

## Minutes of the April 16<sup>th</sup> 2013 Monthly Meeting of Ripley Town Council

**Present:** Councillor S Daley (in the Chair)  
Councillors R P Ashton, A Bridge, Ms L D Cox, C Cutting, S D Freeborn, M B Gent, M J Godfrey, Mrs J H Gregory, T Holmes, M Missett, R A P Phillips-Forsyth, Mrs A S Ward, D A Williams, M Wilson, Mrs C Worth.  
In attendance: four members of the public, two members of the press, Police and the Clerk

Prior to the meeting Mr G Hudson spoke regarding the Amber Valley Borough Council offices and the Old Town Hall, which he had been in discussions with Amber Valley Borough Council stating his proposed purchase and the plans to make the offices a care home with apartments above which Amber Valley Borough Council were very receptive to and were very positive about the sale. However, then when he had tried to purchase the premises Amber Valley Borough Council rejected his offer which was a Market Value offer and the buildings are still for sale on the agents website, Jones, Lang LaSalle. Cllr Freeborn thanked Mr Hudson and stated that this would be discussed under item 8a) Town Hall Lease.

### AGENDA

#### **PART I – NON CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**6055. To receive apologies for absence** – Cllrs: K T Buzzard, M G Jones, S Joynes and D T Ward

**6056. Variation of Order of Business - **RESOLVED**** to bring forward item 8a) Town Hall Lease

**6057. 8a) Town Hall Lease** – AVBC have withdrawn the option for Ripley Town Council to lease the Town Hall –

**RESOLVED** that Ripley Town Council seeks to work in partnership with Mr Hudson to lease or purchase the Old Town Hall and to continue discussions with Amber Valley Borough Council.

**6058. Declaration of Members Interests:**

Cllr L D Cox declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8a) Town Hall Lease as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr L D Cox declared a personal interest regarding 8l) Porterhouse Road lease of Play Area and would remain in the meeting.

Cllr M Wilson declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8a) Town Hall Lease as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr RAP Phillips-Forsyth declared a personal interest regarding 10) Ripley Gateway Development – A case of ‘maladministration’ by Amber Valley Borough Council as an employee and share save member of Sainsbury’s and would remain in the meeting.

Cllr Mrs A S Ward declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8a) Town Hall Lease as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr Mrs A S Ward declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8b) Village Green Application as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr Mrs A S Ward declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8l) Porterhouse Road lease of Play Area and would leave the meeting.

Cllr Mrs A S Ward declared a pecuniary interest regarding 10) Ripley Gateway Development – A case of ‘maladministration’ by Amber Valley Borough Council as member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr M B Gent declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8a) Town Hall Lease as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr M B Gent declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8b) Village Green Application as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr M B Gent declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8l) Porterhouse Road lease of Play Area

and would leave the meeting.

Cllr M B Gent declared a pecuniary interest regarding 10) Ripley Gateway Development – A case of ‘maladministration’ by Amber Valley Borough Council as member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

Cllr T Holmes declared a pecuniary interest regarding 8a) Town Hall Lease as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and would leave the meeting.

**6059. Public speaking –**

Mr R Emmas-Williams spoke stating that he wished to make the members of Ripley Town Council aware that he had presented a petition on behalf of the shopkeepers of Ripley to the Amber Valley Mayor on March 27<sup>th</sup> 2013 with signatures of 2338 shoppers who signed to express their opposition to a proposed out of town supermarket being built on the Recreation Ground, Nottingham Road, Ripley. It is totally irresponsible of some members of Amber Valley Borough Council to continue to support the “Preferred Growth Strategy” document knowing that is against the Borough’s own Local Plan and against their own retail study which found that no more supermarkets in Amber Valley are needed. With regards to the u-turn done by the Tories on Amber Valley Borough Council with the withdrawal of the lease on Ripley Town Hall, Mr Emmas-Williams wished to record his disgust at this course of action being taken at such a late stage in the proceedings when so much of tax payers’ money has been spent carrying out negotiations and drawing up contracts. It is disgraceful the way that the Borough Council has reneged on their promise to return the Town Hall to the people of Ripley, that it actually belonged to in the first place and he hopes that Ripley Town Council protects this iconic building for the future of Ripley.

PC Reddish spoke of the new uniform issued and was wearing an example. The team is now down to four staff and are trying to maintain the Ripley Beat Office opening times as agreed with Amber Valley Borough Council the Safer Neighbourhood Team, and Amber Valley Access. Residents find the Police office very useful and helpful and want it to remain open. The next Safer Neighbourhood meeting will be April 24<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 6.30pm to set the proprieties for the next three months. Be aware there are rogue traders expanding their traits in the area, please be careful.

PC Reddish also spoke of his wish for Police to have the powers to issue parking tickets and he had spoken to his Inspector about this, he would give the Town Clerk the information and she would then write to the Police Commissioner to ask for Police to issue parking tickets.

This was PC Reddish’s last meeting as he retires in May 2013.

Cllr R P Ashton thanked PC Reddish for his help and work with the Ripley Town Council and wished him well in his retirement.

Cllr S D Freeborn thanked PC Reddish for his level of service and commitment to Ripley and wished him a long and happy retirement.

**6060. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the: Town Council Meeting March 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 and the Special Town Council Meeting April 4<sup>th</sup> 2013 (previously circulated)**

**RESOLVED** to sign both sets of minutes as a true and accurate record

**6061. To determine which items if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.**

**RESOLVED** “In view of the confidential nature of item.8m) Certificate of Merit Award to consider 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 the item.”

