



STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary meeting of the Stanley Town Council will be held on Tuesday, the 23rd February 2016 at 6.30pm at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley, Co. Durham, DH9 0NA.

TO ALL MEMBERS of STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

J. Nicholson (Chair)	A. Clegg	G. Graham	C. McKee	C. Thompson
W. Nixon (Vice-Chair)	T. Davinson	R. Harrison	D. McMahan	D. Tully
C. Bell	L. Elliott	D. Marshall	D. Mills	D. Walker
J. Charlton	R. Ferris	L. Marshall	B. Nair	M. Wilkinson

You are hereby summoned to attend an **ORDINARY MEETING** of the **Stanley Town Council** to be held in **Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley**, on **Tuesday the 23rd February 2016** at **18.30** in order to transact the following business:

Yours sincerely,

Alan Shaw
Town Clerk
18th February 2016

Please turn off all mobile phones or set to silent mode
Please refer to the Policy for recording proceedings

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To **RECEIVE** any apologies and reasons for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to **DECLARE** disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests, along with the nature of those interests, in relation to any item on this agenda.

3 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

To **RECEIVE** announcements from the Chair or Town Clerk.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An adjournment will be allowed at the direction of the Chairman to allow for public comment and response in relation to items on this agenda or to consider written questions from the public submitted in advance of the meeting (*Individuals will be permitted a maximum of three minutes each. Total time for this session is limited to fifteen minutes*).

5 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES (ATTACHMENT A)

To **APPROVE** as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23rd February 2016.

6 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

To receive the Minutes of the following Committee Meetings:

20th January 2016	Finance & Gen. Purposes	(ATTACHMENT B)
2nd February 2016	Planning	(ATTACHMENT C)
3rd February 2016	Crime & Community Safety	(ATTACHMENT D)
9th February 2016	Comms & Events	(ATTACHMENT E)
10th February 2016	Finance & Gen. Purposes	(ATTACHMENT F)

7 RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following **RECOMMENDATIONS** of Committee meetings held since the last Ordinary Council meeting require ratification by full Council:

(i) PLANNING

Neighbourhood Planning (ATTACHMENT G)

Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the Town Council continues with the designation application for the whole parish to be a Neighbourhood Planning Area and considers the matter again once the outcome of the application has been published.

(ii) CRIME & COMMUNITY SAFETY

Winter Maintenance (ATTACHMENTS H & I)

Committee discussed a range of issues around winter maintenance, but specifically:

(a) Provision of Salt Bins - Committee RECOMMENDS the following actions:

- The assessment criteria for provision of salt bins should be clarified with DCC: There is no definition of ‘near’ or ‘far’. There is also no account taken of the height above sea level of the location when assessing sites
- The Town Clerk should explore the costs of providing and maintaining its own salt bins on private land and report back to Council.

(b) Footway Gritting

- Committee **NOTED** that the current routes that the Town Council's team grits during bad weather are primarily secondary shopping areas. They also **NOTED** that the routes were drawn up on the basis of two teams before the enhanced service contract was terminated
- Committee feels that the current agreed routes do not reflect the priorities. It is **RECOMMENDED** that the routes should instead cover the footways around the Parishes' Schools, Doctors surgeries and Old People's bungalows. This approach would need to be agreed by both Council and Durham County Council.

(iii) FINANCE

(a) **Civic Hall Credit Card Bookings** - After considering a report on charges for accepting card payments, Committee **RECOMMENDS** that a 2% surcharge be applied to credit card payments to offset the cost to the Council of accepting payments by Credit Card. No charges are recommended for debit card payments

A further **RECOMMENDATION** of the Finance Committee is dealt with under the Civic Hall Coffee Shop item. (Agenda Item 14).

8 CORRESPONDENCE

The following Correspondence has been received by the Town Clerk to be **NOTED** by Council:

(i) Relocation of Craghead Post Office (ATTACHMENT J)

The Clerk has received notification of the Post Office's decision to relocate Craghead Post Office from the Village Hall to a new convenience store opposite.

(ii) Closure of St Aidan's Church (ATTACHMENT K)

The Clerk has received notification from the Diocese of their intention to close St Aidan's Church in Annfield Plain. A further item in relation to the memorial at the church is included on this agenda.

