

TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk's Office,
Todmorden Community College,
Burnley Road, Todmorden OL14 7BX
01706 548135

townclerk@todmorden-tc.gov.uk
www.todmorden-tc.gov.uk



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL Held in the Council Chamber, Todmorden Town Hall, Bridge Street, Todmorden, on Wednesday 29th January 2020 at 7:30pm

Councillors Present: Cllrs K White [Town Mayor] R Coleman-Taylor [Town Deputy Mayor],
M Doyle, M Holmstedt, A Greenwood, S Martin, C Potter,
T Roberts, , P Taylor, P Ripley, L Levick, L Needham,
M Taylor, J Williams, The Revd G Kent, M Carrigan, A Hollis

Absent Councillors: Cllrs D Skelton

Officers: Colin Hill – Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (Minute Taker)

Members of the Public: Nil Members of public present –

The Mayor and Councillors observed a minutes silence in memory of former Mayor Stanley Hollows who recently passed away.

2019 (TC) 134	<p><u>ITEM 1 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> To receive apologies for absence and consider any reasons given to the Clerk prior to the meeting</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr L Needham and Seconded by Cllr A Hollis Unanimous RESOLVED: That the apologies and reasons for absence received from Cllr D Skelton namely family illness, be formally received and reasons accepted.</p>
2019 (TC) 135	<p><u>ITEM 2 - DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u> Members are reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. A Member must generally declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he or she has in any item on the Agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Council's Standing Orders require a Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.</p> <p><i>None declared</i></p>
2019 (TC) 136	<p><u>ITEM 3 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> <i>To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting. No resolutions can be under public participation.</i></p> <p><i>The Mayor sought agreement from Council that items on the Agenda will be heard in this part of the meeting and that if any members of the public have items of concern to be raised that are not on the Agenda they will be heard as the last but one item on the Agenda</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr A Hollis and Seconded by Cllr M Carrigan</i></p>

	<p>RESOLVED:- That the public may ask questions on non- agenda items at the penultimate item on the agenda.</p>										
2019 (TC) 137	<p>ITEM 4 - MINUTES To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 16th December 2019</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr The Revd G Kent and Seconded by Cllr P Taylor Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 16th December 2019 be approved as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>										
2019 (TC) 138	<p>ITEM 5 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT) 1960 To consider and confirm any agenda items that require the exclusion of the Press and Public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 for matters appertaining to confidential or exempt information.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr M Taylor and Seconded by Cllr J Williams Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the press and public be allowed to remain for the duration of the meeting.</p>										
2019 (TC) 139	<p>ITEM 6 - COMMITTEE MINUTES To confirm the receipt of approved committee minutes previously circulated and to receive them En Bloc</p> <p>Subject to amend re item 6a - description on planning response from Toddington to Todmorden</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>6a) Development</td> <td>13th November 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6b) Development</td> <td>4th December 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6c) Amenities</td> <td>27th November 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6d) General Purposes</td> <td>9th October 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6e) Climate Emergency</td> <td>30th October 2019</td> </tr> </table> <p>Proposed by Cllr R Coleman-Taylor and Seconded by Cllr J Williams unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: To confirm receipt of the above Committee Minutes previously circulated en bloc .</p>	6a) Development	13th November 2019	6b) Development	4th December 2019	6c) Amenities	27th November 2019	6d) General Purposes	9th October 2019	6e) Climate Emergency	30th October 2019
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2019(TC) 140	<p>ITEM 7 Health Centre <i>To receive an update from the Health Centre on current issues and improvements and to afford the opportunity for Members to raise questions.</i></p> <p><i>Dr Okanga and Tracy Wilson Practice Manager attended the meeting to update Councillors on the work of the Health Centre.</i></p> <p><i>The Chair welcomed Ms Tracy Wilson (practice manager) and Dr Okanga (GP partner) and thanked them for taking the time to come to the meeting. Ms Wilson explained that they proposed to go through the list of questions provided rather than giving a set presentation. Dr Okanga thanked the Chair for their invitation and said that it was a good opportunity to explain the way their service is organised.</i></p> <p><i>The following questions were raised by Members and responses received</i> Cllr C Potter asked - <i>What is the present staffing situation at the Health Centre and what is the likelihood of there being any increase in staffing levels?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The current staff includes 7 doctors in total; 3 GP partners, 3 salaried doctors, and a long-term locum. There is also a clinical pharmacist, 2 advanced nurse practitioners, 3 practice nurses, 2 health care assistants and (recently) a phlebotomist. These members of staff are employed by the practice.</i> 										

