

NEW MILLS TOWN COUNCIL

New Mills Town Hall, New Mills, High Peak SK22 4AT

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Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held in The Council Chambers, New Mills Town Hall, New Mills At 7.00pm on Monday 14 October 2024

Councillors Present Steve Davey (Chair), Lyn Bannister, Andrew Denton, Katy Pearson, Simon Evans, Katy Pearson, Michelle Bancroft, Margaret Ritchie, Beth Eadie and John Reed.

In Attendance 1 member of the public, a representative of New Mills and District Volunteer Centre (NMDVC) representative. High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) Cllrs Peter Inman and Jennifer Benzer. Clare Wild (Clerk)

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

FTC/24/212 Introductions and Apologies for Absence

Absent Cllrs: Matthew Donovan had presented apologies.

DCC Cllr Anne Clarke had had presented apologies.

All present made introductions

FTC/24/213 Variation of Order of Business

RESOLVED:

to move discussions, as necessary, likely to disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of the schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, relating to Item 15 - High Lea Hall Committee to after the exclusion of the Press and Public.

To bring forward the Item 16 relating to the New Mills and District Volunteer Centre Lease proposal as representative had been present.

FTC/24/214 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Simon Evans (SE)

- Item 9 Planning. As a member of the Development and Planning Committee HPBC. SE would remain in the meeting but have no vote.
- Item 15 Volunteer Centre Lease. As a member of the Board of Trustees at New Mills and District Volunteer Centre. SE would leave the meeting during these discussions and have no vote.

FTC/24/215 Public Speaking

Cllr Lyn Bannister (LB) spoke as a member of the public to inform members of the Mount Pleasant operational plans, as Cllrs had raised this at the last Council Meeting.

- Co-op Fields would remain as a 'public space'
- All entrances would remain open regardless of the outcome of the consultation
- There were no plans for the venue to be opened on a weekly basis. It would be used for 'Pop-Up' events only
- Requested that the Town Councils consultation is paused until the applicant had held a pre-planning interview for permanent permission with HPBC planning officers.

No members of the Community Police had attended.

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Councillor Anne Clarke had been unable to attend but had submitted a report which had been read out by the Chair that highlighted:-

- DCC Library consultation would remain open until 2 November 2024, proposals for New Mills could see a loss of two opening hours plus a phasing out of evening opening. Surgery to answer any questions to be held on the 26 October 2024, residents were encouraged to attend and/or respond to the consultation.
- Recently approved road lines were due to be marked in the Town soon, dependent on weather
- DCC Consultation that included the closure of New Mills Jubilee Day Care Centre had closed. Matter to be discussed by the cabinet on 14 November 2024
- Public Rights of Way (PRoW) continue to monitor issues relating to Footpath 99.

The Chair requested that any questions in relation to these matters are addressed directly to Cllr Anne Clarke

High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) Councillor Simon Evans (SE) informed:-

- That he continued to monitor the consultation process regarding the proposed changes to New Mills Leisure Centre (NMLC). The Town Council advised that the Town Hall would serve as the ideal venue for an in-person session with residents and interested parties.
- A 'Go Green' event being hosted by HPBC would be held at New Mills Town Hall and he encouraged members of the Council to attend.

HPBC Councillor Peter Inman (Sett Ward)

- Had raised his concern at the condition on the building known previously as The White Hart, public house. He had an interest in ensuring that landlords developed vacant properties and offered to assist with this process by offering advice and assistance with grant applications that could facilitate this.
- Requested that the Council progress consideration of the introduction of electric vehicle charging points in the Town and

commencing at Rowarth Playground Car Park. Chair requested that this matter be considered by the Parks, Open Spaces and Events Committee.

FTC/24/216 Minutes of the previous meetings

Corrections FTC24/211 numbering on options need to be corrected.

RESOLVED: Minutes of the last New Mills Town Council meetings held on Monday 9 September 2024 had been confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

FTC/24/217 Volunteer Centre Lease

The Finance Buildings and Assets Committee (FAB) had presented a recommendation to the Council to retain the freehold of the building but offer a long lease to NMDVC for a small annual amount, to be agreed, with the VC maintaining the building. Lease would stipulate that upon NMDVC closing the building would return to NMTC and the cost for arranging the lease would be covered by NMDVC.

The representative from NMDVC informed members that transfer of ownership had been their preferred outcome, and on the basis that they had met their lease payments, which equates to the Public Works Loan Body loan repayment amount and carried out all the building improvements and maintenance.

