



**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
HELD AT 7.45PM ON 23RD MAY 2017 IN
THE TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, WETHERBY**

Present: Town Councillors

Cllr H Chapman
Cllr N Harrington (Mayor)
Cllr N Kanabar
Cllr K Knight
Cllr N O'Byrne

Cllr D Frame
Cllr R V Hawkins
Cllr G Moss (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr G Wilkinson

Cllr A Lamb
Cllr D Payne
Cllr J Procter

Public

Mrs J Chapman
Mr R Taylor (Wetherby Civic Society)

Iona Taylor (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Town Councillors Cindy Bentley, Julie Brady and Jo Maltby.

2. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the last Annual Town Meeting, held on 26th May 2016, were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair of the Town Council.

3. Matters arising – none.

4. Wetherby Town Council's Annual Report 2017

Councillor Harrington reviewed the work of the Town Council in the past year. A copy of this review was available for all attendees at the meeting and can be obtained either online or via the Town Council's offices in the Town Hall.

5. Questions or comments from members of the public.

- Both the public and Councillors expressed disappointment at the turnout for this meeting. Suggestions for improving the layout of the meeting were also noted.
- Councillor Lamb advised that the current timetable for the preparation of the Wetherby Neighbourhood Plan indicates that it will go out to referendum in May 2018.
- The Town Clerk agreed to look in to the issue of the weir lights being on at the wrong time of day.
- The meeting received feedback on the current outline planning application for a new community, including 800 dwellings, a food store, primary school and public open spaces at land off Racecourse Approach. Feedback included an indication that there are sections of the public both for and against the development. Concerns about Wetherby's infrastructure being able to support such a large development were noted, as well as the proportion of affordable housing which would be required.

Councillor Procter spoke about Leeds City Council's Local Planning process, including an expectation that the current housing provision target is likely to be revised downwards. A planning inspector will determine where this housing should be provided.

Although the current planning application had pre-empted the Local Plan process it was noted that it contains provision for a new school, shop and 35% of affordable housing.

The application will be determined by Leeds City Council.

- Concerns about continued speeding on Deighton Road were noted; together with the ongoing issue of the use of the road by HGVs. Representatives of West Yorkshire Police, who regularly attend Town Council meetings, have recently advised that they have new, mobile enforcement equipment which they have been asked to deploy in and around Wetherby. Councillor Wilkinson advised that Leeds City Council has fulfilled its obligations as a highways authority, although it will continue to look at new ways of deterring speeding as they become available.

6. Any other business – none.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Iona Taylor, Town Clerk.

SIGNED:

SIGNATURE REDACTED

DATE:

Original can be viewed at Town Council's offices.