- They also have access to other clinicians through the Primary Care Network which they share with Hebden Bridge. This includes 0.5 of a clinical pharmacist, 1 social prescriber and 1 physiotherapist (starting April). A frailty nurse is about to be recruited for next week.
- They are in the process of recruiting an international GP from New Zealand.

Cllr M Taylor asked - When will the practice reintroduce advance booking of Doctor's appointments instead of the inconvenient system of queuing up or the day from 8am or trying to ring for a same day appointment from 8am?

- The practice is trying different ways to allow patients to access care. The 8am queue for same day morning appointments is a historical feature. The surgery has tried different approaches and it is difficult to strike a balance between same day appointments and pre-booking for a later date. They tried making all appointments pre-bookable and these were snapped up and there was nothing left for patients with acute conditions who need to be seen straightaway.
- Since November 2019 it has been possible to book advance appointments. 50% of afternoon appointments are pre-bookable either online or at the reception desk.
- An 24 hours a day e-consult facility is available for patients with non-acute conditions. A response will be received within 48 hours. This can be used for repeat 'fit notes', repeat prescriptions and illness. Appointments are offered where it is considered that a patient needs to be seen.

Cllr The Revd G Kent asked - Are there any plans to shorten the wait to see a doctor or a nurse?

- Plans are in place to shorten the wait. The practice is trying their best with their resources. In the past there were 8 full time GPs but now there are 3 full time GPs and the rest are part time. If a patient wants to see a specific clinician there will be a longer wait than if they are prepared to be flexible. Primary care has changed significantly over the years and there is now a but now they have a wider team of clinicians of specialise in different areas. Instead of a GP centred primary care system it has moved more towards a nurse centred system.
- It is not just about recruiting more doctors. One issue is to educate patients, because in the past, appointments were always with doctors, now they can be with a range of clinical practitioners. If patients are prepared to see another clinical practitioner rather than a doctor they will be seen more quickly.
- If a patient comes to the surgery between 8-10am they will be seen that morning.
- The practice reviews the appointments/rota system every six weeks to see how it can be improved further.
- The practice offers appointments after 5pm (until 8pm) as part of the shared Primary Care Network shared with Hebden Bridge. This is a new initiative that needs advertising.

Cllr M Taylor asked - Are receptionists qualified to diagnose whether patients require an appointment or not?

- The receptionists (soon to be renamed as 'Care Navigators') are not diagnosing patients. They only ask to find out what clinician might be the right person to best meet the needs of patients.

Cllr M Carrigan asked - What is the relationship between the Drop-in Centre (8-10am) and the practice? Who funds the Drop-in centre? Who runs it?

- The 'Walk In' Clinic runs between 8-10am and it is run by the practice. This is an opportunity for patients with acute illness to get an appointment that morning. The practice accommodates many patients during this time, sometimes above the designed capacity. A duty doctor is available during the 'Walk In' Clinic.

Cllr M Doyle asked - Are there any plans to extend the time of the Drop-in sessions?

- There are no plans now with the resources the practice currently has.

Cllr P Taylor asked - Are all rooms in the Health Centre building fully operational? If not, why?