They added that it would strengthen the position of NMDVC to hold the building as an asset providing options to borrow against the building or to sell and move on. NMDVC, without knowing the terms of the long lease, expressed their concern that the Council as Freeholder could revoke their occupancy of the Centre on Union Road

Council asked under this arrangement what would happen to the asset should NMDVC cease to operate. The representative advised that as a charity the benefit would be distributed to the residents of the Town as the Board would see fit.

RESOLVED: The Council discussed the matter at length and requested that NMDVC attend the next FAB Committee meeting in December to discuss the matter in further detail.

7.45 Member of public left the meeting.

FTC/24/218 New Mills Town Council Membership

Council noted the resignation of Cllr David Aris-Sutton and thanked him for his contribution to NMTC over several years.

FTC/24/219 RESOLVED: If no bi-election would be called following this Notice of Vacancy the Council would seek to commence co-option process for both vacancies.

FTC/24/220 **RESOLVED:** To adopt a new co-option policy, subject to requested changes, to support the recruitment of new members of the Council.

Finance

FTC/24/221 Accounts for payment

| Town Hall Payments Arising - To 7th October 2024 | | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------|--|-------------------|
| Payment | Recipient | | Details | Sub Total |
| D | American Expres | 6095A | Card Charges to 13 Aug 2024 | £ 0.76 |
| D | American Expres | 6095 | Card Charges to 12 Sept 2024 | £ 0.41 |
| D | Clover | 6093 | Service Charges & Fees 01-31 August 2024 | £ 36.83 |
| D | Clover | 6094 | Card Reader Rental to 31 Aug 2024 | £ 13.98 |
| D | Sage | 6029 | Chargable Period 01-31 October 2024 | £ 89.40 |
| D | Deere Financial | 6061 | Tractor Rental - Sept 24 | £ 725.92 |
| D | BT | 6067 | TH Phone & BB - Regular Charges 01 Sep - 30 Nov 24 | £ 510.66 |
| D | EDF | 6025 | LLR Gas Acc.01-30 Sept 2024 | £ 29.33 |
| D | Opus | 6082 | TH Gas 25 Jul-31Aug 2024 - Final Inv | £ 32.32 |
| D | Opus | 6078 | LLR Gas 12-31 Aug 2024 - Final Inv | £ 12.90 |
| D | Opus | 6083 | Parks Gas 25 Jul-31Aug 2024 - Final Inv | £ 9.14 |
| D | Everflow | 6091 | Water Inv 01-30 Nov 24 | £ 378.20 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6055 | HLH-HC - 01-31 Aug 2024 | £ 270.70 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6022 | HLH-HC - 01-30 Sep 2024 | £ 436.61 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6058 | TH - 28 July-27 Aug 2024 | £ 295.24 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6023 | TH - 28 Aug- 27 Sept 2024 | £ 652.75 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6057 | LLR - 01-31 Aug 2024 | £ 66.24 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6024 | LLR - 01-30 Sep 2024 | £ 67.06 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6056 | Parks- 1 Aug- 01 Sep (credited) | £ 144.13 |
| Credit | Ecotricity | 6076 | Parks- 1 Aug- 01 Sep | -£ 144.13 |
| Credit | Ecotricity | 6016 | Parks- 1 June -1 July | -£ 143.20 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6018 | Parks- 1 June -1 July - paid with credit | £ 43.32 |
| Credit | Ecotricity | 6021 | Parks- 1 July -1 August | -£ 147.59 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6020 | Parks- 1 July -1 August - paid with credit | £ 44.71 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6019 | Parks- 1 Aug- 01 Sep - paid with credit | £ 44.37 |
| D | Ecotricity | 6026 | Parks- 1 Sep - 1 Oct - paid with credit | £ 55.05 |
| | | | Direct Debit | £ 3,628.45 |
| POA | Wild | 6065 | Bookers - HLH Coffee Shop Stock Replenishment - PO100192 | £ 374.48 |
| POA | CNPearson | 6050 | TH - 10L Water Heater Install in Hall - PO100149 | £ 280.57 |
| POA | UK Safety Management | 6052 | TH - Annual PAT Testing | £ 192.94 |
| POA | Ginge & Co | 6076 | Ice Cream x 80 - PO100197 | £ 132.00 |
| POA | UK Safety Management | 6051 | HC - Annual PAT Testing | £ 116.10 |
| POA | UK Safety Management | 6053 | Parks - Annual PAT Testing | £ 106.80 |
| POA | Peak Bean | 6077 | Ground Filter Coffee x 12 Bags - PO100198 | £ 57.00 |
| POA | BT | 6075 | HC - Regular Charges 01-30 Sept & Usage Charges 27 Jul-21 Sep 2024 | £ 48.56 |
| POA | Wild | 6060 | HLH - Smoke Alarm - PO100191 | £ 16.90 |
| POA | Wild | 6031 | Petty Cash Top up HC/HLH | £ 150.00 |
| | | | Paid Previously | £ 1,475.35 |

| | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|------|--|------------------------|
| B | JE Dean | 6806 | Replacement Boiler Tender - PO100206 | £ 28,388.40 |
| B | JE Dean | 6085 | Remaining Boiler Works / Additional Works 1&2 - PO100207 | £ 7,476.72 |
| B | Sn5 Trees | 6072 | Tree Works - Various Locations - PO100151 | £ 5,274.00 |
| B | Nemisis | 6088 | Fireworks Display 2nd November 2024 - PO100082 | £ 2,880.00 |
| B | Storry | 6092 | Professional Fees - September 2024 | £ 1,306.67 |
| B | County Drains Limited | 6080 | HLH H/C Drainage Pipework Repairs - PO100168 | £ 915.00 |
| B | Alken Engineering Ltd | 6096 | Rocket Climbing Frame Repair | £ 720.00 |
| B | ADT | 6063 | HLH H/C CCTV Repairs | £ 661.99 |
| B | Senior Building Supplies Ltd | 6098 | Top Soil, Timber/Postmix/Deck Boards - PO100214 | £ 634.37 |
| B | Wild | 6030 | HLH H/C - Coffee Shop Stock - PO100208 | £ 502.69 |
| B | DJ Catterall | 6081 | Fuel Acc. Aug 2024 (Tractor/LR/Cans) | £ 328.00 |
| B | ADT | 6102 | TH _ Alarm Charge Period 19 Oct 24 - 18 Jan 25 | £ 298.87 |
| B | Senior Building Supplies Ltd | 6054 | Sleepers/Post Mix/Soil Pipe | £ 252.86 |
| B | Mark Foster | 6089 | John Deere Tank Clean | £ 243.00 |
| B | Andy Vaines IT Services Ltd | 6071 | Supply & Fit Power Supply to Admin Computer 4 June 2024 | £ 226.21 |
| B | Andy Vaines IT Services Ltd | 6070 | Admin computer Lock-out Issues 3 June 2024 | £ 192.16 |
| B | Screwfix | 6047 | Parks - Drill/Coil Pipe/Sanitary Silicone - TH - Jacket - PO100188 | £ 170.34 |
| B | Adam Ainsworth Services | 6079 | Parks- Pest Control | £ 170.00 |
| B | Ginge & Co | 6045 | Ice Cream PO100190 | £ 165.00 |
| B | Andy Vaines IT Services Ltd | 6064 | SAGE Support- 28 May 2024 | £ 137.20 |
| B | Hydro X | 6048 | HC/HLH/Parks - Legionella Control - Sept 2024 | £ 133.20 |
| B | Hydro X | 6101 | HC/HLH/Parks - Legionella Control -Oct 2024 | £ 133.20 |
| B | Hydro X | 6049 | TH - Legionella Control - Sept 2024 | £ 133.20 |
| B | Hydro X | 6100 | TH - Legionella Control - Oct 2024 | £ 133.20 |
| B | CNPearson | 6027 | TH - Outside Socket - PO100195 | £ 125.65 |
| B | ESPO | 6066 | Parks - ExHD Bin Liners - PO100194 | £ 84.24 |
| B | Wm Eyre & Son | 6090 | Cleaning Materials / Horticultural Goods | £ 81.17 |
| B | Screwfix | 6073 | Blades x 2 / Shackle Padlocks x 3 - PO100201 | £ 76.95 |
| B | Sett Valley Plumbing | 6069 | HLH HC - Toilet Tap Repair Materials - PO100200 | £ 89.13 |
| B | SSP | 6104 | GDPR Visitor Book & Cover - PO100210 | £ 55.20 |
| B | CPC | 6062 | Brush Cutter Straight Blades | £ 53.36 |
| B | Settvale Plumbing | 6084 | Parks- Toilets Plumbing Components - PO100209 | £ 41.80 |
| B | SSP | 6103 | GDPR Visitor Book - - PO100210 | £ 39.00 |
| B | ESPO | 6046 | HC - Cleaning Materials - PO100181 | £ 37.08 |
| B | ESPO | 6059 | TH - Sq-Cut Folders - PO100159 B/O | £ 24.66 |
| B | Wild | 6068 | HC/HLH - TENS Application October Event - PO100196 | £ 21.00 |
| B | Lewis | 6074 | Mobile Phone Top-up | £ 20.00 |
| B | Settvale plumbing | 6099 | Soft Close Toilet Seta - Parks | £ 19.98 |
| B | PPLPRS | 6087 | Music licence for NM Band Event Sept 2024 - PO100205 | £ 15.72 |
| B | Wild | 6028 | HC/HLH - 3 x LED Sensor Lights - PO100202 | £ 14.99 |
| | | | | To be Paid £ 52,276.21 |
| | | | | Total £ 57,380.01 |

RESOLVED: The Council approved payments for the expenditure presented to all members in advance of the meeting.

