MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL

Wednesday 26th June 2013 Commencing at 6.00 p.m. In the Council Chamber, Staveley Hall

Present:

Councillor Tidd (Chair)
Councillor Elliott (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Bacon
Councillor Bagshaw
Councillor Dyke
Councillor A. Hill
Councillor P. Hill

In attendance – Graeme Challands Town Clerk and Financial Officer

- Linda Bally Summer Activities Scheme Co-ordinator
- Cllrs Barnett, D. Collins, Ludlow
- 1 Members of the Public

		ACTION
124/13	PUBLIC SESSION There were no questions from members of the public present.	
125/13	DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.	
	Councillor A. Hill stated he noted from the Minutes 49/13 637/12 that, in his view Standing Orders were not being observed by the Proper Officer.	
	He read out the paragraph.	
	The Town Clerk pointed out again that the Standing Order was not legal and accordingly Staveley Town Council could not adopt Standing Orders that were not legal.	
	Councillor A. Hill responded that Staveley Town Council had adopted the Standing Orders including this paragraph.	
	The Town Clerk then informed the Meeting that he had been advised to report Councillor A. Hill to the Monitoring Officer at Chesterfield Borough Council over this matter.	GC

Councillor A. Hill agreed that the Town Clerk should do so. The Town Clerk stated that once again he was not able to break the law, repeating the advice of the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks.

The Secretary of State had ultimate authority over the legality of Standing Orders.

Councillor Helen Elliott stated that this response was not good enough.

Councillor Ludlow asked why when Standing Orders came to full Council did the Town Clerk not state this at the time.

The Town Clerk reported the sequence of events regarding Model Standing Orders, the Standing Orders of Dronfield Town Council, the version drawn up to suit Staveley Town Council, and the version amended by Councillor A. Hill which did not use MS tracking changes and so had been put to Full Council and adopted. He had not read the changed version as it was assumed it was the circulated version based on Dronfield Town Council's Standing Orders. Accordingly given the deadlines for the Annual Meeting the Standing Orders altered by Councillor A. Hill had been circulated and adopted.

He had been awaiting the advice of the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils and now this had been received intended to raise the matter. He offered to discuss it in fuller detail the following day as he had been informed the Chair and Leader were to visit him.

He repeated that Standing Orders had to be legally compliant.

Councillor Dyke suggested the matter be discussed at Policy, Finance and Publicity or proper legal advice was sought.

Councillor Helen Elliott said she thought Derbyshire Association of Local Councils and National Association of Local Councils gave advice to the Council not the Proper Officer.

The Town Clerk said he was responsible for advising the Council on proposals or decisions and accordingly consulted with DALC and if needed NALC. He pointed out that Members could ask DALC and NALC.

	The Chair then moved the Agenda on.	
126/13	APOLOGIES Councillor Cauldwell – family commitments Councillor Parsons – work commitments	
127/13	COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT There were no Councillors not present	
128/13	MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD WEDNESDAY 5th JUNE 2013. The minutes of the Leisure and Community Committee of Staveley Town Council held on Wednesday 5 th June 2013 were APPROVED	
129/13	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5 th JUNE 2013	
	51/13 Staveley Feast Councillor A. Hill read out the 3 rd paragraph concerning the proposed Family Disco.	
	Are the staff informing us that they are now on Industrial Action or not?	
	The Town Clerk responded that he would ask the Union to answer that query.	GC
	All said if that was the situation then it may affect the other activities of the council if staff were not prepared to do them also.	
	Councillor Dyke asked why the Living Wage was a reason?	
	The Chair pointed out that the Town Clerk was answering the question.	
	The Town Clerk pointed out that the staff were not required by their contracts to undertake additional work. It was their personal choice if they wished to volunteer. In addition to the Living Wage issue their past experience of similar discos meant they did not wish to help staff them by volunteering to do additional hours and duties not on their contracts.	

Councillor A. Hill referred to an email sent by the Town Clerk. He said Staveley Town Council could not advance Job Evaluation until they (Councillors) had Job Descriptions for the staff. Now that they had them they could liaise with the union as agreed.

The Town Clerk pointed out that it was not his role to speak for the Union but the staff believed that the Living Wage could be introduced, if Councillors decided so, prior to Job Evaluation.

Councillor A. Hill then requested that a meeting be organised for all staff, the Union representative and himself and Councillor Ludlow as soon as possible.

