

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26th AUGUST 2009 AT
7.30PM IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE, TOWN HALL,
ASHBURTON**

Present: Cllr Gill, chairman; Cllr Baker, deputy chairman; Cllrs Brewer, Pugh, Distin, Slater, Parker and the secretary, Ms J Rivers
Cllr Parker arrived to the meeting at 7.35pm

058/09GP Apologies

059/09GP Minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr Distin queried comments regarding a recent press publication. Cllr Gill could not adequately clarify this query and therefore suggested that Cllr Distin ask the Chairman for it to be included in the agenda for the next FC meeting

The minutes were then signed by the chairman as a true record, carried unanimously.

060/09GP Matters arising from the previous minutes

There were no matters arising

061/09GP Web site re: food

Cllr Pugh said that there was not enough information on the website about the many and varied outlets in Ashburton that sell good quality and varied types of food and suggested that it should be listed as a separate item.

Cllr Brewer said there is a passage in the introduction and that Ashburton is a town known for its good food.

At this juncture Cllr Slater made an enquiry regarding finances about the payment in connection with the recent town hall refurbishment.

Cllr Gill responded by recommending that this was not the appropriate meeting to discuss finance issues and if Cllr Slater wished to discuss the matter he should approach the Clerk to request for it to be included on the next FTHBC agenda or to discuss with the Chairman of the FTHBC, Cllr Richards.

Cllr Distin also raised the matter of the recent resignation of Cllr Miller. Several comments were made and Cllr Gill said that these things are beginning to take priority and it is about time we should look to our standing orders as she is getting fed up with what is going on. We must act professionally, we must be seen to be doing work for the town and doing our elected jobs professionally. It is time we started to look forward.

062/09GP Officer's report

This report was submitted by the Clerk and read by Ms Rivers:

Ref: Casual vacancy – There was no election demanded and therefore posters have been displayed around the town. Upon my return on Monday I will also place on the website and in the press etc.

We have already received four applications one prior to the final date being established and three the following day of the closure date, so with the advertising it would appear that the town council might have plenty of choice. Applications forms

are available in the office and any councillor who knows of anyone who may be interested please ensure they obtain an application form.

063/09GP Town walk around

Cllr Gill and the committee members commenced the walk around the town and the following points were noted:

- The camber of the gully on the corner of East and North Street is running backwards therefore not draining water efficiently.
- It was noted that the newly painted double yellow lines from the top end of St Lawrence Lane upwards into East Street did not seem to be commensurate with the traffic sign outside the empty shop premises (number 12 East Street)
- The kerb stone outside number 12 East Street (red painted shop) is dangerously loose and should be reported immediately to the Highways Department.

REPORTED

- The topic of dog fouling arose again and Cllr Gill suggested that dog mess bins could be placed at appropriate points in the town centre.
- The gate outside Tuckers market at the east end of Bullivers Way still does not close. Cllr Gill said that Shane the caretaker should deal with it when he can.
- There were several deep potholes in Chuley Road opposite Bullivers Way which require attention.

064/09GP Correspondence

1. A letter had been received from a local resident, Mr P Webb. This was read out by Ms Rivers and was concerning noise being made by a neighbour. Mr Webb had copied in TDC, the DPNA and Cllr S Barker. There is also a post script to the letter stating that since the letter had been written, Mr Webb had spoken to the offending individual and the situation has been resolved, however, Mr Webb still wanted the original complaint logged in case it started up again.

NOTED

065/09GP Any other business

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm

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Chairman
Wednesday 23rd September 2009