- The practice currently uses 30% of the Health Centre building. There is a unit on the second floor that is equipped as a minor injuries' unit, but it has never been used. The practice would like the minor injuries unit to be opened as they currently must send people with injuries to Halifax. The issue has been raised with the CCG but has got no further.
- The Town Clerk said that he is sending a letter to the CCG to request a minor injuries unit be made available at the Todmorden Health Centre and that this was agreed at a previous meeting of the Council.

Cllr L Needham asked - When does the present contract with the car parking control firm finish?

- The current contract is for 5 years and ends in January 2022. The contract only covers weekdays and not the weekend.
- The practice is working towards having the surgery open to 10pm on weekdays. People can park in the car park for 90 minutes after which they need to register their car on the terminal in the surgery. This allows a patient to have 4 hours parking.
- Options were discussed and the practice would allow residents who are elderly or disabled to register on the terminal if they were attending shows at the Hippodrome. However, Cllr Greenwood reinforced that the primary purpose of the car park is for patients to park when they are attending the Health Centre.

Cllr L Needham asked - When the contract finishes would it be possible to revise the terms of the agreement for any future contract so that the car park can be used by residents/groups in the evening/the weekend (such as the Healthy Minds Group that meets at the Hippodrome) when the Health Centre is closed?

- Yes

Cllr M Taylor thanked them for attending the Mayor thanked Ms Wilson and Dr Okanga for their excellent presentation and for being so open and honest about the issues they are facing and the things they are trying to improve the service for patients. Also, that they are doing a wonderful job holding the NHS together. Judith, the Chair of the PPG was also thanked.

2019(TC) 141

ITEM 8 Police Community Support Officers

To receive an update from the Partnership Funding Officer and Inspector for Todmorden on the impact and benefit of Todmorden Town Council part funding two officers.

Inspector Ben Doughty and Lisa Raynor Partnership Funding Officer attended the meeting to update Members on the work of the PCSO's and the need to continue their provision.

The Chair welcomed Inspector Ben Doughty and Lisa Raynor

- Inspector Doughty thanked the Chair for the invite. The 2 PCSO's are heavily involved in local events such as the Christmas Lights Switch On, the Lord Lieutenants Visit, and visits to both Todmorden High School and the Todmorden CoE School (about knife crime).
- The PCSO's have also made cyber inputs to schools for all age groups (including toddlers). For the teenagers they have made inputs on new areas of crime such as sexting and cyber bullying.
- Todmorden is the only town to have a dedicated burglary team. In some cities, some burglary offences are not investigated. Burglars travel from Greater Manchester and Lancashire to Todmorden because of its proximity. The intelligence gathered by the PCSOs has led to 40 burglars being captured who have committed crimes across these areas. This included DNA samples from abandoned cars.
- They have acted on road safety, which is the top priority area identified by the public across Calderdale. This includes the 'Smiley Sid' initiative. On one operation, in conjunction with HMRC and MOT testing, the PCSOs stopped cars on Halifax Rd. This resulted in 9 cars being issued with prohibition notices as they were not road worthy.
- The PCSO's resources are overstretched so they focus on the priorities of the Upper Valley area. These priorities are agreed at the meeting with the Safer, Cleaner, Greener team which meets at Hebden Bridge Town Hall. The next meeting is 16 March 2020 at 10am. Representatives are also present from the Fire and Ambulance Services, Highways and the Third Sector. Attending this meeting is a good way of influencing the priorities.
- Vehicle crime has been increasing in Todmorden recently with 9 crimes in the previous 24 hours, including one vehicle theft. Todmorden is still the safest district in West Yorkshire but 80% of vehicle crime is preventable, such as theft where drivers have left bags, phones and cash on the dashboard. These are opportunistic crimes.
- Community intelligence is vital to dealing with crime. Residents can pass information to the PCSOs or call Crimestoppers (which is totally anonymous) or Crime101. Small pieces of information received can be pieced together to form intelligence which can help stop crimes. A case before Christmas (Assault and drugs) was solved by 3-4 separate pieces of information being received and forming a picture.
- There are recruitment difficulties with the police locally and this has resulted in a high turnover of PCSOs. Daniel Murphy is a new PCSO and he is receiving his training locally and taking the opportunity to meet residents.
- John Sodey is the new police sergeant in Todmorden where the station is open on Mondays. The hold surgeries in Morrisons sometimes too and are willing to consider other surgeries for the public if the footfall warrants it.
- Todmorden, like most towns, can be the focus for organised criminal gangs (County Lines) exploiting young people. The Head at Todmorden High School is proactive in sharing information. Criminals will particularly pick places to meet where there is no CCTV coverage. Sometimes, the local police deploy mobile CCTV.
- Hate stickers were found in Todmorden, amongst other towns, put on bins etc by the 100 Hand group. The PCSO's were quick to pick up on this offensive behaviour and were able to pass intelligence to the North East Terrorism