He proposed that Staveley Town Council suspend all events activities

Members could look at alternative means of delivery.

Councillor Dyke said staff were unwilling to work above contracted hours. Accordingly Councillors had asked the Town Clerk to cost up external staff to help run the Family Disco.

The Town Clerk reported that he had made initial approaches to the Agency (In Place) normally used for temporary workers. They had responded that the event would need Security Industry Authority Staff and they did not supply these.

He was awaiting details of the proposed date which members had said would be supplied after the Labour Group Meeting. No one had yet supplied this date.

He would source alternative staff for other events if employed staff did not volunteer.

Councillor A. Hill proposed until the clarification from the Union regarding staff volunteering, that Staveley Town Council suspend all activities and that Councillors make arrangements themselves regarding the Presentation Evening.

58/13 Live and Local

Councillor Ludlow asked why Staveley Town Council had been unable to book any shows. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the list of shows available had been sent to the Chair of the Leisure and Community Committee as agreed for her to choose shows. However staff had not been informed of any choices before the deadline.

Councillors Elliott and Tidd did not recall this.

Councillor A. Hill said the schedule was not handed to Councillors Elliott and Tidd.

The Town Clerk confirmed it was posted out to Councillor Tidd.

Councillor Tidd apologised if she had not got back with a choice.

Councillor Ludlow asked if it was now too late to choose a show and the Town Clerk confirmed it was.

130/13 | STAVELEY IN BLOOM

The Town Clerk reported:

- The Tour was organised.
- Emails sent to Councillors who volunteered –
 Councillors A. Hill to come to Staveley Hall, drive to
 Barrow Hill Engine Shed and meet Mayoral Party and
 Judges and start tour.
- On the details of the tour including "meet and greet" by Councillors Elliott and Dyke and Tidd
- Emails had been sent to officers at Chesterfield Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council to ask them to make sure their items were at their best for the date of the tour.

Councillor A. Hill reported he had received the email from the Town Clerk and now wondered why the Tour set off from Barrow Hill Engine Shed not Staveley Hall as it was a Staveley Town Council event.

The Town Clerk reported the Barrow Hill Engine Sheds had offered to host the Judges and given there was only two hours this was the most efficient way to ensure the Judges saw as much as possible.

Councillor Ludlow asked if there was only one private garden entered. The Town Clerk listed all the aspects that the judges wanted to see and this included an example of a private garden. Last year it had been in Inkersall. There was no Staveley Town Council competition – there was no capacity to organise this unlike Chesterfield Borough Council. Private gardens had to be on the Judges' route and Mr. and Mrs. Brighton's garden was on the route and

known to be outstanding.

Councillor A. Hill asked if any staff were involved who did not wish to do non contractual overtime. The Town Clerk confirmed the In Bloom tour was covered by staff carrying out normal duties within their contracts. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Judges may drive past Elliott Drive but had visited that garden in 2012. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that he had asked Keith Bannister if he could put flower troughs on Tilley's Bar. Keith had not only done this but had sponsored the Hanging Baskets.

131/13 | STAVELEY FEAST 2013

The Town Clerk reported:

- The Bowls Competition had been a success
- The Brass Bands event at the Speedwell Rooms had not been a success on the Friday where a competition for local rock/folk/pop bands had not had a good attendance. Saturday and Sunday had been a success. On Sunday Councillor Tidd had attended and there were 4 Training Bands and 10 Senior Bands with judging lasting until 7.00 p.m. It brought a lot of people into Staveley and as a Thank You from Ireland Colliery Band he had been presented with a picture and a bottle of whisky which would be donated as a raffle prize to the Staveley Town Council Elderly Citizens Christmas Party as he always did.

Councillor Dyke suggested it be given to a Chesterfield Charity Kids n Cancer. This was agreed.

The last event to happen was the Canal Festival and certain councillors were invited to go on boat trips – on the Friday and a VIP event on Saturday morning.

The Chair said he had not been invited to the VIP trip.

There were events at Staveley Hall also.

Councillor Elliott said she had not been invited to any event.

Councillor A. Hill said she would have been: it was on her email. The Town Clerk agreed to find out about whether the Chair of Staveley Town Council had been invited to the Saturday VIP event.

GC

132/13 SUMMER ACTIVITIES SCHEMES 2013

The Town Clerk invited Linda Bally, as the organiser to

report on this year's arrangements.

