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COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Thursday 27 July 2017 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Richard FitzHerbert - In the Chair

Councillors Jason Atkin, Deborah Botham, Richard Bright, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Albert Catt, David Chapman, Tom Donnelly, Graham Elliott, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Neil Horton, Vicky Massey-Bloodworth, Jean Monks, Tony Morley, Joyce Pawley, Garry Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose, OBE, Mark Salt, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Jacquie Stevens, Colin Swindell, John Tibenham, Philippa Tilbrook and Joanne Wild.

Dorcas Bunton (Chief Executive), Mike Galsworthy (Estates and Facilities Manager), Ian Brailsford (Business Transformation Assistant), Annette Reading (Democratic & Electoral Services Assistant) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

Sarah Fowler – Chief Executive, Peak District National Park
Matt Mardling – Senior Strategy Officer, Peak District National Park

Richard Fletcher – Volunteer, Derbyshire Community Representative for the Air Ambulance Services.

The Chairman advised those present that the meeting was being recorded live on YouTube.

The Estates and Facilities Manager updated the Council on the current evacuation procedure, and advised that instructions would be visible at all future Committee meetings (and via the Members' portal) in the event of an evacuation. The Committee Clerk would maintain a list of all those present at the meetings.

PRESENTATION

The Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales for 2016/17 presented a cheque to a representative of the Air Ambulance, his nominated charity for the year. This was gratefully received, and Members were advised that the contribution would potentially help save three lives.

A short presentation was then given by Sarah Fowler, Chief Executive of Peak District National Park, on the shape and future of the Peak District National Park as encompassed in the current consultation paper. Ms Fowler then took questions from the floor.

The Chairman thanked Ms Fowler for her informative presentation, and welcomed her attendance during the Council's consideration of Item 9 on the agenda relating to the District Council's response in respect of the Peak Park's consultation.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ann Elliott, Angus Jenkins, Tony Millward BEM and Irene Ratcliffe.

79/17 – MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Andrew Shirley and

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the meetings of the Derbyshire Dales District Council held on 22 and 28 June 2017 be approved as a correct record.
(unanimously)

The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

80/17 – CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A list of engagements carried out between Tuesday 6 June and Saturday 22 July 2017 was distributed at the meeting. The Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales made a plea for prizes in respect of an upcoming Auction of Promises; and reminded Members that all were welcome at an Open House on Saturday 19th August, 10am-4pm.

81/17 – COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Jean Monks and

RESOLVED That the non-exempt minutes of the Committees listed in the Minute Book for the period 22 June 2017 to 11 July 2017 be received.
(unanimously)

82/17 – QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)

Councillor Mike Ratcliffe asked the following question of Councillor Lewis Rose, OBE, Leader of the Council

"Members will be acutely aware of the recent spate of tragic events in London and Manchester resulting in significant loss of life, not least of which included the Grenfell Tower disaster. Notwithstanding the lines of direct responsibility will he assure us and the residents of Derbyshire Dales that our response procedures have been reviewed, are up to date and in place to give adequate support and assistance to our partner local authorities and agencies should a large scale emergency affect our district?"

Councillor Rose gave the following response:

"The District Council has robust procedures in place through our Emergency Planning agreement with Derbyshire County Council which would enable us to deal with the type of tragic events that have recently taken place in Manchester and London. These

arrangements are frequently tested through scenario planning exercises which include all of the emergency services, health services, utility companies and the military and provide for the establishment of large scale casualty or accommodation centres. There is also co-ordination at a national level which enables emergency planning teams to learn lessons from experiences elsewhere and intelligence has already been shared from the Manchester and London incidents. Whilst one would hope that the Derbyshire Dales never experiences an incident of this nature, I can assure Members and the public of the Derbyshire Dales that arrangements are in place should such a tragic event occur.”

Cllr Rose also advised that a paper relating to the emergency planning procedures set out for Derbyshire would be circulated shortly.

Cllr Ratcliffe thanked Cllr Rose for his response and trusted that the information would be widely disseminated.

Councillor Colin Swindell asked the following question of Councillor Lewis Rose, OBE, Leader of the Council:

“In light of complaints with regard to poor street cleansing service and the need for operatives to repeatedly revisit areas to complete works to an acceptable standard, can Councillor Rose tell me what this Council can do to make the service more effective and efficient in the future?”

Councillor Rose gave the following response:

Although we have seen an increase in the number of concerns raised over the last 3 years, we have actually seen a reduction of over 50% (52%) in this first quarter (April – July), when compared to the last two years.

