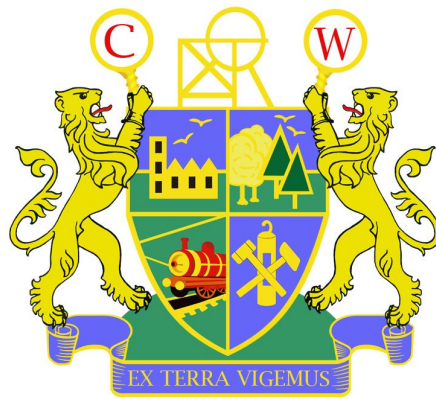


CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of Ordinary Meeting
Held at Hutton House,
Durham Road, Chilton on
Tuesday 10th July 2007
At 6.30 p.m.

Mayor: *M. Errington* **Deputy Mayor:** *A. Bruce*

Present: *Councillor's, Mrs G Attwood, V. Collinson, E. Campbell,
Mrs M. Walton, Mrs E. Bruce, J. Lee. J.B. Turner*

Apologies: *B. Jones, L. Potts, P. Davies*

Clerk: *P. Gray*

Press: None

Public: 2

01.07.07 **Mayor/Chairman Remarks**

Councillor Errington welcomed all to the meeting.

02.07.07 **Declaration of Interest**

No member had any pecuniary interest in the agenda.

03.07.07 **Police Report**

No Police report was given.

04.07.07 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of ordinary meeting held June 2007 were approved and signed as a correct record.

05.07.07

Environmental Committee

Allotments

No meeting was held on the account of the elections. Councillor Campbell informed members that he had been approached by the allotment holder of 136 West Chilton Allotment Site for the supply of a large skip. This allotment is where there was a problem with asbestos sheeting. A large amount of rubbish was generated with demolish of sheds and the general cleaning up of the allotment through the actions of the previous tenant. Although there was concerns by members and the clerk with the costs been incurred by the Council regarding this allotment it was decided to grant the supply of one large skip only. The clerk informed members that at £17.00 per year rent it would take nearly 30 years to recoup the money spent on this allotment so far.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the request for 1 large skip only to the tenant of plot 136.

Cemetery

Councillor A. Bruce informed members there was nothing to report.

Councillor E Bruce said she had received a complaint from a lady regarding the Cemetery fees, having been charged double for living at Ferryhill when the daughter lives in Chilton. Councillor E. Bruce asked whether it makes a difference because the daughter is paying for the funeral.

Councillor Turner informed members that it took nearly two years to adopt the present rules and regulations relating to the cemetery and burial fees. The rules clearly state that if the deceased person lived outside of the parish then double fees would be applied. The clerk informed members that the Town Council have saved this family £174.00 by advising them to purchase only one burial plot than the two requested.

Councillor E. Bruce said the lady wasn't happy with service she had received from the Council and in particular the clerk. The clerk informed members of what happened when the mother and daughter came to the office. They asked why they had to pay double fees when the daughter lived in Chilton, the clerk responded by saying that it was the Council's policy to charge double fees for any burials requirements for people who lived outside of Chilton.

The daughter then accused the Town Council of been greedy, the clerk informed the two ladies that the Council do not recover all the costs associated with maintaining its cemetery and again informed them of saving £174.00. The clerk agreed with the daughter to give him a couple of days to seek clarification from members of the Town Council which she agreed. In the mean time the daughter contacted Councillor E. Bruce before the clerk had time to resolve the issue in an attempt to circumvent the Council's Rules and Regulations.

Members agreed that it had taken a long time to consider the rules and regulations regarding the Chilton Cemetery and that this policy stands. The family are to pay double fees as the deceased had lived outside of Chilton.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor 's A. Bruce, E. Bruce and the clerks report.

Miners Welfare Recreation Ground

Nothing to report.

06.07.07 **Northumbria in Bloom**

Councillor Attwood informed members that Northumbria in Bloom judges visited Chilton today. The judges were impressed with the planting and hanging baskets. The committee and judges visited the sensory garden within the court yard of Chilton School. This area was in a poor condition with unkempt borders and soil on the footpaths. The clerk said he would ask the grounds maintenance contractor to keep the beds clean over the school holidays

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor Attwood's report

Chilton in Bloom

Nothing to Report

The Mayor/Chairman adjourned the meeting to facilitate public participation

07.07.07 **Public Participation 20 minutes**

The following point was raised by members of the public:

- a) A lady and her daughter live at Westwood Terrace, last Tuesday someone through two house bricks through the front room window damaging the carpet and furniture. It was fortunate that her grandson wasn't sitting where he usually sat or he could have suffered severe injury or death. The family are asking if the Town Council could help them to seek alternative housing. Members informed the family that they have no influence over the Borough Council's housing policy but could ask the Borough Councillors for Chilton to make representations on their behalf.
The family thanked members for listening.

Following public participation the Mayor/Chairman resumed the meeting

08.07.07 **Citizens Advice Bureau**

Councillor Turner informed the members that had been no meeting of the C.A.B since his last report.

09.07.07

Chilton Partnership

Councillor Walton reported that the police investigation into the former treasurer was still ongoing. Councillor Walton reported that Councillor Turner had resigned his position from the Partnership and that Chilton Partnership was enquiring if Councillor Turner would like to still remain a member. Councillor Turner said he would like to remain a member.

Councillor Turner informed members that Ann Rutherford had thanked him for his assistance in dealing with the former treasurer situation.

It was also raised at the Partnership meeting about Mrs Chapel accepting a position on the Primary Care Group without bringing the proposal to the Partnership for discussion.

