



# Ripley Town Council

Town Hall, Market Place  
Ripley DE5 3BT

Contact: Town Clerk  
Linda McCormick  
Tel: 01773 832211

Email: [townclerk@ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



## **MINUTES OF APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> 2018 MEETING OF RIPLEY TOWN COUNCIL** held at **7.00pm** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ripley

Attendees; Cllr Mrs S Emmas Williams (Chair), and Cllrs R.P. Ashton, A. Bridge, S.D. Carter, Ms L.D. Cox, R. Emmas-Williams, D. Farrelly, I. Fisher, S.D. Freeborn, Mrs J.H. Gregory, T. Holmes, L. Joyes, P. Lobley, P.C. Moss, N. Weaving, D.A. Williams, M.C.Wilson and C. Worth..  
Members of the Public.

L. McCormick (Town Clerk), H.Curzon (Deputy Town Clerk) and D. Townsend.

### **170418/1 To Receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C. Cutting, M.G. Jones and M.J. Missett.

### **170418/2 Variation of Order of Business**

**RESOLVED** that Items 24 and 25 be deleted.

### **170418/3 Declaration of Members Interests**

Cllr R. Emmas-Williams declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 11(a), 15, 16 and 17 as a Member of Amber Valley Borough Council, and a Member of Friends of Ripley Greenway, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr A. Bridge declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 11(a), and 17 as a Member of Friends of Ripley Greenway, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr L. Cox declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 11(a), and 17 as a Member of Friends of Ripley Greenway, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr S. Emmas-Williams declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 11(a), and 17 as a Member of Friends of Ripley Greenway, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr M. Wilson declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a Member of Amber Valley Borough Council, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr T. Holmes declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 11(a), 15 and 16 as a Member of Amber Valley Borough Council, and a Member of Friends of Ripley Greenway, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr P. Moss declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 15 and 16 as a Member of Amber Valley Borough Council, but would remain in the Meeting.

Cllr R. Ashton declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 15, 16, 19, 20 and 21, as a Member of Amber Valley Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council, but would remain in the Meeting.

### **170418/4 Public Speaking**

Cllr Freeborn reported that he was requesting an urgent meeting with Amber Valley Borough Council Planning Department to discuss the recent decision for the approval of 30 houses opposite Firs Works, Nether Heage.

Cllr Farrelly reported that pot-holes in the area were a big problem, and not being dealt with adequately. He encouraged everybody to report them to Derbyshire County Council, and claim compensation if damage was caused.

**170418/5 To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Town Council's Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018.**

**RESOLVED to agree and sign the Minutes as a true and accurate record.**

**170418/6 To confirm the Minutes of the Events Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes and Recommendations be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.**

**170418/7 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018, and accept the Recommendations therein.**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes and Recommendations be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.**

**170418/8 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council's Finance and Management Committee Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018, and accept the Recommendations therein.**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes and Recommendations be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.**

**170418/9 To determine which additional items on any part of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.**

None.

#### **170418/10 Town Mayors Announcements**

Ripley Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs. S. Emmas-Williams, gave an update on her Mayoral engagements since the last Meeting;

- 31<sup>st</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> April Attended Ripley and District Twinning Association events during the French visit to the Town.
- 8<sup>th</sup> April – Matlock Civic Service
- 15<sup>th</sup> April – Belper Civic Service

#### **170418/11 Reports of the Town Clerk**

It was reported that the Friends of Greenway had requested the use of the Town Council's crest on their interpretation boards.

**RESOLVED that the crest can be used by Friends of Greenway.**

#### **170418/12 Grosvenor Road**

It was reported that it was hoped that the new offices on Grosvenor Road would be open by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018. They would be open 10 am – 3 pm Monday to Friday. A new phone number would also be required.

**RESOLVED that the Town Clerk enter into a formal agreement for the lease on Grosvenor Road countersigned by two Town Councillors. This would be for an initial 3 years with an option for a further 6 years with a break clause in the middle.**

#### **170418/13 Extreme Wheels**

Negotiations had been held with Extreme Wheels to provide youth activities in the Township. It was proposed to provide activity sessions plus a skate jam at the end of Summer.

**RESOLVED that the Town Clerk arrange for up to 13 nights of activity sessions, plus 1 skate jam session. The cost not to exceed £6000. It was agreed that as this offering was unique, with no other providers offering the same or similar activities, there was no requirement to get further quotes.**

#### **170418/14 Christmas Lights**

It was reported that the existing provider had quoted for enhanced lights for Christmas 2018.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk order the additional enhanced lighting at a cost of £3500 to include all fittings.

