



BERKELEY TOWN COUNCIL

DRYHTENHOLDA BEORCLEAH

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PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
THE TOWN CLERK

**Berkeley Town Council
Meeting held
Monday 19th January 2015 in the
Town Hall, Berkeley at
7.30 p.m.**

Minutes

Present	Councillor	K Palmer	Chairman
		G Fryer	
		T Tucker	
		L Ashton	
		R Pinnell	
		M Studden	
		F Brown	
		J Stanton	

Clerk D Spiers

Public Discussion - 30 minutes

Alan Pascoe spoke to the council about what we could do to improve CCTV coverage in the Town.

Ruth Howard spoke to the council about her business aspirations in the town; she would like to open a café style pizzeria in the town and is currently looking for premises

Gloucestershire County Councillor Brian Tipper reported that there is to be a change of personnel at Highways, the county is working on the budget and that the list of road and pavement repairs needed in Berkeley is currently under review

Stroud District Councillor Liz Ashton updated members on the latest news with the bus services, informed council that SOSYP may be disbanding and that Berkeley public toilets have won a gold award for quality of installation and cleanliness

Stroud District Councillor Gordon Craig reported on the meeting at Stroud District Council where the planning application for houses on land to the rear of Canonbury Street was deferred.

1.	Apologies and absence Councillor Watts gave her apologies
2.	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest from Councillors relating to any items on the agenda for 19 th January 2015.
3.	Minutes of the last meeting The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 th December 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman
4.	Minutes of the Planning and Finance Committee Meetings The minutes of the Planning and Finance Committee meetings held on Tuesday 9 th December 2014 were duly noted

5.	<p>Schedule of Payments</p> <p>The schedule of payments that was presented to the meeting was duly approved - see attached</p>
6.	<p>Chairman and Councillors Reports</p> <p>Councillor Stanton reported that he and Councillor Studden had both attended a meeting at Gloucestershire County Council. John also told the council that he was in discussions with the Co-op about them holding a defibrillator for the town.</p> <p>Councillor Brown asked the council to start looking at the provision of a Christmas Tree in the town ready for next year because he had received loads of complaints about the one that we provided this year. Frazer also said that he is not happy that the council has only committed to supporting the Youth Club and the Football Club for one year at a time and feels that the council should revisit the topic and take a much more long term approach to the Clubs</p> <p>Councillor Studden reported that he had attended a meeting at GCC with Councillor Stanton where GCC had told us that they want to rethink how they deliver services - see attached report. GCC feel new ways are needed and that local volunteers could be the answer. A consultation is now taking place and the information can be found on the County Council website. Mike also reported that GCC has made savings of £140 million in the last five years and are on track to save a further £75 million over the next 3-4 years</p> <p>Councillor Ashton had attended the funeral of Ted Waller and reported that he had been very active in helping to save the Library. Liz also reported that U3A is going from strength to strength and is still looking for leaders of various groups. There was a big water leak in Station Road which has now been repaired. Liz also reported that the club that runs at Marybrook Medical centre every other Wednesday has had their NHS funding cut but that a grant from the Active Together fund will keep it going for another 8 months.</p> <p>Councillor Tucker reported that he had attended the SDC DCC meeting and found the whole thing fascinating. The visit to HMS Exploit has been cancelled due to lack of interest from other affiliates. There is an open evening advertised at the power station which will showcase the new college on the 22nd January. Tony also said that he is keen to get moving on the development of our play parks.</p> <p>The Chairman Keith Palmer reported that he had made representation to the SDC DCC meeting re the planning application for houses to the rear of Canonbury Street in accordance with the response made by the council but was disappointed that not all our District Councillors took on board what the town council had to say. Keith reported that whenever he is out and about in the town he is approached by young people asking when the houses are going to be built because they want to be able to live in Berkeley</p>
7.	<p>Discharge of Functions to the Proper Officer (Town Clerk) - Monthly Report</p> <p>The functions carried out by the Town Clerk from 1st December 2014 to 31st December 2014 were duly noted - see attached report</p>
8.	<p>VC Winner ceremony and reception</p> <p>The final cost of V C Winner ceremony and reception of £ 752.15 was duly approved - see attached report.</p>
9.	<p>Budget and Precept for 2015/16</p> <p>The budget for 2015/16 was duly approved by a majority vote - see attached budget document</p> <p>It was agreed by a majority vote to set a precept of £81,000 for 2015/16</p>