When you consider that our relatively small team which covers a District of approximately 300 square miles, with over 71,000 residents received 238 initial concerns, of which only 3 resulted in a formal complaint, I would argue that the service provided by our Clean & Green team is actually a good one.

We are very fortunate to live in such an area and it is understandable that the expectations of our residents are high. We do, however; have to balance these expectations with our financial capacity. Adjustments to the service were approved and implemented in 2012/13 and are available for all to view on the District Council website.

That being said, we are always looking to improve the services we deliver and I can confirm that is something we are currently reviewing in this area. Members, I am sure, will be aware of the departure of several managerial-level employees in Environmental Services this year, and although we appreciate the hard work and contribution they made to the service – we now have an opportunity to review the service with a fresh pair of eyes. In doing this, we are reviewing the current mowing, sweeping and parks maintenance schedules and also considering whether the north, south and central boundaries and the spread of staff in those teams needs adjusting.

Cllr Swindell thanked Cllr Rose for his response.

83/17 – PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY – MANAGEMENT PLAN CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Council considered the District Council response to the Peak District National Park Authority's consultation on its proposed Management Plan 2017, as required under the 1995 Environment Act, which was due to close on 31 July 2017. In order to assist, the National Park Authority's Chief Executive made a presentation at the start of the meeting.

The proposed Management Plan had been presented for consultation on the National Park Authority's website <http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/national-park-management-plan> along with a consultation response form. The draft response was to be submitted in letter form (attached as an appendix to the report), and aimed to focus on strategic issues of greatest relevance to District Council.

The key points regarding the NPMP were set out in the report.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

RESOLVED The draft District Council response is agreed for submission to the
(unanimously) National Park Authority.

84/17 – ARC LEISURE MATLOCK – REPAIRS TO PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE

Councillor Chris Furness left the meeting at 7.42pm, Councillor Mark Salt left at 8.03pm and Councillor Graham Elliott left at 8.04pm during discussion of this item.

The Chairman had agreed to the inclusion of this report as an item of urgent business in accordance with the Council's Constitution in order to respond to the need to provide for urgent works.

Council considered a report that outlined the problems experienced at the Arc Pedestrian Footbridge and the actions taken to arrange the necessary repairs. It outlined the additional capital funding required and recommended inclusion of this amount in the revised Capital Programme for 2017/18.

Following a routine inspection of some raised areas of deck boarding on 23rd June 2017, a noticeable deterioration was reported of the metal brackets holding the timber beams together and anchoring them to the bridge structure. The bridge was immediately closed and Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Structural Engineers inspected it. Their findings were set out in the report, together with the proposed remedial works required. The cost of these works, with associated professional fees, was expected to be no more than £25,000, in addition to the cost of £6,500 already incurred in investigation works and removal of the bridge deck and brackets.

The possible causes of the deterioration were set out in the report, and it was noted that during the investigation work samples and photographs had been retained in case it became evident that a latent defect in the construction of the footbridge was identified, in which case a claim could potentially be made in respect of remedial costs.

It was agreed in the meantime that the remedial work should be carried out by the District Council as a matter of urgency.

It was moved by Councillor Jacquie Stevens, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt, and

RESOLVED 1. That the actions taken in commissioning DCC Structural
(unanimously) Engineers to investigate the defective support brackets and
 structural bolts and Derwent Treescapes Limited to remove the
 deck surface and brackets from the bridge and provide

scaffolding at an approximate cost of £6,500 to be funded from the revenue budget are noted.

2. That an additional sum of £25,000 is made available in the revised Capital Programme for 2017/18.

85/17 - APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER

Councillor Jason Atkin left the meeting at 8.10pm during discussion of this item.

Council were asked to confirm the appointment of Sandra Lamb, the Council's Head of Corporate Services and Monitoring Officer, as the Council's Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer in line with The Representation of People's Act 1983. This would be a personal appointment and would revert back to the Chief Executive whenever Sandra Lamb left the employment of the Authority.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

- RESOLVED** (unanimously)
1. That Sandra Lamb is appointed the Council's Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer with immediate effect.
 2. That, should Sandra Lamb leave the employment of the Council, the position would revert back to the Chief Executive.

86/17 – APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN TO PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council were asked to confirm the appointment of a replacement Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

- RESOLVED** (unanimously) That Councillor Mrs Sue Bull be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

87/17 – SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

It was moved by Councillor Joanne Wild, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

- RESOLVED** (unanimously) That the common seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to officers since the last meeting of the Council.

MEETING CLOSED 8.10PM

CHAIRMAN