#### **170418/15 Greenwich Park**

It was reported that tenders had now been received and an offer made to the selected tenderer. A public announcement of the decision would be made within the next 2 weeks.

**NOTED.**

#### **170418/16 Amber Valley Local Plan**

It was reported that the Planning Inspector had submitted their initial queries to AVBC who had responded. It was noted that they had queried why the Ripley Neighbourhood Plan did not feature as prominently as it should. Copies of this exchange could be found on the AVBC website. A date was awaited for the Hearing.

**NOTED**

#### **170418/17 Countryside Services Improvements Programme 2018/19**

This is Derbyshire County Council's programme, which was approved by Cabinet on 5<sup>th</sup> April. One of the projects within this was for the improvement to existing barriers on Ripley Greenway to facilitate disabled access to sections of the trail. It was observed that there was currently no difficulty in accessing this either by mobility scooter or wheelchair, and the Greenway can also be accessed from footways where there are no barriers at all.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk write to Derbyshire County Council setting out these observations, and requesting that the Town Council and Friends of Ripley Greenway be fully involved in any further discussions about any suggested changes.

#### **170418/18 Vital Valley Scheme**

On 5<sup>th</sup> April, Derbyshire County Council (DCC) approved the Vital Valley Scheme. This report stated "The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS)...has numerous stakeholders and its activities are co-ordinated and promoted through a steering group and a wider partnership supported by a small officer team. The team had secured Heritage Lottery funding for a £1.5 million Vital Valley scheme which encompassed a programme of projects up until 2020.

It was noted that no funds were ear-marked for the Ripley Township, even though Ambergate was in the World Heritage Site, and the last UNESCO review of the World Heritage Sites stipulated that it should do far more for the buffer zones (like Ambergate, Sawmills, Bullbridge and Nether Heage).

**RESOLVED** that

- 1) the Town Clerk drafts a letter to UNESCO informing them that we should no longer be included amongst the 'key stakeholders' named in DVMWHS funding applications and reports to UNESCO, as we have received little or no benefit from it.
- 2) The draft letter be sent to DCC as a courtesy before it is sent to UNESCO, inviting DCC to re-evaluate the actions/plans of the WHS Steering Group, with the specific brief to involve the Ripley Township, but specifically Ambergate, Sawmills, Bullbridge and Nether Heage. The Heritage Lottery Fund to be copied in on all correspondence.

#### **170418/19 Public Library Service Strategy**

Derbyshire County Council had proposed to consult on changes to the library service, introducing tiers of library, which were categorised according to their future status. Ripley was in tier 2 so was scheduled to stay open, but with reduced hours. Those libraries in tiers 3 and 4 had an uncertain future – it may be required that they are run by volunteers

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk respond to the consultation, expressing the Town Council's concern over what is perceived as service cuts and job loss. It was felt that those libraries in tiers 3 and 4 were at risk, as there were serious gaps in the description of how such community-based services would run.

#### **170418/20 Development of Contracted Local Bus Services in Derbyshire**

Derbyshire County Council planned to scrap subsidies on certain bus routes. This included services 61 and 63 in the Ripley area

**RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to Derbyshire County Council expressing concern that this proposal would affect those residents who could least afford it, as bus fares would almost certainly rise.**

#### **170418/21 Derbyshire Bus Partnership Plan 2018/23**

Derbyshire County Council were proposing to look for commercial operators to take on existing subsidised bus routes, and run them on a commercial basis.

**RESOLVED that Ripley Town Council seek to encourage third parties to come forward to see if any services could be saved.**

#### **170418/22 Planning Applications**

None for discussion.

#### **170418/23 Items in the Information Folder**

Rural Service News Digest, Rural Opportunities Bulletin, Rural Transport, Explore the Mind Maze Course, DALC Circular, Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan Consultation, Amber Valley CVS Bulletin.

#### **170418/24 Employment of Deputy Clerk**

The Deputy Town Clerk (Hannah Curzon) was introduced. It was also reported that the Acting Town Clerk would be no longer required after 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Meeting of Ripley Town Council was confirmed as 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 a 7.00 pm. This Meeting will be preceded by the Annual Assembly Meeting for the Parish of Ripley at 6.45 pm.

The Meeting closed at 7.45 pm.