

**Minutes of Ludgershall Town Council meeting held in the
Scout Hall, Chapel Lane, Ludgershall on Tuesday 14th January 2014**

Present: C’Ilr White in the Chair, C’Ilr Betteridge, C’Ilr Cordery, C’Ilr Crane, C’Ilr Downie, C’Ilr Dance, C’Ilr Pickernell, C’Ilr Dixon, C’Ilr Laing, C’Ilr Hollis, C’Ilr Unwin & C’Ilr Gardner. Representatives: C’Ilr C Williams, Wiltshire Council, Joe Faretra, Andover Advertiser. Member of Public: Mrs Loveless & Mr Thomas.

1. Apologies were received from C’Ilr M. Williams (holiday), C’Ilr Giles (family) & C’Ilr Allan (unwell).

2. Declaration of Interests – C’Ilr White declared an interest regarding travel expenses in Finance & Policy agenda item 5.

3. Dispensation Decision - As part of Localism Act C’Ilrs had been requested to apply for dispensation to vote on the final figure for Precept 2014/2015. The clerk confirmed 12 councillors had been granted dispensation with 3 councillors not returning their forms. Wiltshire Council had confirmed there were no alterations made to the grant support, therefore the precept request from Ludgershall for 2014/2015 was a total of £110,214-00p made up of Wiltshire Council grant £9,823-56p + Precept £100,390-44p proposed by C’Ilr Cordery, seconded by C’Ilr Gardner, carried 11 votes in favour and one member present had not been granted dispensation.

4. Chairman’s Report – representation during the last month: Market Towns @ Calne also attended by C’Ilr Laing & C’Ilr Allan. The Chairman reported the launch of iStreet in partnership with Wessex Chambers & Chamber of Commerce – The High Street is the new Internet- view at www.istreet.uk.net C’Ilr Laing reported funding sources interesting. Through the chair C’Ilr C Williams agreed attending the Market Towns was worthwhile and gave Ludgershall more recognition. C’Ilr Pickernell questioned why there were 2 travel claims for the same meeting, C’Ilr Laing & Allan refused car sharing as they wished to go elsewhere after the meeting, this situation will be monitored.

The Chairman had received a personal invite to attend Andover Town Council for Christmas drinks and where a date for the inaugural meeting for the Heritage Steam project was agreed as Thursday 23rd January 2014 at 7pm.

The Police Neighbourhood Tasking Group Meeting where local priorities are set, the Area Board ABC meeting to set the next agenda had also been attended. The Chairman had been invited to attend School Band Concert at the Garrison Theatre to help hand out the goody bags to the children, an event thoroughly enjoyed by the primary school children from the Community Area. Finally the Chairman attended the recent SCOB committee as a co-opted member.

5. General Public – Questions and Police Report – Mrs Loveless raised concerns regarding the children’s safety along Short Street as they leave Playgroup and the vehicles driving along in front of this entrance. C’Ilr Pickernell reported a survey into a Transport Plan had been carried out by Wiltshire Council, they were looking to widen the entrance and install barriers. Details of the health and Safety Officer for Schools would be passed to the Clerk.

Before disposing of your old Christmas & Birthday cards contact Mrs Loveless as she recycles them to make new cards.

Mr Dave Thomas representing Elite Kick Boxing who hires the Scout Hall on 2 evening a week’s requested any financial help as they require new mats costing £300-00p, the club has grown and has 3 Ludgershall youths competing in S of England competitions. Mr Thomas advised to approach Tidworth Community Area Board for funding as a local organisation.

Police Report – no officer present, copies of circulated police updates available for inspection. C’lrs are still concerned as police not attending meetings, the clerk to request attendance once every quarter.

6. Wiltshire Council - C’lir C Williams reported there would be no increase to Wiltshire Council’s budget 2014/2015.

Next Tidworth Community Area Board meeting will be held on Monday 20th January 2014 at Wellington Academy commencing 7pm, there will be a presentation by Police & Crime Commissioner regarding a consultation because of increasing their precept, a presentation by Wellington Academy and grant applications to be considered & awarded.

7. Minutes - from the previous meeting had been circulated; matters arising – 7. 4) Date of WW1 meeting at Mrs Dixon’s house is Tuesday 28th January 2014 at 7pm. 12) Fly posting on telegraph poles and verges had been reported to Wiltshire Council and removed – clerk waiting for clarification from enforcement office on Wiltshire Council’s policy. A representative from the Old Castle Club asked if restrictions would apply to all organisations in the Town.

16) A date for the next Civic events meeting was agreed as Thursday 30th January 2014 in the Council Chambers at 7pm. C’lir White from the Chair proposed the minutes were a true record and should be signed, seconded by C’lir Cordery, carried.

8. Correspondence

a) Wiltshire Council – Temporary Road Closure Order for Astor Crescent (Part), from its junction with Empress Way in a north westerly direction to its junction with A.3026 Tidworth Road to enable carriageway resurfacing & associated works. The order comes into force 31st March 2014 and it is anticipated works will take 1 day between the hours of 8am and 5 pm.

Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule – consultation notice starting 13th January until 24th February 2014 at 5pm. Documents can be viewed at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityinfrastructurelevy and submissions can be made online, by email or by post. Organisations and individuals making representations may request the right to be heard at the examination in writing during this consultation period.

b) PCC - Police & Crime Commissioner is considering an increase of £3-15p a year for a Band D Property in the police & crime element of council tax. The council tax rate for policing and crime services in Wiltshire & Swindon has not increased for the past three years and it will still be the lowest in the south west. The proposed increase would make the policing council tax element to £160-92p for a Band D property under this proposal. The consultation runs from 6th January to 3rd February 2014 please give your views; this increase would help reduce the impact of significant central government grant reductions in Wiltshire & Swindon.

c) Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2014 – WALC has been allocated 4 nominations to attend the garden party on 3rd June 2014 This will allow two chairmen or mayors of parish, town and city councils to attend along with their spouses or companions, two will be drawn out of a hat. The clerk requested permission to submit Ludgershall’s nomination by 3rd February 2014, carried.

d) Fowler Architecture & Planning Ltd – request a date to give an hour long presentation to discuss further developments of Mr Crooks land south of Ludgershall prior to submitting an application. It was agreed a separate meeting would be necessary; the agreed date was Monday 27th January 2014 in the Council Chambers at 6-30pm

e) Healthwatch Wiltshire – is the new, independent consumer champion for health and social care in Wiltshire. 3 meetings are arranged 29th January Corn Exchange Devizes, 4th February Salisbury

Methodist Church and 6th February Town Hall Chippenham inviting members of the public to join Healthwatch in making a contribution to our volunteering agenda by attending one of the consultation meetings.

f) Claire Perry MP – following power failures during the Christmas period and concerns of some parishes over the possibility of a council tax referendum and five local priorities for 2014 set by Claire, Claire thinks it would be useful to discuss these issues and any other areas of concern and would like to invite perhaps 2-3 representatives from each Parish & Town Council to an informal meeting on Friday 7th February 2014 at Milton Lilbourne Village hall at 6-30pm. Please let the clerk know if you wish to attend.

g) Newsletter, reports including daily updates from Wiltshire Council on flooding plus weekly news from Floodline Environment Agency confirming as of 14th January 2014 groundwater levels across Salisbury Plain are continuing to rise particularly along the Till Valley & the River Bourne, and other correspondence received will be given to the relevant committee who will report back to full Council if necessary.

9. Committee Reports

Finance & Policy Committee – C’lir Gardner reported on meeting held 8th January 2014, minutes had been circulated. Both fixed term deposits have been re-invested for 6months and 1 year respectively. Section 137 donations – a) Victim Support after discussion it was agreed due to financial restraints LTC were unable to make a donation this year. B) Good Neighbour coordinator has grown and developed and funding from Wiltshire Council no longer covers the essential work. Ludgershall residents have benefited from this service so a donation of £150-00p was recommended by F & P committee. Town Council Office – it was recommended that F & P committee would look at all costs/quotes and make decisions. C’lir Dance questioned C’lir White undertaking work to fit water heater spares as these should be fitted by a certified person, it was carried this work should be put to AJK Services Ltd. Computer information had been circulated & C’lir Crane proposed the specification should be upgraded to Intel i5 processor. Spotted Ludgershall Facebook has caused two issues for the Council and councillors were reminded of their Code of Conduct they accepted before taking part on such sites. Freedom of Information Act 2000 request has been settled and the complaint withdrawn. Internal Audit – the Auditor recommends the Responsible Officer attends all spending committees to advise and take minutes.

Bills for Payment – see list totalling £10,268-47p plus a transfer of £7000-00p from Business 30 day account into the current account was requested for signing. C’lir Gardner proposed this report should be approved & bills for payment signed, seconded by C’lir Crane, carried.

Allotment, Cemetery & Car park Committee – C’lir Pickernell reported on meeting held 17th December 2013, minutes had been circulated. An amendment requested that C’lir Dance had tendered his apologies, no other issues raised, C’lir Pickernell proposed after amendment this report should be approved, seconded by C’lir Hollis, carried.

Recreation, Leisure & Environment Committee – quorum not present no meeting held.

10. Preferred Contractor List 2014/2015

The list of contractors used during the last 12 months, remit to Finance & Policy for discussion as the size of contracts is very small and the scale of most projects/quotes are covered by our Financial Regulations.

11. Admin Vacancy – the job vacancy has been advertised locally on notice boards, & websites with application forms and CV to be returned by 10th February 2014. An interview board is required and

after discussion it was agreed C’Ilr Unwin, C’Ilr Laing & C’Ilr White would form this board to interview candidates and that the clerk should also be present at the interviews.

12. Tourist Map – From the Market Towns meeting it was suggested as good practice to have a Town Council Tourist Information map. After discussion it was agreed this should be investigated by approaching Wellington Academy for their possible help in designing a map for Ludgershall . C’Ilr Pickernell reported English Heritage have confirmed they will put the crowns back on the Market Cross fence and replace damaged signs at the Old castle. They will also assist in training volunteers to conduct tours around Ludgershall, plus help in any way producing a leaflet on Ludgershall. Hopefully a site meeting will be arranged shortly.

13. Shadow Campus – C’Ilr Crane reported C’Ilr C Williams, Wiltshire Council had been invited to attend the last meeting to follow procedures with consultation questionnaires to be presented at March TCAB. Ludgershall needs to decide where to put a campus building, possibly on Castledown Business Park as the heart of Ludgershall will move due to the proposed expansion of the Town.

14. Any Other Business

The clerk reminded councillors if they wished to attend the JSA event on What Matters to You in the Tidworth Community Area at Wellington Academy on Monday 10th February 2014, sent out by e-mail please put your name forward as you need to be registered; C’Ilr Laing put her name forward along with C’Ilr Crane, C’Ilr Dixon & C’Ilr White.

C’Ilr Betteridge complained about the retention of water at the top of Dewey’s Lane, the clerk has already reported this problem to Wiltshire Council, the water has been pumped previously but obviously there is a more serious underlying problem, however due to flooding across Wiltshire this type of work will be delayed.

C’Ilr Dance asked on behalf of C’Ilr Allan why cheques for payment were no longer displayed on the notice boards. This had been discussed by full Council and agreed a full list of cheques for payment would be circulated to all councillors on the night of the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9-40pm.

Signed.....Date.....