

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 24th October 2017 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: B Nair* A Clegg D Carmichael L Christie
 J Clark H Clark C Hampson C Marshall
 D Marshall J McMahon J Nicholson J Pallas
 J Stephenson L Timbey D Tully J Tully
 G Wilkinson T Armstrong

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)
 James Harper (Community Development Manager)

IN ATTENDANCE: 11 members of the public

138 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs M Davinson & J Kane were accepted by Council.

139 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

140 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN MAYOR

- (i) **Annual OAPs Christmas Dinner** - The Town Mayor advised that the OAPs Christmas Dinner will be organised again this year and will be funded from the Town Mayors budget. The date will be emailed round when confirmed with staff.
- (ii) The Town Clerk advised those present that the meeting was being filmed but not live streamed. 1 member of the public was recording the meeting as was Cllr G Wilkinson.

141 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Town Clerk received an email from Mr Ron Harrison re: Civic Regalia. He replied to Mr Harrison and read out both to those present.

Mr Billy Nixon asked, in relation to item 11 Stanley Council Office, could Durham County Councillors ask Durham County Council to support STC in giving the Council the Stanley Council Offices free of charge.

142 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr L Christie and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of 26th September 2017 be **APPROVED** as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

143 MINUTES OF OTHER MEETINGS

Minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee held on 11th October 2017 were **RECEIVED** by Council.

144 RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) FINANCE

- (i) **Public Participation in Meetings** - Members **AGREED** to adapt the Cirencester Standing Orders as they apply to public participation and amend our own standing orders accordingly.
- (ii) **Mayor's Announcements** - Members **AGREED** that "Town Mayor's Announcements" should replace "Procedural/Appropriate Announcements from the Town Mayor".

145 MEDIUM TERM PLAN

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr L Timbey, seconded by Cllr J Stephenson and **RESOLVED** that the following recommendations be **ACCEPTED**:

- (i) Council should **ADOPT** the draft Medium Term Plan.
- (ii) The Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman of the Finance & Governance Committee should prepare an outline three year delivery timeline and indicative budget estimates for the delivery of the plan;
- (iii) Budget provision for the actions identified for delivery in 2017/18 should be inserted into the second budget estimate to be presented to the Finance & Governance Committee for detailed review at the November meeting;
- (iv) Once delivery objectives for 2017/18 have been agreed, the Projects & Initiatives Committee should begin working up detailed project plans for each action to be brought forward to Council for agreement.

146 GRANTS & MIF POLICY

Following a discussion around the revised policy, it was proposed by Cllr J McMahon, seconded by Cllr D Carmichael and **RESOLVED** that the following recommendations be **ACCEPTED**:

- (i) The revised policy should be **ADOPTED**;
- (ii) A grant funding working group should consider the applications in light of both the revised policy and the Council's objectives as outlined in the Medium Term Plan;
- (iii) Recommendations should be reported back to the November Full Council meeting for decision.

It was agreed that the working group will consist of 5 Labour Party members and 2 Derwentside Independent members.

147 CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN

Council **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) The Constitution should be amended so that the Town Council's Christmas shutdown is in line with the Christmas shutdown at Durham County Council in future years, so that this matter does not need to be considered annually.
- (ii) Staff to take their extra 2 statutory days over the Christmas period in line with DCC and to **APPROVE** any extra days leave required to facilitate the shutdown.
- (iii) The Town Council will be closed to the public from 12.00 noon on 22nd December 2017 and reopen at 9.00 am on Tuesday 2nd January 2018.

148 STANLEY COUNCIL OFFICES

Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr C Marshall, seconded by Cllr J McMahon and **RESOLVED** that;

- (i) The Town Council will notify DCC that the Town Council intends to withdraw from the proposed purchase of the building on the current terms;
- (ii) The Town Clerk will be instructed to liaise with Durham County Council and express our desire to see the building restored in the medium term, with a focus on the use of the building as a heritage asset for the town; but the Town Council cannot provide the capital required to complete the works and substantial match funding must be sought;
- (iii) Research into possible sources of funding must be carried out, with the assistance of suitably qualified and experienced fund raisers who can identify sources and prepare bids for external funding.

149 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28th November 2017, 6:30pm, Civic Hall Stanley.