

**THE POCKLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL'S ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WAS
HELD AT POCKLINGTON ARTS CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 20TH APRIL 2016
WHICH COMMENCED AT 7PM**

Present: Cllr's Martin Ratcliffe, David Sykes, Paul West, Martin Cooper, Jill Sinton, Gerry Hutchinson, Graham Perry, Jeff Shepherd, Tony Marron, Dee Sharpe, Terry Jones & Peter Winterton & 48 members of the public.

Pocklington's Town Crier, Geoff Sheasby, called the meeting to order and introduced the Town Mayor, Councillor Martin Ratcliffe.

1. Councillor Martin Ratcliffe thanked those attending and introduced the other councillors present.
2. Councillor Martin Ratcliffe was appointed Chairman of the meeting (by legislation this has to be the Town Mayor if in attendance)
3. Councillor Ratcliffe proposed that those who live outside the parish be allowed to speak at the meeting. He suggested a limit of 15 minutes for each subject should be agreed.
4. Cllr Sykes proposed the notes of the last meeting held on 15th April 2015 be accepted as a true record. 2nd Cllr West & agreed.
5. Cllr Ratcliffe then made a presentation about the work of the council during the last year. He said the current precept was £232,000, from an overall budget of £521,220. This is an increase of 4% on the previous year. The project which had occupied the last six months has been the major refurbishment of the Arts Centre. Overall this has cost £545,000 but we have received a grant of £357,000 from the Arts Council. Visitors were given an opportunity to take a look at the new rooms after the meeting. The Council through Cllr Perry had supported a public transport survey for the town & continue to work towards developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Pocklington & the Industrial Estate.
6. Questions from the floor included Roger Bruton issuing an invitation to attend an information film on fracking – Pocklington Arts Centre 26th May 2016. George Ward said the attendance was poor and thought the event should be more widely advertised. Lance Gladstone said as the town was growing the council should fully consider the implications of the planning application to change the Co-op to sheltered housing. Our district councillor Kay West urged everyone opposed to the change to write to the planning department once an application is received.

Councillor Andy Strangeway said there were only limited grounds on which people could make legitimate challenges to planning applications. Phil Gilbank said as towns change the facilities also change so the reasons for objection have to be sound. Lance Gladstone said there was a need for facilities for visiting camper vans (called AIREs in France) to encourage visitors to the area. Sue Dowthwaite said there was a need for coach parks for the town. Margaret Stubbs said the information board at Burnby Hall Gardens needs updating to show the new Lily Trail.

7. Before leaving attendees were given an opportunity to look around the new facilities. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

8. The next Town Meeting will be held on 26th October 2016