Mrs Chapel enquired through the Partnership who was responsible for the grass cutting behind Dene Bridge Row. The clerk informed Councillor Walton that the land behind Dene Bridge was in the ownership of Durham County Council, Lord Eldon's Estate and private ownership. Therefore any complaints regarding grass cutting and maintenance should be addressed to these organisations.

A complaint was also received via Mrs Chapel about the lack of a bus shelter at the end of Dene Bridge Row. Residents are asking if the Town Council could consider the installation of a bus stop. The clerk informed members that an inexpensive bus shelter would be in excess of £2500 and no provision had been made within the Town Council's Precept for 2007/08.

The clerk said he would send a letter to the Partnership suggesting that they contact Durham County Councillor, George Porter to see if he could fund a new bus shelter out of his annual allowance.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Councillor Walton's report and for the clerk to send a letter to the Partnership.

10.07.07

Staff Update

The clerk informed members that the annual clerk's conference was to be held 26th, 27th and 28th of October 2007. The clerk asked whether members could give consideration into allowing the clerk to attend. This is a good networking opportunity and will allow the clerk to keep up to date with current trends and innovations. The clerk last attended the conference in 2004. Members agreed that the clerk should attend the conference.

It was **RESOLVED** to allow the clerk to attend the SLCC conference at Coventry 26th, 27th and 28th October 2007.

11.07.07

SBC C.C.T.V / Town Council C.C.T.V

Nothing to report.

12.07.07

Finance & Planning Committee

Agreed Report.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the report.

13.07.07 **Accounts for Payment – Financial Report**

The following payments were **authorised**;

Cheques for Payment

Durham C.C.	Repayment for Website	£5000.00
Able Novak	Civic Taxes	£388.00
K+ M Print	Raffle tickets	£15.28
Sue's florist	Flowers invoices 0077, 09638	£102.00
Kay Henderson	Chilton Time Line	£1000.00
British Gas	Gas Invoice Hutton House	£86.74
G.V. Cummins	Part payment for floodlighting	£31,474.00
NEDL	Ref: 9813967 Electric Shrouding	£496.83
G.V Cummins	VAT element	£3658.79
Zurich	Seminar – Corporate Manslaughter	£105.75

TOTAL EXPENDITURE = £42,327.39

Direct Debits/Standing Orders June/July 2007

Payee	Purpose	Amount
Co-Op Loan – Office Extension	Loan	1063.00
Automatic Retailing	Coffee Machines	0.00
Xerox BNP Paribas	Photocopier	0.00
B.T. NE19432274000	Land line	0.00
B.T. WM34853285Q022	Land line	0.00
B.T. Contract Rental 06063034-5	System	0.00
Northumbrian W 22497645001x	Water – West Chilton all	65.21
Northumbrian W 210036150044	Water – West Chilton all	39.08
Northumbrian W 210036150026	Water – West Chilton all	110.92
Northumbrian W 210036150017	Water – Prospect Tce all	165.94
Northumbrian W 210036150053	Water – Hamilton Way all	253.03
Northumbrian W 210249200014	Water -	9.87
Northumbrian W 308056470015	Water -	35.00
Sedgefield Borough Council 052587	Rates – Hutton House	73.00
Sedgefield Borough Council 159612	Rates	275.00
Sedgefield Borough Council 161150	Rates	81.00
HFGL Limited 528446/001		260.43
PB Purchase Power	Postage	0.00
Visa Payment		444.57
HSBC	Charges	44.68
Sedgefield Borough Council 80011618	Salaries	4000
Siemens 064-3104	CCTV	0.00
NPower 79964403790	Elect	32.00
BT VP83194270M00501	Line	321.78
Npower 79159492840	Elect	327.86

Zoom CCTV	CCTV maintenance	0.00
Society of Local Council Clerk	Subscription	0.00
Npower 79123628510	Elect	0.00
Northumbria W 210036150071	Water -	131.13
Northumbria W 210036150080	Water -	152.77
K.V. Grounds Maintenance	Horticultural Contract	4837.80
British Gas 850003155463	Hutton House	82.50

Income received from 13th June 2007 to 10th July 2007

18.06.07	Cleveland Monumental	Memorial fee for late Ralph Harnett	86.00	Cheque	520
20.06.07	Co-op, F/Hill	Memorial fee for late Joan Nelson	92.00	Cheque	521
20.06.07	Miss A. Watson	Yearly rent (200 WCT) - double payment	19.00	Cash	647
20.06.07	Mrs Whitehouse	Yearly rent (202 WCT) - double payment	19.00	Cash	648
06.07.07	Mr P. Newell	Yearly rent (57 Prospect Tce) - double payment	30.00	Cheque	649
18/06/07	Preston North End FC	Donation for Memorial Arch	250.00	Cheque	509
28/06/07	Newcastle United FC	Donation for Memorial Arch	500.00	Cheque	510
06/07/07	Sedgefield Borough Council		31474.00	Cheque	511

32470.00

14.07.07 Correspondence for Action

No correspondence for action was received.

15.07.07 Correspondence for Information

A letter was received from Durham County Council regarding the positioning of stone boulders beyond the gate past Chilton Cemetery. The County Council informed Chilton Town Council that although the old A167 was closed legally it is still classed a public highway with underground utilities and therefore it is not possible to position boulders on the highway as this would create an offence. While the County Council understand the reasoning behind the request hopefully the new C.C.T.V camera would discourage any potential problems.

Members felt disappointed with the County Council's position.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the letter.

Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Next Town Council Meeting to be held at Hutton House, Durham Road

Tuesday 11th September 2007 at 6.30 p.m.

Signed as a true and correct record.....

Councillor Maureen Errington, Mayor

Date:.....