

INGOL AND TANTERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Inaugural Annual Parish Council Meeting of Ingol and Tanterton Neighbourhood Council held on **Wednesday 9th May 2012 @ St Margaret's Church Hall Ingol**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting each elected member signed an Acceptance of Office incorporating an agreement to abide the Code of Conduct which is expected of members of Ingol and Tanterton Neighbourhood Council

Present:

Cllrs Anderson Brookes Dodd Ellison McGrath Roskell Soole Speakman Thompson and Wright.

Four members of the public were present

1/12 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Anderson was elected Chairman for the following 12 months.

He then signed his Acceptance of Office of Chairman

2/12 PROPER OFFICER AND RFO

It was resolved that W V Mcennerney-Whittle should be formally appointed to the role of Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer in accordance with the 'Contract of Employment' which had been circulated with the agenda and that the Chairman should sign the said contract on behalf of this Council

3/12 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Brookes was elected Vice Chairman for the following 12 months

4/12 APOLOGIES

None

5/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

6/12 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS

It was resolved that the Code of Conduct which had been circulated with the agenda should be adopted by this Council

7/12 STANDING ORDERS

It was resolved that the Standing Orders which had been circulated with the agenda should be adopted by this Council

It was resolved that the Financial Regulations which had been circulated with the agenda should be adopted by this Council

9/12 BANK ACCOUNT

It was resolved that this Council:

- ✓ **Wish to open an account with Unity Trust Bank plc ('The Bank') in accordance with its standard terms and conditions for operating an account**
- ✓ **The Banks terms and conditions are approved and we appoint the Bank as our bankers**
- ✓ **The Banks terms and conditions may vary from time to time and we agree to be bound by them**
- ✓ **The Mandate for operation of the bank account, payment instructions and banking services be provided to the Bank by persons authorised to do so in accordance with the Bank's procedures**
- ✓ **The Bank is entitled to rely upon this mandate until it receives a later mandate amending it**
- ✓ **Cllrs McGrath, Thompson, Wright, Soole and Dodd shall be authorised signatories**
- ✓ **The mandate shall require TWO authorised signatories to sign cheques and payment orders in accordance with this Councils Financial Regulations**

10/12 INSURANCE

Members had been asked to consider a report produced by the Clerk concerning Insurance options and decide which insurance quote to accept.

It was resolved that the standard package provided by Zurich Insurance should be accepted on the basis that it provided more than adequate cover at the lowest cost.

11/12 FUTURE MEETINGS

Members had been asked to consider a report produced by the Clerk concerning the frequency, day and venues for future meetings.

It was resolved that ordinary meetings should be held 8 times per annum at intervals of approx 6/7 weeks but that no meeting would normally be held in July or August. It was further resolved that meetings should take place at St Margaret's Church Hall Ingol on appropriate Wednesdays in line with the above each meeting commencing at 7.00pm.

12/12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned

The Clerk explained the purpose of this session which was provided as an opportunity for members of the public to make comment or representation to the Council concerning issues affecting the neighbourhood area since by law members of the public only had a right to attend a meeting of the Council but not to participate unless specific provision was made within the Council's standing orders as had already been adopted by this Council. It was stated that no decisions could legally be made during this time on any issue raised due to the constraints of the LGA 1972 concerning business to be transacted at a Council meeting.

A member of the public mentioned that as a result of the electrification of the Preston – Blackpool rail line there would be significant upheaval on roads in the area because a number of bridges had to be raised. It was anticipated that Lea Road and Sidgreaves Lane towards Lea Town would be closed later in the year to accommodate these essential works

A member of the public said that she did not feel that candidates had during the recent election done enough to make themselves known or provide information about themselves which would have helped some residents in deciding who to vote for.

The meeting was re-convened

13/12 BRICKWORKS / NATURE RESERVE DEVELOPMENT

It was noted that a proposal has been made that the 'nature reserve' which is to be created as part of the Brickworks Development should be vested in the name of the Neighbourhood Council and that in order for this Council to fully consider the matter at a future meeting arrangements were being made for a formal presentation to be given to Council members which would probably include a site visit in early July 2012.

14/12 WORKING GROUPS

Members had been asked to consider how this Council might wish to investigate improvements to its catchment area and if appropriate form working groups either by area or specific subject matter to investigate potential projects for the later approval of this Council or otherwise.

It was resolved that whilst working groups might benefit the investigation of potential projects and service enhancements it would be more appropriate to appoint such groups on a need basis rather than try to set up specific groups at this time.

It was then further resolved that in the light of today's announcement by Preston City Council that consultation was shortly to take place on the next stage of the Local Development Framework that a working group comprising Cllrs Ellison, Brookes and Wright should be appointed to consider the proposals once announced and to provide to this Council a report with suggested comments for consideration at the next meeting.

15/12 LENGTHSMAN

Members had been asked to discuss whether this Council wished to appoint a 'lengthsman' in similar vein to those in other locals councils nearby and if so agree the number of hours to be offered, the rate of pay and how they might wish to go about securing the contractual services of such a person.

The Clerk provided information concerning the arrangements that applied in other local councils and the types of works undertaken which are often services above those provided by the Principle Authorities in the area. These are generally referred to as 'enhanced services' which provide the neighbourhood with increased levels of cleanliness, tidiness and ambience often demanded by local residents and which cannot reasonably be expected to be provided from Principle Authority resources.

It was resolved after considerable debate that at this stage members' had insufficient information to draw any conclusion. It was further resolved that each member should now seek to establish what works in their areas might benefit from enhanced service provision as outlined by the Clerk. A list is to be compiled by the Clerk in order to help to inform a decision at a future meeting.

It was further resolved that the Clerk should investigate the costs of providing members with hi-visibility bibs bearing the name of the Neighbourhood Council to be worn by members when out on Council business as for example with the enquiries detailed above.

Chairman