**DARWEN TOWN COUNCIL**

**www.darwencouncil.co.uk**

**CLERK: REBECCA AF HAY**

**OLLISTAN,**

**239 RED LEES ROAD**

**CLIVIGER,**

**NR. BURNLEY**

**BB10 4RF**

**LANCASHIRE**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN DARWEN TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, MAY 14TH,, 2019

**Present:** Couns. Salton, East, Connor, Browne, Smith,, Brookfield, Slater, Rothwell and Taylor.

**1.Welcome and introduction:**

**2.Apologies:** Coun. Perkins, Hollings, Davies and Entwistle..

**3.Declarations of Interest:**  Coun East on Darwen Cemetry.

**4 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

These were agreed.

**4.1 Boundary changes**

Coun. Smith clarified the town council wards following the boundary changes planned for 2020.

**5 Public forum**

Ms Janet Pearce of Keep Darwen Tidy gave a report and said there are now 400 people in the group, including lots of children and monies given through a grant have paid for equipment. Janet has been into schools to educate children on litter and the group has been nominated for an environmental award. It was agreed that the group tidy up after Darwen Live, in return for an agreed donation to be confirmed.

Mr Mark Atkinson gave an update on the mural at Hollins Grove Church. Darwen Heritage Centre has agreed to house it, but the expense and difficulty of removing it, could prove to be a sticking point.

Coun. East said the project was on hold at the moment with a number of options available including selling the building with a covenant on the mural and looking into the cost of removing and preserving it. Coun. Smith suggested that the town council could fund the removal and then be paid back when the building is sold.

Mr Atkinson said there is a range of equipment in the building which can be donated to local groups. Coun. Rothwell and Salton said they would look into this.

**6 Mayor’s report**

Coun Salton said she was delighted to accept the office of Mayor until 2020 and hoped that all councillors would work together for the good of the town.

**7 Deputy leader’s report**

Retiring deputy chairman Coun. Connor said the St George’s Day event had been a big success and over the last year all the events had been memorable.

**8 Finance**

In: £61,000 – first instalment of the precept.

£12,446.54 – VAT refund.

Authorised payments:

£613.75 Rebecca Hay, salary and expenses for clerk.

£80.83 – LCC – clerk’s pension contribution.

£720 – PX Productions –Darwen Live band.

£300 – J. Barritt for internal audit.

£88.99 – postage and Internet security.

£3,104.12 – WPS Insurance renewal.

£300 – K. Connor for St George’s flags payment.

£600 – Shadow Management for Darwen Live band.

£2,500 – J. Morrison for Darwen Live band.

£2,400 – BWD – library theatre afternoon variety show donation.

£2,275.20 – Portable Toilets – Darwen Live.

£198 – Total Studios - Darwen Live passes.

£935.16 – 4 Imprint Designs for Darwen Live merchandise.

£88.46 – S. Carlyle – Darwen Live refreshments for volunteers.

£250 – C. Doherty – St George’s Day entertainment.

£57.60 – Affordable Leaflets for Darwen Live banners.

£500 x 3 – Mayor’s donation to Sudell, Holy Trinity and St Peter’s Primary Schools.

£1,000 – Mayor’s donation to Food Larder.

£200 – L. Taylor for Darwen Live banners and artwork.

£955 – Ronset Ltd –Darwen Live booklets.

£2,160 – Flying Entertainment for St George’s Day.

£900 = S. Taylor for marketing and organising St George’s Day.

£200 – Ignite Parties for St George’s Day.

£100 – Lancashire Hawks and Owls for St George’s Day.

The annual internal audit was discussed and agreed with a minor addition to be included (details in Part 2) and the audit report forms signed and financial assessment information agreed.

Coun. Browne questioned Darwen Live payments before the event.

**9 Correspondence**

A thank you was received from AFC Darwen following their grant with a report on last year’s expenditure.

**10 Updates**

The town crier Mr Darryl Counsell had attended the St George’s Day event and is to represent Darwen at a guild competition and also hopes to attend Darwen’s Festival of Making.

No parks update. Coun. East asked if Darwen Cemtery’s friends group could apply for grants. It was agreed that as there are so many cemeteries in Darwen, it would be better to apply for ad hoc grants.

Details of Darwen’s celebrations for the D Day anniversary and the end of WWII anniversary were discussed. Coun. Rothwell to pass on details of a group which may be able to help with a band and choir.

Coun. East gave details of Darwen Tower paintings for sale.

Crown Awards meeting in June.

**11 Any other business**

The clerk said BWD intends to renovate the council chamber later this month and anyone wishing to use the room needs to confirm with Steve Cox first..

**12 Part 2 – public and press excluded.**

Two items were discussed.

**13 Date of next meeting.**

June 4th, 7 p.m. Agenda items to be with the clerk by May 27th please..