**6062. Town Mayor’s Announcements –** Reminder Civic Dinner Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2013, the Mayor attended the Alfreton Civic Service.

**6063. Report of the Town Clerk on: -**

- a) **Town Hall Lease** – AVBC have withdrawn the option for Ripley Town Council to lease the Town Hall – item for discussion (See minute 6057)
- b) **Village Green application** – Copies of letters were received from Amber Valley Borough Council to Derbyshire County Council stating that they wanted the decision to be made a.s.a.p. Derbyshire County Council responded stating the procedures and the decision would possibly be made in June 2013 – **item for report**

- c) **DALC on site training explaining Councillors, Chair and Clerk roles** – reminder Wednesday May 22nd 2013 (this is part of the Quality Status training policy) – **item for report**
  - d) **Ripley Heritage Action Group** – Cllr S D Freeborn reported this group will now be working independently of Ripley Town Council – it is now a properly constituted group, meeting the third Wednesday of the month. An immediate aim is to use the Rights of Way as a Heritage Trail and add plaques for places and names of interest of interest and the group will be looking for funding for this – **item for report**
  - e) **Ripley Town Council re-opening Toilets in the Market Place Ripley** – the Clerk reported that the Licence from Amber Valley Borough Council was in process. But Amber Valley Borough Council had insisted that Ripley Town Council insure the contents and fixtures, this cannot be done as fixtures are part of the buildings insurance. Hopefully this can be rectified soon – **item for report**
  - f) **Youth Councils** – update – the Clerk had written to several groups and awaiting responses.
  - g) **Marehay Bus Shelter** – completion of DCC Funding programme application form i.e. 50% RTC £2,500 and 50% DCC £2,500 – the Clerk reported that Derbyshire County Council are waiting for confirmation that Amber Valley Borough Council would take on the maintenance of the bus shelter if Derbyshire County Council and Ripley Town Council pay for the shelter and installation – **item for report**
  - h) **Email from Heage Scout Group** – the Scout community week is 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June 2013, has the Council anything that the Scout Group could do for the community  
**RESOLVED** local members would look at what could be done and contact Heage Scouts.
  - i) **Email from resident regarding gritting Oxford Street Ripley**  
**RESOLVED** to inform residents of each authority's responsibilities in the next news-letter
  - j) **Subscription to Journal of Local Planning (Neighbourhood Plans) – cost £50 pa for four issues**  
**RESOLVED** to join and pay the subscription of £50.00 per annum for the next year
  - k) **Cedar Avenue Play Area – quotation received for play equipment from:-**  
**Streetscape £15,083 + VAT or £11,780 + VAT**  
**Proludic at £9,182 + VAT**  
**Sovereign at £8,743.50 + VAT or with additional optional equipment £15,327.91**  
**RESOLVED** for a working group (Cllrs A Bridge, RAP Phillips-Forsyth, R P Ashton and the Clerk) to meet and discuss the various quotations and spend up to a maximum of £10,000 to £11,000 exclusive of VAT, also speak to the Ripley Infant School and the Nursery School for opinions on what is required, then bring the recommendations to the May meeting
  - l) **Porterhouse Road lease of Play Area** – the Clerk reported that she had written to Amber Valley Borough Council stating that the costs they wanted to charge Ripley Town Council £100.00 per hour for the writing the lease would be better if each side stood their own costs, but to date had received no response
  - m) **Certificate of Merit Award** – recommendation for the Award (to be held with the public excluded see minute 6068)
  - n) **East Midlands Ambulance Service** – the future of Ripley Ambulance Station replied received – Ripley Station will close and Ripley Town Council are very concerned about this – **item for report**
- 6064. Ripley Reckoning and Neighbourhood Plan Open Day change of date to April 27<sup>th</sup> 2013 10.00am till 3.30pm at Ripley Library, Grosvenor Road, Ripley** – item for report
- 6065. Ripley Gateway Development – A case of ‘maladministration’ by Amber Valley Borough Council?** – No update to report

**6066. Accounts for payment/Income cheques to be approved and signed**

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
503131	L McCormick Clerk's pay & reimburse – HMRC PAYE 503132	1184.17		1184.17
503133	Amber Valley Borough Council Office Rent due 5/4/13	300.00	60.00	360.00
503134	DALC – 1 delegate for Spring Seminar on 6/3/13	40.00		40.00
503135	DALC – Annual Subscription	914.65		914.65
503136	E-on electricity account	313.31	15.67	328.98
503137	L McCormick reimbursement for Town seal	18.11	3.62	21.73
503138	MH-p Website	15.00	3.00	18.00
503139	Baileys Printers – Ripley Reckoning Questionnaire	78.00		78.00
503140	AMT - Neighbourhood Plan facilitation to end March 2013	9000.00	1800.00	10800.00
503141	Amber Valley Borough Council – printing & envelopes	24.67	1.74	26.41
503142	Amber Valley Borough Council – postage	66.44		66.44
	Total	£11954.35	£1884.03	£13838.38

**6067. Planning Applications – previously circulated**

**Public Footpath No. 58** notice of confirmation of Diversion Order – item for information

**Public Excluded**

**6068. Certificate of Merit Award – recommendation for the Award**

**RESOLVED** to make a special case this year and award the Certificate of Merit to a very deserving person who will be announced at a later meeting

**6069. Items for Information in the Information Folder:**

**PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**6070. To determine which items if any from Part 2 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.**

**6071. Date for the next monthly meeting - May 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 - 6.45pm Annual Assembly and 7.00pm Annual General Meeting**

**Meeting closed at 8.35pm**