9 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (ATTACHMENT L)

A report from the Town Clerk on current activities and matters of interest to the Council is attached. Members are requested to **NOTE** the report and may ask the Town Clerk for further updates at the meeting.

10 EDITORIAL POLICY (ATTACHMENT M)

During the course of discussions concerning the establishment of 'Stanley Life', it was agreed by the Comms & Events Committee that editorial decisions about what to publish both in the magazine and on the internet should be made by the Town Clerk, whilst setting Editorial policy should be set by the Council itself. This decision is not reflected in the minutes of those meetings.

The Town Clerk has drafted a set of guidelines for **CONSIDERATION** by Council. They are a reflection of the de facto policy that the Town Clerk has been applying to date.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Council is **REQUESTED** to **APPROVE** the draft Editorial guidelines and **CONFIRM** that editorial decisions relating to the Council's publications and web based media is delegated to the Town Clerk.

11 LOUISA MORRISON DISASTER MEMORIAL

Members are aware that St Aidan's Church in Annfield Plain is scheduled for closure and have at previous meetings expressed concern as to what will happen to the memorial to the 1947 disaster in which 21 men were killed after the Church has closed.

The Clerk understands that some members of Council (including members of Durham County Council) have suggested that the memorial should be re-sited in Annfield Plain, either in the park or at another location as the memorial is currently in Annfield Plain.

The Clerk was visited by Jack Hair recently who was involved with raising funds to have the memorial made in the first instance. Mr Hair advised the Clerk that in his opinion, because the men were working under Managers from the Louisa Colliery and under the Louisa Colliery's rules, a more appropriate site for the memorial would be in Stanley near the Louisa shaft.

The Clerk has looked into the history of the event and found that the explosion took place underground half a mile from the Morrison North shaft and a mile and a half from the Louisa shaft, somewhere under Kyo Bogs. However the rescue was led from the Louisa. More information about the incident can be found at <http://www.dmm.org.uk/reports/7347-01.htm>

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** this matter and **DECIDE** whether:

- (i) They wish the Clerk to become involved with facilitating the re-location of the memorial on behalf of Council; and if so,
- (ii) What the preferred location for the memorial to be re-located to would be, viz., Annfield Plain, New Kyo or Stanley.

12 NORTH ROAD GYM - REQUEST FOR FUNDING (ATTACHMENT N)

The Town Clerk has received a request for free/ subsidised use of the Civic Hall from North Road Gym. The Hall fees for this group have been in previous years subsidised by MIF funding from the ward members. The group are now requesting that hall hire fees be waived.

Council is **REQUESTED** to consider this matter and **DECIDE** what to do.

13 CRAGHEAD VILLAGE HALL - REQUEST FOR FUNDING (ATTACHMENT O)

The Town Clerk has received a request for funding from Craghead Village Hall to organise an event to mark the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** this matter and **DECIDE** what to do.

14 THE QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY

Having regard to the previous item of business, Council is requested to **CONSIDER** whether or not Council should direct the Comms & Events Committee to organise an event or events to mark the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen in the Parish.

In making this **DECISION**, Council should have regard to how any celebrations should be funded as the budgets for 2016/17 have been set and no provision has been made in the budget for this type of event.

15 CIVIC HALL COFFEE SHOP**(ATTACHMENT P)**

A report is attached containing a proposal from the Civic Hall Manager to open the Coffee Shop in the gallery for general trading.

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** this matter and **DECIDE** what to do.

This matter has been considered by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at their meeting held on 10th February 2016.

Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Civic Hall Manager be given authority to open the cafe with 4 part time staff employed initially for 3 months (renewable) so that members can review performance before deciding if the cafe should be opened permanently.

16 PACT HOUSE REPORT

The level of expenditure on the PACT House has been queried by Members and a more detailed breakdown of costs incurred and costs likely to be incurred has been requested, together with a progress report.

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** the report and **DECIDE** what to do.

17 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 22nd March 2016, 18.30 at the Civic Hall

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, members of the public and press are welcome to attend the meeting. Members of the public will only be permitted to speak at the beginning of the meeting during Public Question Time.