	<p>Unit. The PCSOs have visited mosques in Rochdale last week to offer support. All residents are asked to pass any intelligence to the police, Crimestoppers or Crime101. Investigation requires several pieces of good quality intelligence as magistrates will not issue warrants only on one piece of information. Community intelligence is particularly valued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The West Yorkshire Alert system can be very useful to residents if they wish to receive alerts/updates about current issues around crime in Todmorden. This can be accessed from the West Police website. There are differing levels of alerts ranging from major incidents to newsletters. • The partial cost of two PCSOs for 2020/21 is £34,704 (up £400 on last year). <p>The Mayor suggested that we agree to support the part funding of provision of two PCSO's for 2020/21</p> <p>A vote of thanks was carried out which all Members were unanimous in their support</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr R Coleman-Taylor and seconded by Cllr A Hollis Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Todmorden Town Council agree to financially support the appointment of 50% cost of two PCSO's for Todmorden for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.</p>
2019 (TC) 142	<p>ITEM 9 Budget update 2019/20 <i>To receive an update on the current financial position and year end estimate of reserves.</i></p> <p><i>Members received the latest financial update and noted the end of year General Reserves estimate at c£79k</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr M Carrigan and seconded by Cllr S Martin Unanimous</i></p> <p>RESOLVED: <i>That the update be noted.</i></p>
2019(TC) 143	<p>Item 10. Reserves Policy and Treasury Management To receive a report recommending adoption of a Reserves Policy and investment strategy.</p> <p>Members considered the Reserves and Treasury Management Policy</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr M Carrigan and seconded by Cllr S Martin Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Reserves and Treasury Management Policy be adopted by full council and that the recommendations in the report numbered 16 to 21 inclusive be agreed.</p>
2019(TC) 144	<p>Item 11. Budget 2020/21 To receive a report detailing a three-year budget and making recommendations for approval by Full Council to raise the Precept by £72,617</p> <p>Members considered the report and accompanying financial information and a majority agreed to support this increase in Precept.</p> <p>Cllr The Revd G Kent thanked the Council for including a budget for Climate Emergency Committee.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr M Carrigan and seconded by Cllr S Martin Unanimous</p> <p>Cllr A Greenwood called for a named vote.</p>