FTC/24/222 Financial Information

New Mills Town Council
 Financial Information for Council - 14th October 2024
 (as at 8th October 2024)

BANK RECONCILIATION

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| Total Balances brought forward | 01/09/2024 | £ | 156,382.14 |
| | | | |
| | Income | £ | 159,199.13 |
| | Expenditure | £ | (34,328.91) |
| | Income banked but not showing on statement | £ | - |
| | Income unrepresented last month now showing on bank | £ | - |
| Total Balances Carried forward | 30/09/2024 | £ | 281,252.36 |

| | | | |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Bank Balances from statements dated | | | 30/09/2024 |
| Account | | Balance | |
| Community Directplus | £ | 8,000.00 | |
| Business Select Instant Access | £ | 217,489.09 | |
| Business Select 14 Day Reserves | £ | 28,173.93 | |
| Business Select 14 Day Ring Fenced | £ | 7,377.49 | |
| Unity Trust Reserve | £ | 20,113.55 | |
| Petty Cash | £ | 98.30 | |
| | £ | 281,252.36 | |

| Sep-24 | Actual YTD | Budget YTD | Variance |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <u>Income</u> | £438,265 | £445,183 | (£6,918) |
| <u>Expenditure</u> | | | |
| HC Purchases | £5,660 | £9,711 | (£4,051) |
| Personnel Costs | £134,239 | £152,438 | (£18,199) |
| Property Costs | £34,153 | £34,273 | (£120) |
| Vehicle & Equipment costs | £38,987 | £10,624 | £28,363 |
| General Expenses | £41,338 | £37,428 | £3,910 |
| Professional fees | £11,725 | £14,120 | (£2,395) |
| Net income/(Expenditure) | £172,163 | £186,589 | (£14,426) |

Member questioned the overspend in vehicle and equipment budget. Clerk advised that these costs related to the new boiler replacement as the expenditure had not been included in budget due to works only being approved if NMTC had been successful in grant application. Majority of the cost would be offset by grant funding. The Council noted financial information as at 8 October 2024.

FTC/24/223 Planning

The Chair advised all present that NMTC had limited weight in the decisions made by HPBC. Four options would be provided to members on the applications presented between 5 August 2024 and 3 September 2024: support, object, do not object, or just provide comment.

RESOLVED: The Town Council made the following comments

| APPLICATION | PROPOSAL | SITE ADDRESS | APPLICANT | COMMENT |
|---|---|---|---|----------------------|
| HPK/2024/034 1 | Refurbishment of No. 1,3 & 4 Ingham Almshouses. Primary works include upgrading the kitchen and bathroom with new fittings, fixtures and sanitaryware. Internal door replacement. Redecoration work throughout with upgrade works to the electrical systems and ventilation systems | 1,3 & 4 St. James Square New Mills SK22 4BB | Mr P Harrison Edward Mayes Trust | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267899 | | | | |
| HPK/2024/034 2 | Refurbishment of No. 1,3 & 5 Ingham Almshouses. Primary works include upgrading the kitchen and bathroom with new fittings, fixtures and sanitaryware. Internal door replacement. Redecoration work throughout with upgrade works to the electrical systems and ventilation systems | 1,4 & 5 St. James Square New Mills SK22 4BB | Mr P Harrison Edward Mayes Trust | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267900 | | | | |
| HPK/2024/036 9 | Application for removal of Condition 2 in relation to application HPK/2023/0124 | 41 Union Road New Mills SK22 3EL | Mr K Ahmed | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=268046 | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------|--------------------------|
| HPK/2024/036 5 | Listed Building Consent for the reinforcement of wooden floor beams | Ladyshawe House Bridge Street New Mills SK22 4DN | Mr B Lupton | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=268029 | | | | |
| HPK/2024/034 3 | Proposed installation of air-source heat pump (ASHP) monoblock unit | 2 Old Smithy Road New Mills SK22 3EH | Mr T Hancocks | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267921 | | | | |
| HPK/2024/038 9 | Proposed vertical side and rear extensions to existing dormer bungalow | 1 South View New Mills SK22 3BS | Mr & Mrs Green | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=268141 | | | | |
| HPK/2024/041 5 | Two storey rear elevation, replacement side porch and window and door alterations (similar to the approved HPK/2005/0517) | Ravensleach Farm Unnamed Road from Hayfield to Ravensleach Farm Birch Vale SK22 1DD | J Butler | Do not object |
| http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=268319 | | | | |

FTC/24/224 Correspondence

The Town Council noted the correspondence received during September 2024.

