Minutes of a Meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Town Hall at 7:00 pm on Tuesday 10th March, 2009

PRESENT: Cllr Hadlow (in the chair)
Cllrs:, Hornby, Mrs Simpson, Suddes, Webster, Mrs Whitehill and Whyte.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs**.** Anderson, Neil & Mrs Sherwood

83 MINUTES

83.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th March, 2009 were agreed.

84 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

84.1 Cllr Suddes declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 9 (A12 PL) on the report on planning.
Cllr Mrs Simpson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6 (A12 C), the Tenders for the Cemetery and Open Spaces on the agenda. Cllr Simpson also declared a prejudicial interest in item 9a Cemetery, and explained that in the last meeting, if had she of know the name of the person involved in the discussions surrounding the chipping of the vegetation in the Cemetery then she would have also of declared a prejudicial interest in that matter.

85 MATTERS ARISING

85.1 Item 78.3 The Clerk advised that despite investigating the situation of parking rights and income the only reference found in achieves related to minutes from a Cleveland County Council Highways and Transportation Committee held 18th September 1989 when it ordered that:
1. That no further funding be made available from the County Council for the provision of parking discs.
2. That officers discuss with shopkeepers in Yarm, the proposal that the provision of parking discs should be self financing.

85.2 Item 78.6 The Clerk has circulated the tenders as requested.

85.3 Item AR12PR 3 The Clerk confirmed that the Landscape Assessment Character questionnaire for Stockton Borough Council was completed and returned.

85.4 Item A12R The draft budget for the Yarm Town Gala has been circulated.

85.5 Item A12A The Clerk has authorised the Probation Service to carry out the trimming of the hedges and bramble trainers on Worsall Road

85.6 Item 81.1 The Clerk confirmed the publication of the minutes onto the Gazette website, but was unable to post the minutes onto the Yarm Website as requested.

86 CONFIRMATION OF WEIGH AND TOLL COMMITTEE MINUTES

86.1 The minutes of the Weigh and Tolls Committee meeting held on 10th March, 2009, were accepted.

87 ACCOUNTS

87.1 The Yarm Town Council accounts received for payment, were presented and agreed for payment with an addition two invoices

i) Stockton Borough Council. The sum of £138 for the cleaning of the Willie Flatts Play Area for February 2009.
ii) Derek Dale. The sum of £140 for grave digging fees for February 2009.

87.2 Cllr Mrs Simpson had left the meeting at this point The tender for the Grounds Maintenance Contract for the Open Spaces for the period 2009/10 was awarded to Harding Gardening Landscapes and Maintenance at a cost of £5,835.
The tender for the Closed Churchyard and Cemetery Contract for the period 2009/10 was awarded to Charles Keith Metcalfe at a cost of £3,950.

87.3 Cllr Mrs Simpson returned to the meeting.

87.4 Quotes are to be obtained for the cleaning of the gutters at the Town Hall and Yarm Cemetery chapel.

88 CORRESPONDENCE

88.1 The correspondence list for the week ending 5th March, 2009, was noted.

89 PUBLIC SESSION

89.1 A member of the public raised a concern regarding hogweed and the eradication of the problem. The Clerk is to write to Cllr.Mc Nichol and advise that a meeting needs to take place to discuss and rectify the problem.

89.2 The Councillors were advised that a meeting has been arranged for the 20th March 2009 to discuss the behaviour of the Traffic Wardens. Cllrs Hornby and Mrs Whitehill to attend.

A12 PR POLICY AND RESOURCES

1) An invitation to the Tees Valley and Parish Councils Ethical Governance Workshop was noted.
2) Correspondence received from Smiths of Derby was noted.
3) After consideration it was agreed that moving the April Yarm Town Council meeting to avoid the Easter holiday period was not necessary.

A12 PL PLANNING

1) A report on planning prepared by Cllr. Webster was noted.

A12 C CEMETERY

1) The programme of clearing the Cemetery by the Probation Service is scheduled to finish on Sunday 15th March and they have been asked to put in place a schedule to tidy up the Yarm Cemetery on a rolling programme. The path, driveway, hedges and bushes have been trimmed and cleared. The Clerk is to write to the Probation Team and thank them for their hard work and contribution.
2) The presented revision of fees was accepted with effect from 1st April 2009and are as follows:

PURCHASE OF A GRAVE	
Resident or former resident of Yarm Parish	
(i) Graves for burial of coffin (Right of Interment)	£350.00
(ii) Graves for burial of ashes (Right of Interment)	£87.50
(plus additional charge for internment)	
INTERMENT	
(i) Burial	£300.00
(ii) Cremated Remains	£60.00
(iii) Exhumation from grave	£612.00
(iv) Exhumation of cremated remains	£90.00
MONUMENTAL FEES	
(i) Headstones to full size grave	£178.00
(ii) Headstone to grave for cremated remains	£80.00
(iii) Vases	£27.00
(iv) Additional inscription to headstone	£30.00
FEES FOR SEARCHES AND COPIES OF ENTRIES	
Family research (per search)	£7.00

3) The presented revision of rules and regulation were accepted with one amendment

'Suitable shrubs, plants of flowers may be planted over any grave…' to be replaced with 'Suitable small plants of flowers may be planted over any grave…'

A12 R RECREATION

1) The Proposals for the Gala were accepted and accounted for in the draft budget.
2) The budget for the 2009 Yarm Town Gala was agreed with an additional expenditure anticipated of £1,000 for leaflets and £600 for public relations bringing the total draft budget for the 2009 Gala to £6,878
3) A quote of £580.80 from Medics UK for First Aid provision at Yarm Fair was accepted
4) Confirmation was received for the Park and Ride Facility for the Fair to take place at the Oakwood centre

A12 A ALLOTMENTS

1) Two letters of complaint from local residents about fires, vermin and hens were noted and referred to the garden and allotment holders meeting on Tuesday 17th March 2009, to be held with the Yarm and District Gardens Association

A12 H HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT/ENVIRONMENT

1) The Clerk was instructed to write to Bill Trewick of Stockton Borough Council regarding the six parking bays in the High Street which need to be marked.

90 ARTICLES FOR WEBSITE

90.1 Members agreed to post the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th February, 2009, on the Gazette web site.

91 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

91.1 Councillor Mrs Simpson reported to the meeting that she had received a letter from Rachal Wilkinson Childminder of Yarm thanking her and colleagues for the work they did in order to attract grants for the Play Equipment now installed in Willie Flatts Field. All children do seem to enjoy the facility and it is full of very grateful children most days of the week. Mrs Simpson expressed her thanks on behalf of the group for the funding provided by Yarm Town Council and also for the efforts of the Stockton Borough Council officers who worked for the group and achieve results that may never ever be repeated in the Yarm area. Cllr Mrs Simpson was encouraged by members present to place one of the children's cards in the Town Hall so that it could be viewed when the Town Hall was open for the Gala weekend.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:12 p.m.