

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 24th November 2015 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: J Nicholson* A Clegg G Graham W Nixon D Tully
 D Walker B Nair R Harrison D Mills L Elliott

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk),
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk),
 Claire Howe (Civic Hall Manager)
 Lee Brannigan (Civic Hall Events Manager)

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 members of the Public; 4 Speakers from North Star Solar / Absolute Renewables

ABSENT: Cllr C McKee

RECORDINGS: Cllrs W Nixon & R Harrison were recording this meeting

403 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs C Thompson, T Davinson, D McMahon, C Bell, D Marshall, J Charlton, R Ferris, L Marshall & M Wilkinson were accepted by Council.

404 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

405 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Chair moved that item 8 (Presentation from Absolute Renewables) be moved up the agenda and be dealt with after item 6 (Minutes of Committee meetings). The Clerk noted that Cllrs W Nixon and R Harrison are recording this meeting. The Clerk also reminded members that the Standing Orders require them to stand when they speaking and not to speak until they have been recognised by the Chair.

406 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Town Clerk advised Members that Lewis Christie emailed a question:

“Why [has] the armed forces has only been allocated £500 when others are thousands? I think if it has anything to do with the armed forces day that's where majority of the money should be.”

The Clerk responded by stating that the £500 budget was for a ceremony only. If STC were to replicate what other Town Council's do, it would not be an expensive event. Most people who will be involved will not charge. He also noted that there was a separate specific budget for a War Memorial being proposed for 2016/17.

407 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27th October 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

408 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of Committee Meetings held in November 2015 be **RECEIVED** by Council.

Presentation from Absolute Renewables was dealt with at this point

409 RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

i) Personnel - This was discussed under the Code of Conduct item.

ii) Crime & Community Safety - It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee will allocate the following budgets to the following projects in 2016/17:

- OTIS £3000
- Youth Council £3500
- Blooming Good Fun £3000
- Police Car Funding £7000
- Wild Flowers £0 - no budget will be allocated for wild flowers, but opportunities will be explored with partners in future

iii) Communications & Events - It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee will allocate the following budgets to the following events in 2016/17:

- Tea in the Park £2500
- Stanley Fringe £2000
- Entertainment in Old People's homes £1000
- Community Fun Days £15000
- Outdoor Cinema £3000
- Moria-Con 2 £10000
- Christmas Events £20000
- Armed Forces Day £500
- Community Newsletter £15080
- Brass Festival £5150
- Play in the Park days £4000
- Community Consultation £30000

It was also **RESOLVED** that the following be requests be **GRANTED**:

- (i) Free hall hire be granted to Kalapremi in 2016, and any future application for grant assistance for the Ganesh Festival be viewed favourably.

- (ii) Free hall hire be granted to the Forge for Northern Writes.
- (iii) A £15000 budget be allocated to the Civic Hall in 2016/17 to put on their own pantomime over Christmas in 2016.
- (iv) The Community magazine be called 'Stanley Life', with the first edition to go out in January.

410 PRESENTATION FROM ABSOLUTE RENEWABLES

Members received a presentation from North Star Solar/ Absolute Renewables relating to the provision of solar panels in Stanley and at the Civic Hall.

It was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that the Council support the proposal for solar panels to be recommended to Stanley residents and that officers should consult with North Star Solar, Derwentside Homes, 3 rivers etc. to discuss next steps.

411 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Members noted the report from the Town Clerk which included updates on PACT House and the Council's Tax Base for 2016/17.

412 CODE OF CONDUCT

Members **CONSIDERED** the recommendations from the Personnel Committee and **RESOLVED** to adopt the revised Code of Conduct.

413 CIVIC HALL ENERGY AUDIT

Members **CONSIDERED** the Energy Audit report and **RESOLVED** that they wish to implement all of the proposals and utilise the PWLB loan to fund the investment required.

Members also **CONSIDERED** the recommendations from the Finance & GP Committee and **RESOLVED** that the following be implemented immediately:

- (i) Light fittings should be changed for low energy LED lights;
- (ii) Time controls should be fitted to coolers and water heaters;
- (iii) Pipe insulation should be installed in Boiler Room and adjacent to water heaters to conserve energy.

Members also **RESOLVED** that priority is given to obtaining quotes for replacement of the heating system in the Civic Hall with a more energy efficient model which would also allow separation from neighbouring County Council buildings.

414 COMMUNITY RADIO

Members **RESOLVED** to support the project in principle, subject to satisfactory answers to the questions raised.

415 BLUE PLAQUE SCHEME

Members **RESOLVED** that the Blue Plaque Scheme be implemented and that a budget of £2500 be allocated to the Communication and Events Committee.

416 **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

Members **CONSIDERED** the recommendation from the Communications and Events Committee and **RESOLVED** that the name of the consultation be 'Ask Stanley 2016' and that the timescales proposed by the Town Clerk be adopted.

417 **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 15th December 2015, 18:30 at Stanley Civic Hall.