10.	<p>SDC Meeting with Parish and Town councils</p> <p>Councillors Brown, Studden, Ashton, Stanton, Tucker and Pinnell all expressed an interest in attending the meeting</p>
11.	<p>Publication Scheme</p> <p>It was agreed to approve and adopt the Publication Scheme provided - see attached document</p>
12.	<p>Berkeley Burial Committee - Cemetery Lodge</p> <p>It was agreed by a majority vote that the rent from the lodge can continue to be paid to the Berkeley Burial Committee</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to seek legal advice from NALC as to who owns the Cemetery</p>
13.	<p>Berkeley Burial Committee Budget Contribution for 2014/15</p> <p>It was agreed to pay the budget contribution of £ 3182.00 to the Berkeley Burial Committee for 2014/15</p>
14.	<p>BTC Image - Flyer Report</p> <p>It was agreed to ask the Flyer if they will allow us to publish a monthly report in the Flyer</p> <p>It was agreed that at the end of every meeting there will be an agenda item where the council can flag up the issues it wants to report in the Flyer.</p> <p>It was agreed that all members will submit in writing to the Clerk wording for each issue which will then be collated and summarised by the Clerk before submission to the Flyer</p>
15.	<p>Berkeley Town Council - website</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to look in to the following matters in relation to the website:-</p> <p>Individual email addresses for councillors Photographs of councillors List of voluntary groups Links to useful information Social media</p>
16.	<p>Donation and Letter</p> <p>The thank you letter from Mrs Harrison was duly noted.</p> <p>It was agreed that the £ 25.00 donation from Mrs Harrison will be put towards keeping the paving stone clean and to provide an information plaque on a building nearby</p>
17.	<p>Town CCTV</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to bring three quotes to the council for providing improvements to CCTV in the town</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask if there are grants available</p>

18.	<p>Recommendation to waive Financial Regulations</p> <p>The Clerk has only been able to find one local person to provide a quote to do the hedge laying at Sarah's Field. This is a specialist skill and it has proved very difficult to find three contractors who can quote for the work in order to comply with our financial regulations</p> <p>It was agreed to waive Financial Regulations in order to negotiate a price without competition in order to employ the rare specialist skills required for the task of laying a hedge</p>
19.	<p>Traffic Issues in Berkeley</p> <p>It was agreed to apply to Highways to have a 20 mph speed limit within the four bridges in Berkeley</p>
20.	<p>County and District Councillors Reports</p> <p>It was agreed to ask our County and District Councillors to submit their reports to Berkeley Town Council in writing in time to be included with agendas.</p>
21.	<p>Planning Applications - section 106</p> <p>It was agreed that if the large housing developments proposed for Sharpness go ahead that Berkeley Town Council should work with Hinton Parish Council to apply for 106 money to improve the town centre of Berkeley as it provides a commercial and social hub to the surrounding parishes</p>
22.	<p>Canon Park Recreational Facility - field</p> <p>The field at Canon Park Recreational Facility is becoming more and more waterlogged which consequently leads to flooding every time it rains. Not only does this mean that the public are more and more restricted from using the open space but also that our regular hirer, the football club, has to postpone more and more matches.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk will contact the original contractor that installed the existing drainage system to ask his advice on whether it can be upgraded and or extended.</p> <p>It was agreed that Councillors Studden, Palmer and Tucker will meet with a local man that has expertise in this area to seek his advice</p>
23.	<p>Disabled Parking Bay</p> <p>There has been requests from disabled car drivers for a disabled parking bay to be provided alongside the main shops in Salter Street</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to refer the matter to Highways</p>
24.	<p>Town Signs - see attached report</p> <p>It was agreed that the council obtains estimates from Gloucestershire Highways for the supply and installation of new signs at the entrances to Berkeley. The new signs should read "Welcome to Berkeley - Medieval Market Town and Ancient Port" and will include the Berkeley Town Coat of Arms</p>
25.	<p>Next Meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Monday 16th February 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall, Berkeley</p>