Linda reported that the Speedwell Rooms Scheme had filled up extremely quickly, followed by St. Josephs.

The schemes at Poolsbrook and Duckmanton were filling up more slowly but there was a month to go.

Staff meeting on 1st July and any Councillor would be welcome to attend. Activities included Barrow Hill Engine Sheds, going by bus and Sportscool.

She asked if Councillors could help over applications to the schemes held at Poolsbrook and Duckmanton Schools.

Councillor A. Hill proposed at this point to exclude the public and staff from all further items on the Agenda at a later point. A vote took place and this proposal was carried.

133/13 COMMUNITY BONFIRE AND FIREWORK DISPLAY 2013 Nothing to report.

134/13 | ALLOTMENTS

The Town Clerk reported that he was waiting to be contacted by the Labour Group about a date for a meeting with Middlecroft Allotment Association. No one had provided a date as yet so there was no progress.

Councillor A. Hill said he thought the Town Clerk was to provide a choice of dates. The Town Clerk responded that the situation was as minuted.

Councillor A. Hill said there had not been a Labour Group Meeting since the Minutes and it would be sorted following the Labour Group Meeting and the Town Clerk would receive an email with a date.

135/13 STAVELEY MARKET

The Town Clerk pointed out that issue had been discussed at Policy Finance and Publicity.

Members were to see the Town Clerk about events to be held during the summer holidays and through the Chair it had been agreed Tuesday 9th July at 10.00 a.m.

Councillor Dyke said he would be at work: he had been unaware of the date. The Meeting was moved to Friday 12th

at 10.00 a.m. to enable Councillors Dyke and Elliott to attend.

136/13 COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Town Clerk reported that the young boy would be attending the Ordinary Meeting in July.

There were no other suggestions for a Community Award.

The Chair moved that the Committee now go into a non public session. This included the member of staff but not the Town Clerk.

The member of staff and member of the public left the room.

137/13 ARTS AND CRAFTS COMPETITION 2013

Councillor S. Bagshaw pointed out a mistake in the alphabetical list of winners.

138/13 | SUMMER ACTIVITIES SCHEME

Councillor A. Hill stated the Town Clerk should do all presentations not a member of staff.

Was it in her contract to do Summer Activities Schemes? If it wasn't in her contract and the Unions were to recommend members not to do contractual overtime would it affect the Summer Activities Schemes? He knew other members of staff employed for the Summer Activities Schemes were not affected.

Councillor Dyke said the Summer Activities Scheme Organiser had done the Summer Activities Scheme for many years and had always done a good job. She always gave a report and she was obviously happy doing the Summer Activities Schemes. He felt the suggestions of cancellation of all Staveley Town Council activities was 'ridiculous'. Why would we say don't let her do it?

Councillor A. Hill felt it should not be debated in Council. Councillor Dyke responded it had not been brought up in Labour Group.

Councillor Hill stated he and Councillor Ludlow had received an email from the Town Clerk stating staff were not willing to do non contractual overtime.

The Town Clerk responded that the email sent to 4 Councillors expressed his concern that staff <u>may</u> stop non

contractual overtime. The Summer Activities Scheme Coordinator had just made it quite clear she would be working the Summer Activities Schemes. It was the Presentation Evening he was concerned about. Councillor Dyke pointed out he was allowed under Standing Orders to debate this matter at this meeting. The Summer Activities Scheme was amongst the best things Staveley Town Council did and the Co-ordinator did a great job and had reported on progress tonight. Councillors should not spoil this for the kids of Staveley.

Councillor A. Hill asked for clarification if staff were working. He had had that. He was not knocking the scheme or staff. It can go ahead.

Councillor Elliott said she knew what Councillor Hill was getting at. It seemed that the Family Disco they had come up with staff were picking and choosing what they did. She did not know why but it seemed odd that everything that Graeme runs staff would do but anything Councillors thought up all of a sudden they would not work.

Councillor Ludlow said if the Union told the Co-ordinator not to work the Summer Activities Scheme had we enough staff to operate the scheme. Even if she wanted to work it the Union would prevent her. It was clarified again that there was sufficient staff and that the Co-ordinator would be working.

Councillor Dyke pointed out in response to the accusation by Councillor Elliott that "Graeme" did not put on any activities – Staveley Town Council did. The Co-ordinator can make her own mind up about any Union instruction.

