

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT STANLEY CIVIC HALL, FRONT STREET, STANLEY, DH9 0NA
TUESDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2015 AT 6:30PM**

PRESENT

C. Bell	J. Charlton	A. Clegg	T. Davinson	L. Elliott
R. Ferris	R. Harrison	D. Marshall	L. Marshall	D. Mills
D. McMahon	B. Nair	J. Nicholson	W. Nixon	C. Thompson
D. Tully	D. Walker	M. Wilkinson	G. Graham	

APOLOGIES

Cllr: C. Malin.

OFFICIALS

D. Shingleton – Acting Town Clerk
J. Harper– Community Development Manager
N. James – PA (Note Taker)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ian Thompson – Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development (Durham County Council)
4 Members of the Public

Cllrs B. Nixon and L. Marshall informed Members that they would be recording this meeting.

STC.186-14 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Cllr C. Malin were accepted by the Council.

STC.187-14 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Bell declared an interest as being Chair of Stanley Traders.

STC.188-14 **PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman reminded members of his statement that he has announced in previous meetings.

STC.189-14 **ECONOMIC REGENERATION**

Mr Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development for Durham County Council attended the meeting to discuss the possible Tesco development. He noted that there will be no major Tesco development in Stanley. Tesco will be acting as a developer on the site, carrying out surveys of the buildings to see what can be located on the site i.e. retail or a full scale redevelopment.

Tesco have said they will be clearing the rubbish on the site, and they will be coming back to DCC with their plans after 6-8 weeks. Ian said that he would keep STC informed. When the lease ends at Clearance Bargains, that building will then become the property of Tesco as they own all of the land and car parks.

Ian was asked by members to see if STC could use some of the Genesis money to help develop the site, as the money was intended for Derwentside, and Stanley has received

none of it. Stanley Town Council will be able to have an input into the development of the site, through the Planning applications, briefings and presentations.

Ian Thompson left the meeting.

STC.190-14 **REGENERATION**

James updated Members on the situation regarding the works on the Front Street.

He noted that he and Derek had been in talks with an independent company who has provided advice re: the tarmac – a detailed report is to follow. They said that they can see faults in the work, and have questions we can ask DCC.

In relation to the broken benches, DCC have spoken to the supplier and they have agreed to replace 15 benches that are similar in style but better quality.

Cllr McMahon requested that detailed minutes be taken of future meetings with DCC to ensure decisions are recorded clearly.

Cllr D. Marshall requested that James ask DCC if they had progressed tidying up the school wall area as they had previously agreed to look into.

STC.191-14 **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** by all Members that the minutes of the Full Council meeting on 27.01.15 be confirmed as a correct record.

It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr D Mills and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Crime and Community Safety Committee meeting on 07.01.15 be received, the minutes of the Communications and Events Committee meeting on 13.01.15 be received, the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 14.01.15 be received and the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 16.09.14 be received.

STC.192-14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions from Members of the Public in attendance.

Mr Kevin Reay emailed a question to STC to be asked in the meeting. The Acting Town Clerk noted that he had not discussed the issue in question with Members yet, so he would not be able to respond to Mr Reay's questions until after the meeting.

STC.193-14 **COMMITTEES**

Planning Committee: There were no recommendations from the Planning Committee meeting on 17.02.15.

Crime & Community Safety Committee: The following recommendations from the Crime and Community Safety Committee meeting held on 18.02.15 were agreed by all members:

- Dog bags will be stored in the cellar at the Civic Hall and will be distributed by Members / Officers.
- The Acting Town Clerk will reply to the letter from DCC Councillors re: enhanced services.

It was **AGREED** that OTIS will update the relevant ward member in relation to progress made by the OTIS team.

Communications & Events Committee: The following recommendations from the Communications and Events Committee meeting held on 10.02.15 were agreed by all members:

- It was too late to do anything significant for Armed Forces Day for 2015, but STC should consider progressing soon, for 2016.
- Members will distribute posters / leaflets to local community notice boards and centres.
- The 2015 photo competition calendar is now ready for sale for a 'faith donation'.
- The Acting Town Clerk will look into the costs of replicating the Heavyside walk at Shield Row in 2017.
- The Committee support the possibility of holding an open mic night at the Civic Hall to raise funds to purchase a sound unit for the youth centre. Sgt D Clarke will provide the committee with more information.
- A Working Group will be set up to look into how to spend the Events budget.

Finance & GP Committee: There were no specific recommendations from the Finance and GP Committee meeting held on 11.02.15. However, the Chairman noted the following decisions:

- Payment schedules were approved and the total balances at the bank at the end of Jan 2015 were noted.
- Members noted the situation in relation to the Civic Hall income and expenditure.
- The Acting Town Clerk will progress looking at the issue in relation to the cost of electricity.
- Members noted the budget position for the current year and the projected actual figures for the full year to 31 March 2015.
- Members noted the final budget.

STC.194-14 **ENHANCED SERVICES**

The Acting Town Clerk noted an email he had received from Kevan Jones and an email he had sent to Ian Houlst at DCC. He noted that STC were unhappy with the service that was currently being provided. It was **AGREED** that officers would come up with options for Members to consider in relation to how the budget for Environmental Services will be spent. The Acting Town Clerk is to reply to DCC and explain that STC will not reconsider their decision and that we will use our money to deliver environmental services in a different way. It was **AGREED** that the Crime and CS Committee scheduled for 04.03.15 be swapped with the Communications and Events Committee on 10.03.15 to discuss Enhanced Services only. A special Full Council meeting will follow immediately after.

Cllr D McMahon left the meeting

STC.195-14 **CIVIC HALL**

The Acting Town Clerk noted that he will be signing the lease for the Civic Hall this week hopefully. It was **AGREED** that the Acting Town Clerk could sign the lease without bringing it back to Members for approval. 2 issues were parking and the boiler.

STC.196-14 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from Thornhill Primary School – It was **AGREED** that STC will not provide funding other than if Members want to provide MIF monies. The Acting Town Clerk will write back to Thornhill Primary School.

Cllr C Bell left the meeting

Letter from Army Cadet Force – Members **AGREED** that STC will not provide funding. We should suggest to the ACF that they should hold a fundraiser to raise monies.

PART B

STC.197-14 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council excludes the press and public on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

STC.198-14 **STAFFING ISSUES**

Town Clerk:

Civic Hall Staffing:

STC.199-14 **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 24th March 2015, 6.30pm, Stanley Civic Hall.

Approved 24.03.15