	<p>In favour Cllrs K White [Town Mayor] M Doyle, M Holmstedt, A Greenwood, S Martin, C Potter, T Roberts, , P Taylor, P Ripley, L Levick, L Needham, J Williams, The Revd G Kent, M Carrigan, A Hollis</p> <p>Against : None Abstentions : Cllrs . M Taylor ,R Coleman-Taylor [Town Deputy Mayor] Motion carried</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Calderdale MBC be directed to pay the sum of £296,291 to Todmorden Town Council, including a precept increase of £72,617, Parish Grant £11,691 and Council Tax reduction Grant of £23,800 and that the demand be signed accordingly by the Mayor, two other Councillors and countersigned by the Town Clerk.</p>
2019 (TC) 145	<p>Item 12. Tree Policy <i>To receive a recommendation from Amenities Committee to formally adopt a Tree Policy.</i></p> <p><i>Members considered the report and accompanying Policy. Cllr The Revd G Kent as Chair of the Climate Emergency Committee welcomed this policy. Cllr R Coleman-Taylor mentioned that “Tree Responsibility” are planting 30,000 trees in this area.</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr Rev G Kent and seconded by Cllr R Coleman- Taylor Unanimous</i></p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Tree Policy be adopted by Full Council</p>
2019(TC)146	<p>Item 13. Grants Policy To receive a recommendation from Amenities Committee to formally adopt a revised Grants Policy.</p> <p>Members considered the report and accompanying Policy.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr J Williams and seconded by Cllr C Potter Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Grants Policy be adopted by Full Council</p>
2019(TC)147	<p>Item 14. Consultation on alternative Gypsy and Traveller Transit Site – Rossendale Borough Council To receive notice of formal consultation issued by Rossendale Borough Council in respect of an alternative Gypsy and Traveller Transit Site - consultation closes on 25th February 2020.</p> <p>Cllr A Greenwood summarised the proposal as Rossendale needing to provide 4 pitches for a transit site. Whilst, strongly supporting the move to provide such sites, the location of such on the edge of the Rossendale boundary, in an old quarry, is wet, exposed (same height as Stoodley Pike) and an area regularly blasted by snow and high winds. Whilst there is a local school, there are no local shops, surgery or local facilities, that would normally support such an application. The location is on the doorstep of a Neolithic and Bronze Age site and some of the mounds on this site, may be ancient dwellings and a such an Archaeological Impact Assessment should be undertaken. This is also a dark moor and concerns should be expressed regarding possible light pollution</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr A Greenwood and seconded by Cllr C Potter Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk lodges an objection to this location but is in favour of a site in the right place.</p>

2019(TC) 148	<p>Item 15. Consultation on changes to Benefice of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden To receive notice of formal consultation issued by Church of England Diocese of Leeds in respect of dissolution of the Parish of St Michael and All Angels Cornholme and transfer to The Parish of Todmorden with Cornholme. Consultation ends 13th February 2020.</p> <p>Members agreed to accept the proposals and response as presented by the Town Clerk was agreed.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr M Taylor and seconded by Cllr K White 17 for 1 abstention Motion carried</p> <p>RESOLVED: That a response be sent as proposed by the Town Clerk</p>
2019(TC) 149	<p>Item 16. Councillors Questions To receive any questions that Councillors wish to raise</p> <p>Youth club to be closed are we aware of this?</p> <p>Are we responding to A646 Highway improvements consultation – via Development Committee</p> <p>Are we involved in the Tour De Yorks discussions – town meeting 3rd Feb</p>
2019(TC) 150	<p>Item 17 . Correspondence To receive correspondence not already included on the Agenda</p> <p>None received</p>
2019 (TC)151	<p>ITEM 18 Payments</p> <p>To receive the schedule of payments that require signing in accordance with the Financial Regulations. Eleven payments were presented for signature under delegated powers of the RFO and one payment for authorisation to the PCC £8484</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. K White and Seconded by Cllr C Potter Unanimous</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Eleven payments were presented for signature under delegated powers of the RFO and one payment for authorisation to the PCC for £8,484 be signed in accordance with Council procedures and the schedule of payments totalling £10,858.13 be duly signed .</p>
2019(TC) 152	<p>Item 19. Public Question Time on Non-Agenda items To allow Members of the public to raise any issues not on the Agenda</p> <p>No public present</p>
2019(TC)153	<p>ITEM 20 – Any items for discussion for a future agenda To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tour de Yorks – (on Amenities Agenda) • Northern Rail – lobby for effective change. • Todmorden Civic Pride Document – invite to be sent to attend Development Committee
2019 (TC)154	<p>ITEM 21 - DATE OF THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>The date of the next meeting of the Council is due to be held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 7:30pm in the Council Chambers, Todmorden Town Hall, Todmorden. There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.20 pm</p>