139/13 | BONFIRE NIGHT

Councillor A. Hill said the same concerns applied over this. The Living Wage if introduced would not be introduced overnight as other authorities were struggling. Some Unions were advising their members may be adversely affected by the Living Wage including the Chesterfield Borough Council.

Councillor Elliott said at Chesterfield Borough Council she looked in to the Living Wage and there were concerns that workers could be worse off in terms of benefits.

Councillor Ludlow said Chesterfield Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council were not looking at implementing the Living Wage immediately or in the near future. She stated Carl (UNISON) would not be pushing for the Living Wage at Staveley Town Council because they were not getting it at Chesterfield Borough Council or Derbyshire County Council.

She did not know where that left Staveley Town Council or the staff. She did not want Staveley Town Council to be held to ransom by staff when the Living Wage would not be introduced by bigger Councils.

The Town Council said he would not speak on behalf of the union but staff had seen in the Derbyshire County Council Insight paper that Derbyshire County Council were introducing the Living Wage and were encouraging all other employers to do so.

He felt Chesterfield Borough Council UNISON could contact Derbyshire County Council UNISON to find out.

Councillor Dyke said if Staveley Town Council was forced down that route to grant the Living Wage it may only be able to afford it by a Council Tax increase, services being cut or losing staff.

Councillor Elliott told the meeting that the Government had just announced that day they were knocking another 10% off the budget.

The Town Clerk pointed out Staveley Town Council did not get any money from the Government so were unaffected by this.

Councillor Elliott said Chesterfield Borough Council were so how could a smaller Council like Staveley Town Council not be affected.

Councillor A. Hill felt it would be wrong for Staveley Town Council to pay the Living Wage if it meant a rise in the Precept which was being paid for by people who were not themselves receiving the Living Wage. That would be morally wrong.

The Chair posed the question: were the staff willing to work non contractual hours for the Community Bonfire and Firework Display.

The Town Clerk responded he did not know as he had not asked.

Councillor A. Hill proposed he and Councillor Ludlow would meet with the staff and ask the questions about all events.

140/13

ARTS AND CRAFTS PRESENTATION EVENING

This was due on 12th July and Councillor A. Hill was concerned that staff may not wish to do the buffet for example. Councillor Dyke expressed his view that the event should not be cancelled.

The Chair asked the Town Clerk if he had any plans for the eventuality that staff did not want to work any extra hours.

Councillor A. Hill proposed the Councillors went into schools to give the awards at assemblies.

Councillor Dyke proposed that he would come and help run the Presentation Evening. Councillor Bagshaw fully supported this – the children enjoyed the event.

Councillor Elliott suggested Joanne's son in law be asked to provide pie and peas for the event rather than a buffet.

Councillor Ludlow classed the action of the staff as industrial action and she would not cross a picket line.

Councillor A. Hill agreed and backed the Union 100%.

Councillor Dyke whilst supporting the union said he would not let the children of Staveley be disappointed.

The Town Clerk said he did not believe any proposals by the staff to decline any extra hours offered could be classed as industrial action. It was just staff could say they chose to have an evening out rather than taking up the chance to work extra hours.

Councillor A. Hill felt it was definitely Industrial Action.

Councillor Bagshaw wished to avoid affecting children.

The Town Clerk pointed out again he was flagging up a <u>potential</u> problem. The Union was not meeting for a while and so would not take a view until that meeting and then would no doubt let him know.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders as the meeting had overrun it being due to end at 7.00 p.m.

A discussion continued.

Councillor A. Hill repeated his suggestion of going out to

schools.

Councillor Dyke countered that they could still have the Presentation Evening, without food if needed.

Councillor Ludlow felt that would disappoint the children. Councillor A. Hill said the disappointment would be caused by the staff if they did not volunteer.

A debate took place on whether staff not volunteering to do extra hours was or was not industrial action.

Councillor Bacon gave her experienced view that the children liked going to the Speedwell Rooms as their parents were there. This was not the case at school assemblies. Children and parents were proud of this event and parents could help.

Councillor Bagshaw agreed.

The Chair asked which Councillors would be at the event to help work it if needed.

Councillors Bacon, Barnett, Bagshaw, Dyke, Tidd, Cauldwell. She pointed out the Chair of Staveley Town Council would not be there to present the prizes.

Standing Orders were resumed and the Chair closed the meeting.

141/13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.