

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 26th April 2016 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: J Nicholson* A Clegg G Graham C Thompson
 W Nixon T Davinson R Harrison D Tully
 L Elliott D Marshall D Mills R Ferris
 L Marshall M Wilkinson

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)
 Derek Shingleton (Finance Manager)

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of the Public and Alan Shield (Durham Money Advice)

651 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs C McKee, D Walker and J Charlton were accepted by Council.

652 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs J Nicholson, D Tully, C Thompson and R Ferris declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 7 (*Minute #657*) as members of Derwentside Independents.

653 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Clerk reminded members that they should not speak until they had been recognised by the Chair and to stand when speaking. Cllr R Harrison was recording the meeting.

654 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions from the public.

655 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22nd March 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

656 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was **RESOLVED** that the following minutes be **RECEIVED** by Council.

- Planning 5th April 2016
- Personnel 5th April 2016
- Crime & CS 6th April 2016
- Comms and Events 12th April 2016
- Finance & GP 13th April 2016

Cllr D Mills requested that item 635 of the Comms and Events minutes under Community Radio be amended to show that the proposal came from Cllr R Harrison rather than himself.

Cllr D Marshall requested a breakdown of costs incurred for internal events at the Civic Hall. The Finance Manager will speak to the Civic Hall Manager to get these details.

657 DURHAM MONEY ADVICE - REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Members discussed the application for funding from Durham Money Advice Centre. Alan Shield noted that the target of 50 clients has been exceeded, and they have seen about 160 clients. This has been possible due to the admin support that they have received from the temporary employee.

It was proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr T Davinson and **RESOLVED** that Council grant £30,000 to the Durham Money Advice Centre for the provision of debt advice services in Stanley.

658 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Members **APPROVED** the Annual Governance Statement in relation to the financial year 2015/16.

659 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Members discussed the report from the Town Clerk which broke down the issues identified by residents as priorities into themes with some possible options for delivery identified.

It was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) There is no necessity for a 'second stage' to the consultation.
- (ii) An extra-ordinary meeting of Council will be convened to prioritise the **STRONG** options and develop a plan.

660 FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

It was proposed by Cllr L Marshall, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that the following recommendations be approved and implemented:

- (i) The Finance & General Purposes, Communications & Events and Crime & Community Safety Committees should be scheduled 5 times a year, in accordance with the draft schedule.
- (ii) The Personnel Committee should be scheduled twice a year, in accordance with the draft schedule.
- (iii) Additional meetings of the above Committees should be convened as required.
- (iv) The Planning Committee should be convened as required.
- (v) A forward plan should be produced for consideration at the Annual General Meeting to ensure that all essential business of Committees is dealt with at a relevant time.

661 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

*Members recording the proceedings stopped at this point.

Council **RESOLVED** that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Justification for excluding the public and press from consideration of the following item: Staff Confidentiality

662 **TOWN CLERK APPRAISAL OBJECTIVES**

Council **RESOLVED** that it would **APPROVE** the objectives put forward for the Town Clerk by the Personnel Committee.

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

Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 17th May 2016, 18:30 at the Civic Hall

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 24th May 2016, 18:30 at the Masonic Hall, Scott St, Stanley, DH9 8AD