main hall | 600.00 |
| HP Ink UK Limited  | Ink subscription (reimburse ALH) | 20.49 |
| WJS Chartered Surveyors | MSG Condition Report | 1500.00 |
| Blachere Illuminations UK Ltd | Tree wrapping Market Hill | 4851.60 |
| Npower | Christmas lights electricity 23-24 | 107.08 |
| Dorset Supplies | Armed chairs – New Hall (Reimburse ALH) | 187.92 |
| Metric Group Limited | PSP fees - Feb | 172.80 |
| iZAN Business Solutions  | IT support - emails | 40.80 |
| Excel Parking Services Ltd  | Car park management fees P&D – Feb | 1232.38 |
| Need a Hand Ltd | Repairs New Hall  | 310.00 |
| Global Payments  | Merchant bank fees | 199.14 |
| HSBC  | Monthly Bank charges | 16.50 |
| Opus | Hall - gas | 869.26 |