FTC/24/225 RESOLVED: Members agreed that the Chair would respond to Derbyshire County Councils Draft Plan 2025-2029 consultation on behalf of, and expressing the Councils thoughts and opinions.

FTC/24/226 Members who were able to attend the HPBC Go Green event on 22 October 2024 would inform the organisers.

FTC/24/227 Chair reminded members of the Invitation to the Rock Mill Celebration to be held on the 1 November 2024, that had been extended to all councillors

FTC/24/228 Mission Statement, Core Values and Aims

RESOLVED: The Council adopted the document recommended by the Personnel Committee that outlined the Councils Mission Statement, Core Values and Aims.

New Mills Town Council Events

FTC/24/229 Bonfire and Fireworks, Saturday 2 November 2024. LB, who would be acting as Event Co-ordinator, advised that a minimum of 20 volunteers/marshals would be required to run the event.

RESOLVED: The Council approved associated costs for portable fire extinguishers and external support for pallet transportation to build the bonfire, which supported the risk assessment.

FTC/24/230 Remembrance Sunday

Arrangements for the event had been progressing as scheduled. The Order of Service had been in draft format but approval for printing had already been provided by the Council. LB, who would be acting as Event Co-ordinator, advised that additional volunteers/marshals would also be sought for this event

FTC/24/231 Christmas Lights and Town Light Switch On

LB had reported to members that she had been considering developing a low key event to compliment the Town Light switch on, subject to volunteers.

RESOLVED: The Council supported the idea in principle and looked towards gaining more information on the proposal.

RESOLVED: The Council decided to move away from having one large tree outside the Town Hall, as there would already be a large tree in the Town Centre. The Council would dress the Town Hall with several smaller trees and lights. With the main festive focus being on the crib that housed the nativity scene.

FTC/24/232 Network Rail Update

The Chair reported that the train line had re-opened on Monday 23 September 2024

Final designs for the attenuation pond on NMTC land were still to be presented and the next site meeting had been planned for Tuesday 22 October 2024.

Regular contact had been maintained with the Town Hall and Network Rail project team as the emergency works continue.

FTC/24/233 Neighbourhood Forum

LB reported that she had attended the event on behalf of the Council, which had been well attended by community representatives. Although in the early stages in the group's development it sought to bring improvements to New Mills, focusing on health and wellbeing, and had been exploring how this would be achieved.

High Lea Hall Committee

- FTC/24/234** **Five Year Plan** - The Working Group continued to develop a five year plan for High Lea Hall, a draft version had been circulated to members. The Council thanked Cllr Beth Eadie for her contribution with this and noted that work needed to continue, particularly with respect to the financial planning, before being presented to the Council for approval
- FTC/24/235** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed that from November 2024 through to April 2025 High Lea Hall would only open to the public at weekends.
- FTC/24/236** **Proposal for recruitment** The Committee made a recommendation to the Council to introduce a new fixed term post for an Officer to lead and have sole focus on High Lea Hall, advising that the current fixed term contract for the Hospitality Lead and Communications Officer would be ending soon.
The Council agreed in principle but wanted to discuss the requirements when the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972
- FTC/24/237** **Exclusion of the Press and Public**
RESOLVED: The press and public had been excluded from the meeting of the following matters on the grounds that they could involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in The Local Government Act, Schedule 12A, Part 1.
- High Lea Hall - Proposal for recruitment**
- FTC/24/238** **RESOLVED:** The Council agreed to advertise internally for the position of High Lea Hall Lead and allow for an officer to give the required time and focus to High Lea Hall. The post would see a move gaining additional responsibility, including budget control and monitoring and recruitment. However, to minimise the impact on the budget, at this stage, the Council would not look to increase the pay scale beyond that of the Hospitality Lead and Communications Officer, who had been based at High Lea Hall.
- FTC/24/239** **RESOLVED:** The Council agreed to extend the meeting by ten minutes.
- FTC/24/240** **RESOLVED:** The Council agreed, and the Chair signed, the proposed salary and wage budgets for 2025-2026 as presented by the Responsible Finance Officer, but noted that this would unlikely be the final version as budgets for 2025-2026 had still being worked on.

FTC/24/241 RESOLVED: The Council agreed to close the meeting at 9.09 pm

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting

Chair _____ Date _____

**** Please ensure that each page is signed and dated****