

**MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

Held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 27th October 2015 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT:** J Nicholson\*                      C Bell                      A Clegg                      G Graham                      C Thompson  
                     W Nixon                      T Davinson                      D McMahon                      D Tully                      D Marshall  
                     L Marshall                      D Walker                      J Charlton                      B Nair                      M Wilkinson  
                     C McKee                      R Harrison                      D Mills

\*Chairman

**OFFICERS:** Alan Shaw (Town Clerk) & Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 5 members of the Public, Mark Patterson & Peter Naylor

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs L. Elliott & R. Ferris

**RECORDINGS:** Cllrs L Marshall, B Nixon & R Harrison are recording this meeting

**348                      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllrs R Ferris and L Elliott were accepted by Council.

**349                      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Charlton declared an interest as a member of Durham County Council. Cllr Bell declared an interest as Chair of Stanley Traders' Association. Cllr D Walker, B Nair, C Bell, D Marshall and D Mills declared an interest in item 11 as they may wish to purchase their laptops depending on the price agreed.

**350                      PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

The Clerk noted that members should stand when they speak on an item, and they must go through the Chair before they speak. The Clerk also reminded everyone in attendance that Cllrs L Marshall, B Nixon & R Harrison are recording this meeting.

**351                      PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mark Patterson updated Members on the success of the Caritas Appeal and the Xmas Toy Appeal. 361 Children from Stanley had been helped by the Toy Appeal in 2014/15. 41 Children from Stanley had been helped by the Caritas Appeal since March 2015. It was agreed that Members could support this with their MIF if they wished and that Nicola will circulate the request form when Mark/Julie complete it.

There were no questions from the public and none submitted prior to the meeting.

*The Chair moved that item 10ii) be discussed at the junction*

**352 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22nd September 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**353 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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

**354 RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

i) Personnel - It was **RESOLVED** that Council should allocate training budgets for both staff and members of Council in 2016/17 and the budgets will be set at the following levels:

- £4000 - Staff (Council)
- £4000 - Staff (Civic Hall)
- £2000 - Members

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

- OTIS
- Youth Council
- Blooming Good Fun
- Police Car Funding
- PACT House
- Wild Flowers

It was also **RESOLVED** that the Committee will not be given a £10,000 budget for new initiatives.

It was also **RESOLVED** that the Community Consultation Questionnaire will be funded through Full Council.

iii) Communications & Events - It was **RESOLVED** that the Council should fund the following events in 2016/17:

- Tea in the Park
- Stanley Fringe
- Entertainment in Old People's homes
- Community Fun Days around Stanley area
- Outdoor Cinema event to be explored (possibly in conjunction with Community fun days.)
- Moria-Con 2
- Christmas Events
- Armed Forces Day (June)
- Community Newsletter

- Brass Festival
- 'Play in the Park' days
- Remembrance Events

It was also **RESOLVED** that the following events are not repeated in 2016/17

- Karaoke
- Pubs & Clubs
- Fireworks
- Large outdoor music event

### 355 **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

Members **NOTED** the report from the Town Clerk on Current activities and matters of interest to the Council.

### 356 **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The motion that Cllr D Walker tabled was withdrawn and members decided to task the Personnel committee with amended the Code of Conduct to mirror Epping's.

### 357 **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT FUNDING**

i) Oxhill Youth Club - It was proposed by Cllr J Charlton, seconded by Cllr L Marshall and **RESOLVED** that the Council provide the full amount requested (£4002) from the Communication and Events underspend.

ii) Twizzel Burn - Following a presentation from Peter Naylor, it was proposed by Cllr T Davinson, seconded by Cllr B Nair and **RESOLVED** that the Council will provide £42,975 to the project, from the unallocated environmental services budget.

### 358 **COUNCIL LAPTOPS - SURPLUS TO REQUIREMENTS**

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr D McMahon, seconded by Cllr L Marshall and **RESOLVED** that the old council laptops could be purchased by members for £90, otherwise they would be donated to a community group or charity.

### 359 **CIVIC HALL PARKING**

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr D Walker and **RESOLVED** that 2 bays be marked as 'drop off' bays, as per the lease, and that the other bays be marked as disabled.

### 360 **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that the layout, questions and costs were approved. Cllr T Davinson pointed out a few changes: question 2, change dress to address; question 3, no overlapping age bands; questions 9 and 10 to be swapped round; question 15 to be moved to the end. It was also suggested that we inform the public of the services we cannot provide but give them the details of those who do provide those services.

**361 SLCC MEMBERSHIP**

It was proposed by Cllr L Marshall, seconded by Cllr D Mills and **RESOLVED** that the Council will pay the Clerks SLCC membership of £120 per year.

**362 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was **RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that the Council would exclude the press and public on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**363 APPOINTMENT OF EVENTS MANAGER**

It was **RESOLVED** that the post of Events Manager be offered to Lee Brannigan.

**364 PACT HOUSE**

It was proposed by Cllr R Harrison, seconded by Cllr D Marshall and **RESOLVED** that the Council will pay £7,000 for the current tenant to vacate the lease and to take the building on a 10 year lease (£8,500 p.a. for 5 years, £10,000 thereafter). The Clerk was given authorisation to negotiate.

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

Tuesday 24th November 2015, 18:30 at Stanley Civic Hall.