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

Held at **Stanley Civic Hall** on **Tuesday 27th July 2021** at **6.30pm**

**PRESENT**: C Bell G Binney H Clark A Clegg K Coulson L Ferry C Hampson A Hanson A Jones J Kane C Marshall J McMahon S McMahon O Milburn\* J Nicholson J Stephenson D Tully

\*Chairman

**OFFICERS**: James Black (Town Clerk)

Alan Tubman (Deputy Town Clerk)

Ann Barry (Finance Officer)

Daniel O’Brien, Durham County Council. Area Action Partnership Coordinator

**59** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members **ACCEPTED** applogies for absence from Cllr M Thompson and Cllr M Wilkinson.

Cllr D Fall was absent

**60** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**61** **MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor thanked Town Council staff, and Greeland and St Josephs schools for their contribution to the outstanding displays with the Towns In Bloom submission.

The Town Mayor confirmed that the council had received the resignation of James Black, Town Clerk, and would like to take the opportunity to thank him for his work for the Council, and the work he has done to move the Council forward.

Cllr Stephenson also wished to place on record her thanks for all the work James Black had done, professionaly and personally.

Cllr G Binney added his thanks for the for the help James Black had provided with the Councils finances and structure

**62**  **TOWN CLERKS STATEMENT**

The Town Clerk stated

I would like to announce that this will be my final meeting of Stanley Town Council as I move onto pastures new.

In my short time I have been Town Clerk, I have thoroughly enjoyed it, despite the challenging period of lockdown, and the inability for the Council to perfrom its normal everyday services.

The role of Town Clerk is such a role that I have always aspired to undertake, and Stanley Town Council gave me that opportunity, therefore I will be forever grateful.

Despite the face that my reign has been short lived, I’d like to place on record my upmost thatks to all of the team at the Council, who have provided support, challenge but also friendship.

I’d also like to thank all our partners who I have worked closely with on so many projects. Dave Stewart and Terry Archbold from Durham Police, Daniel from the AAP, Darren from Pact House and Sam from the Advice Partnership, to name but a few.

Over the previous twelve months, I have been able to work with members old and new and following May’s elections even newer, I of course wish you all well into the future as we move further away from locakdown and into whatever we can now call the norm. Your drive and determination to make Stanley a better place is absolutely evident.

I’ve often drawn comparisons between my home town of Hartlepool and Stanley and because of that, I’ll always keep a watchfull eye out.

To the people of Stanley, your passion as individuals, your communities, your partnership work to support and make your fellow neighbours lives just a tiny bit better is what sets you apart from the rest.

Thank you for what you do!

The Town Clerk also provided a response received from the Church authorities

in relation to the future of St Georges Church at South Moor, following the request from Council to express their concerns over the future of the building and grounds of the Church.

**63 LEADERS STATEMENT**

Leader of the Council Cllr J Kane stated that he would like to thank the Town Clerk for his work in the last 12 months, particulary around the budget deficit and improving links with the external organisations such as Derwentside College and Durham University.

Leader would also like to offer condolences on behalf of the Town Council to the family of Ruby Goldsbourgh, long standing member of the South Moor Theatre Group and Chair of the “Friends of the Civic Hall” who recently died aged 92.

**64** **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present and one question had been received in advance of the meeting.

Question;

Could i ask you to ask the Council on their next full meeting; if there is any opportunity for remembering the life of the late Ruby Goldsborough. she has been a 'Friend' of the Civic for the past 40+ years part as the Chair.

She has been a stalwart for the Civic Hall and in her ways a benefactor. raising funds to help the plays and shows we have put on.

Answer;

Officers would be happy to look at options for recognizing Ruby Goldsbourgh and her contribution to the Civic Hall as well as potentially other members of the community who have made similar contributions over the years and will report back to Council for discussion at a later date.

**65 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr J Kane and seconded by Cllr S McMahon that the minutes of the Council Meeting on 22nd June were **APPROVED** as a true record.

**66 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr G Binney and seconded by Cllr A Hodgson that the Council **RECEIVE** the minutes from Finance and General Purposes Committee Tuesday 13th July 2021

**67 STANLEY AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP**

Daniel O’Brien Coordinator for Stanley Area Action Partnership gave a presentation on the current work of the Area Action Partnership, including outlining the current funding regime.

In 2019/20 £185,000 in funding was made available with in the region of £300,000 match funding levered in to projects.

Its anticipated that the next project call out for funding will be September following the closure of the Stanley Fund call out.

**68 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was proposed by Cllr Kane and seconded by Cllr S McMahon that Council **APPROVE** the payment of accounts and **NOTE** the bank recconcliation for May 2021.

**69 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

Council **NOTED** the report.

**70 CIVIC HALL PROJECT REPORT**

It was proposed by Cllr G Binney, seconded by Cllr A Clegg and passed by majority vote that Council **NOTE** the report and **APPROVE** the recommendation to go ahead with the project to to renew the heating system within the Civic Hall.

**71 HERITAGE REPORT**

It was proposed by Cllr S McMahon, seconder by Cllr A Clegg that Council **NOTE** the report, and **APPROVED** the reccomnedations to;

* Temporary reinstall the Beacon in the original site and continue to look for an alternative permanent location within the Town Centre other than Clifford Road
* Amend the flag scheme as outlined within the report
* Carry out an options appraisal into a local heritage resource
* Continue to work with the community and partners on delivering heritage projects within the town

**72 EVENTS GROUP**

Council **NOTED** the report.

**73 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Cllr J Kane, seconded by Cllr A Clegg that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of business: Member of staff confidentiality.

**74 PROBATION REVIEW**

Following a verbal report from Cllr J Kane it was **APPROVED** that the staff member involved extended probabtion period be signed off and the staff member be accepted as a permanent member of staff.

**75 PERSONNEL ISSUE**

Cllr James Kane gave a verbal update on a personnel issue he had received and had been dealing with. Members **NOTED** the report, and a full update will be provided for next Full Council meeting.

**76 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 28th September, 6.30 pm Stanley Civic Hall.