

**WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL – ANNUAL TOWN’S MEETING
MONDAY 28 May 2019 AT 6.30 PM**

AT01/19 Present:

Town Council:

Cllr A Jordan (Chair), S Barker, A Clamp, M Casselden, G Gratton, A Pollock, J Stockell, P Taylor, P Jennings (Clerk to the Town Council),

Members of the Public: 15

AT02/19 Apologies: Cllr C Whittall

AT03/19 Minutes:

The Minutes of the Annual Towns Meeting held on 29 April 2018 were signed as a correct record.

AT04/19 Mount Cook Planning Application:

A resident spoke about the recent application for a low ropes course (the planning application has been withdrawn w/c 29/5/19 – approx. 20 letters of objection sent to DDDC). Whilst the application has been withdrawn the resident took the opportunity to raise broader concerns regarding the site, especially the impact of noise pollution. The site is open 7 days a week, from 8:30am to 9pm, 365 days a year. The normal activities generate a significant amount of noise especially from call/response practices used by group leaders. A further concern for residents is that the site is hired out to external groups and often no Mount Cook staff are in residence, resulting in increased noise levels as groups are unaware of the impact of their activities on local residents. Examples cited were 6:30am playing loud music and the use of PA’s without consideration to volume levels.

A number residents support the concerns raised about noise levels which can impact across into Bolehill.

The residents want to see steps taken to manage noise and mitigate the impact from usage of the site. There is concern that increased usage and potential future increased facilities will exacerbate the issues of sound pollution. They are seeking guidance on how to engage with the site to manage the issue in a proactive manner.

(The planning application will be discussed on 3 June at the Environment and Town Committee of the Town Council)

AT05/19 Climate Emergency:

A resident and representative of Peak Extinction provided a summary of the issue. Furthermore, following the Town Council’s decision to declare a Climate Emergency in February, the climate group attended the March Farmers Market to seek residents suggestions on what the council could do to tackle the issue.

These included:

Local Food Production (Allotments).

Look at Town's Carbon Footprint and take actions to reduce.

TC could reduce temperature in Town Hall.

Increase Town's green spaces, plant more trees and use bee friendly flowers/plants.

Put carbon reduction/storage at heart of all planning response.

Lead by example – perhaps Town Councillors could make pledges on actions they are personally taking.

Lobby District / County Councils for action

Call a citizen's assembly

Need to pull together as a community.

Cllrs advised that a Council Working Party would be reporting to the Council with an initial proposal in June.

Another resident spoke against global warming citing evidence that challenged the assertions around the issue and requested that the Town Council should encourage further discussion of the issue before taking any action and the council should also write to all residents seeking their opinion on the matter.

AT06/19 Car Parking:

A resident raised the issue of car parking especially North End. The current parking restriction of 40 minutes results in a lot of vehicle movement and especially intermittent noise when cars are moved to comply with restrictions. Suggestions to tackle the matter included resident parking permits, parking restrictions and the need for a more coherent strategy to tackle parking in the Town.

Cllr Clamp agreed to take up the issue with the Town Council.

AT07/19 Other Business:

A resident raised the issue of litter at the top of the Dale/Greenhill, and asked if a litter bin could be installed. The Clerk explained that litter bins are installed and emptied by DDDC who have the infrastructure to support this activity, however DDDC are actively trying to reduce the number and would not install further bins.

AT08/19 Close of meeting:

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.40 pm

.....
Chairman