



BERKELEY TOWN COUNCIL
DRYHTENHOLDA BEORCLEAH

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PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
THE TOWN CLERK

**Berkeley Town Council
Meeting held Monday 20th January 2014
In the Town Hall, Berkeley
At 7.30 pm**

Minutes

Present	Councillor	K Palmer C Trenchard P Hall T Tucker R Pinnell L Ashton F Brown J Dobson G Harcourt	Chairman
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Clerk D Spiers

Public Discussion

Stroud District Councillor Gordon Craig asked that the elected representatives on Berkeley Town Council take in to account the views of the residents when they make their decisions in relation to the proposed housing development to the east of the town. Gordon reported that he had been approached by residents of Stockley Park who are concerned about some Japanese Knotweed that is growing in the river alongside Jumpers Lane.

NB the Clerk pointed out that Stroud District Council has the authority and power to deal with the removal of the Japanese Knotweed

Stroud District Councillor Gordon Craig reported that he has asked for the sale details for Baileys Newsagents with a view to investigating the possibility of turning the shop in to a "Made in Berkeley" outlet. He thinks that with a grant from Magnox the shop could be run by Berkeley Community Trust as a charitable project.

Gordon then went on to ask Berkeley Town Council if they would consider deferring the decision to spend the donations budget of £ 200 and encourage local charities to apply for the funds

Stroud District Councillor Liz Ashton had attended a presentation by Magnox at which the ILW facility at Berkeley Power Station was discussed. It was reported that 90% of the waste will be from the Berkeley site and 10% from Oldbury. Liz also reported that there is a bid for funding taking place that if successful would turn the Labs site at the Power Station in to a training facility. The training would build expertise in the Nuclear and Green Energy fields and provide many jobs in the area.

Liz also reported the worrying news that the compost plant at Sharpness is being mothballed for the time being which could mean the loss of local jobs

1.	Apologies and absence There were no apologies or absences
2.	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest from Councillors relating to any items on the agenda for 20 th January 2014.

3.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>Subject to the deletion of the following words in the Public Discussion section, "Mrs Gibbons also explained her reasons for being opposed to the development", the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th December 2013 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman</p>
4.	<p>Chairman and Councillors Reports</p> <p>The Chairman Keith Palmer summarised what happened at the public meeting held the previous Friday and reported that everyone felt that they had all had the chance to have their say</p> <p>Councillor Tucker reported that there has been raucous behaviour and late night drinking outside a local pub which may have been outside the licensing hours</p> <p>Councillor Harcourt reported that the drains from the bank to the hospital are still blocked and cause large muddy puddles to form outside the bank during periods of heavy rain.</p> <p>Gordon also reported that the parking enforcement officer has had some success in moving people who park their cars in the Market Place for more than the hour allowed</p> <p>Councillor Pinnell reported that the Canon Park working party has started work on a lease for the site</p> <p>Councillor Ashton reported that the Credit Union is quite busy with people starting to use them for Christmas Savings and instead of applying for Payday Loans. Liz will attend a conference tomorrow that will discuss personal debt.</p> <p>Liz also reported that Stroud District Council environment committee have set up a grant scheme that will help small local food producers. Liz had also attended a Purton Society meeting where chorizo was on offer that had been produced locally.</p> <p>Councillor Ashton is carrying out a survey with users of the disabled parking bay in the Market Place. Liz also went to the funeral of Mr Bert Weaver which was very well attended</p> <p>Councillor Hall reported that the toddler play equipment in Park View Play Area has been repaired and refurbished and is looking very good now</p>
5.	<p>Schedule of Payments</p> <p>The schedule of payments that was presented to the meeting was duly approved</p>
6.	<p>Precept 2014/15</p> <p>It was agreed by a majority vote to demand a precept of £ 81,000.00 for 2014/15</p>
7.	<p>Donations</p> <p>At the present time there is £ 200 in the donations budget</p> <p>We have received requests for donations from the following organisations</p> <p>Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper Dursley & District Good Neighbours Scheme Sue Ryder - Leckhampton Court Hospice County Air Ambulance Trust (Midlands) Arthritis Research UK</p> <p>It was agreed to defer this item until next month</p>
8.	<p>Grounds Maintenance Contract 2014</p> <p>TW Hawkins and Sons have submitted their quotation for grass cutting and grounds maintenance for the 2014 season. For the first time since 2010 they have increased their rates by 3%.</p> <p>It was agreed to instruct Hawkins and Sons to carry out the grass cutting and grounds maintenance for the 2014 season</p>

9.	<p>Victoria Cross Holders 2014-2018</p> <p>The family of John Butler VC have been in contact with the council and would like to be present for any ceremonies we hold to commemorate the recipient of the Victoria Cross. Some family members may come from as far away as Canada.</p> <p>It was agreed that Berkeley Town Council will be involved with the provision, installation and ceremony to mark the 100th anniversary of the Victoria Cross recipient</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to contact The Royal British Legion to ascertain if they have any information in relation to this project</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to liase with HMS Exploit to see if they could be in the area at the same time for the plaque laying. It was also discussed whether to try and put the whole event together to coincide with the Summer Fair</p>
10.	<p>Town Trail Leaflets</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to ask Sem a4 graphics to come up with a fixed price quote for the leaflets</p> <p>It was agreed that Councillor Hall will liase with Simon on the content of the leaflet</p>
11.	<p>Berkeley Cemetery</p> <p>The representatives from the Berkeley Burial Committee reported that the decision to fell the trees is staying and they will be replaced with the planting of native hedging</p>
12.	<p>Meetings various</p> <p>Emergency Plan - The clerk was instructed to distribute copies of the emergency plan for Berkeley to members in order for them to discuss it at the next meeting</p> <p>Play Equipment Project - Councillors Ashton, Trenchard, Dobson, Hall and Tucker will form a working party and invite other interested parties to attend</p> <p>SOSYP - It was agreed that Councillor Palmer will step down as member of SOSYP and Councillor Tucker will take his place</p> <p>The April council meeting date falls on Easter Monday this year therefore the Clerk will reschedule the meeting to Monday 28th April 2014 - noted and approved</p> <p>The Annual Town Council meeting, normally held in May, is very close to the election (22nd May). In order that we can comply with the declarations of acceptance of office forms the Annual Town Council meeting will now be held on Monday 2nd June 2014 - noted and approved</p>
13.	<p>Staff Matters</p> <p>Exclusion of the Press and Public</p> <p>It was resolved that the Press and Public were excluded from item 13 on the grounds that the matter to be discussed should remain confidential</p>
14.	<p>Next Meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Monday 17th February 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall, Berkeley</p>