

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 24th MARCH 2010 AT 7.30PM IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE**

Present: Cllr Gill; Chairman, Cllr Baker; Deputy Chairman, Cllrs Pugh, Hitchcock, Posner, Brewer, Parker, Distin and The Clerk

016/10GP Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Slater who was unable to attend due to work commitment.

Acceptance of this apology was proposed by Cllr Posner, seconded by Cllr Hitchcock and carried unanimously.

017/10GP Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as being a true record and carried unanimously.

018/10GP Matters arising from the Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising.

019/10GP Garden Competition

It was noted that the judging date will be Thursday 15th July 2010, entry closing date will be Thursday 1st July 2010.

Regarding the new class, the heading will be "Class 8, Best Commercial Premises Floral Display" The award will be titled The Ashburton Town Council Shield, which will be accompanied by a certificate and presented annually. It was agreed that the judges be invited and lunch would be provided for them.

RECOMMEND: CLERK TO ATTEND TO ALL ABOVE

020/10GP Portfolio of Assets

The Clerk stated that the FTHB committee had fully discussed all issues relating to the proposals of consideration of future assets and the minutes of this meeting would be forwarded to all councillors accordingly. Consideration was given to the implications of Ashburton Town Council looking into the possibility of taking on certain assets such as swimming pool, recreation ground, car park and other play areas and it was noted that this issue would be on going and needs to be kept as a possible future agenda item.

NOTED

021/10 GP Officer's Report

1 An application had been received for the sale of alcohol within the Town Hall in respect of a concert due to take place and the applicants were "Number 14" of North Street. It was proposed Cllr Brewer, seconded Cllr Posner, acceptance of this application and the notice was duly signed.

2 Land at Mill Meadow. The Clerk explained that opposite Mill Meadow there is a small piece of land and he showed councillors present a map of the area concerned. There was a request from the Highways Department, who own the piece of land, as to whether the Town Council would like to take over the planting/grass cutting of this area. The Clerk stated that in fact he is the person who plants and cuts the grass so technically, the Town Council is already looking after it. It was agreed by the committee that the Town Council would consider looking after this piece of land but only by way of transferring it to Ashburton Town Council, who would look after it for a peppercorn rent and not just by a letter of intent from DCC.

RECOMMEND: CLERK TO RESPOND TO DCC ACCORDINGLY

022/10GP Correspondence

1. Letter from the Portreeve requesting permission to take the Portreeve's regalia ie robe and chains, out of the Borough to attend a Portreeve's Parade in Alcester, Warwickshire in May. The committee wished the Clerk to respond to the Portreeve thanking her for her correspondence and agreed that the Portreeve would be allowed to take the regalia out of the Borough accordingly.

RECOMMEND: CLERK TO RESPOND TO THE PORTREEVE

2. Notification of roadworks to be carried out at the A38 Goodstone to Drumbridges from 22nd March for approximately 5 nights.
3. Road closure notice for Stapledon Lane from Monday 10th May 2010 to Thursday 13th. Diversion routes and signs would be applied accordingly. NOTED

023/10GP Any Other Urgent Business

Cllr Posner stated that, having attended a recent DAPC meeting and because of all the snow problems being experienced and only main roads being gritted, DCC are looking to possibly train up locals to be able to grit smaller roads and also to be covered by insurance for doing so. It was suggested that an emergency list could be actioned of who owns 4 x 4s, tractors etc and identify what areas may be at risk. Once these risks are identified, the owners of appropriate vehicles could be contacted in an emergency and be asked to assist.

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm

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Chairman
Wednesday 28th April 2010