

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT STANLEY CIVIC HALL, FRONT STREET, STANLEY, DH9 0NA
TUESDAY 28th APRIL 2015 6.30pm**

PRESENT

C. Bell	A. Clegg	L. Elliott	R. Ferris	R. Harrison
C. McKee (6.38)	D. Marshall	L. Marshall	D. Mills	J. Nicholson
W. Nixon	C. Thompson	D. Tully	D. Walker	M. Wilkinson
G. Graham				

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APOLOGIES

J. Charlton	D. McMahon	B. Nair
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ABSENT

T. Davinson

OFFICIALS

J. Harper – Community Development Manager (Acting Clerk for this meeting)
B. Hall – Community Services Officer
C. Howe – Civic Hall Manager
N. James – PA (Note Taker)

Cllrs L. Marshall and B. Nixon are recording this meeting.

STC.226-14 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Cllrs J. Charlton, D. McMahon and B. Nair were accepted by the Council.

STC.227-14 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Bell declared an interest as Chair of the Traders.

STC.228-14 **PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman noted that for item 11.2 the word 'staffing' is to be removed from the agenda.

STC.229-14 **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that:
The minutes of Full Council on 24.03.15 be approved as a correct record.

It was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that:
The minutes of Full Council on 07.04.15 be approved as a correct record.

It was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr B Nixon and **RESOLVED** that:
The minutes of Crime and Community Safety on 10.03.15 be received.
The minutes of Communications and Events on 04.03.15 be received.
The minutes of Planning on 17.02.15 be received.

STC.230-14 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Cllr David Walker requested that the reports for meetings be uploaded to the website along with the agendas. It was agreed that this will be discussed in a future meeting.

There were no written questions from members of the public.

*3 members of the public and Linda Kirk arrived at the meeting 6.35pm.
Cllr C McKee arrived at the meeting 6.38pm.*

STC.231-14 **COMMITTEES**

Planning Committee 07.04.15: Cllr Nixon noted that there were no recommendations from the last meeting. He informed members that the committee had been working with Sustrans to improve signage. He also noted that the committee were looking into taking over the War Memorial at Annfield Plain and that James will bring costings to a future meeting. Members **RECEIVED** these notes.

Crime & Community Safety 08.04.15: Brian updated members on the following:

- Rats – Brian is liaising with DCC to deal with the issue of rats in the front street.
- Abused parking on the front street – DCC are working on a plan to combat this issue.
- Pink poo – The committee had purchased 50 cans of pink spray paint to start off a new initiative to combat dog fouling.
- The Word – The Word is on schedule, invitations have been sent out and the 2 days should be a success.
- OTIS – A survey has been created ready for residents to complete at coffee mornings, street PACTs and online. Post cards and press releases will be going out to inform residents of the dates of the May Events.
- Blooming good fun – The competition has been set up, slightly different from last year, with more categories. Members agreed a £2000 budget.

Members **RECEIVED** these notes and recommendations.

Communications & Events 14.04.15: Cllr David Mills noted the following:

- Events working groups have been set up. The music working group has met and is progressing ideas.
- Brian is working with Beamish to progress WW1 events.
- The website is progressing and screen prints will be ready at the next committee meeting.

Members **RECEIVED** these notes and recommendations.

Finance & General Purposes: There was no meeting in April.

STC.232-14 **LINDA KIRK, JUST FOR WOMEN CENTRE**

Linda Kirk passed around a booklet to members to show what the Just for Women Centre are doing at the moment. Linda noted that the centre helps over 1300 women get into employment or training. Members were asked if they could provide the centre with a grant to help continue their work. Linda was asked to provide a full breakdown to show how much they need and what the money would be spent on.

STC.233-14 **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **AGREED** that the following recommendations be approved:

- The APM be held in the Civic Hall at 6:30pm on Tuesday 19 May 2015.
- A buffet be provided.

- The proposed agenda is agreed with the addition of an item relating to the Civic Hall. Members **AGREED** to invite all partners who we work with on a regular basis to come along to the meeting. They would be welcome to speak at the meeting if necessary.

STC.234-14 **INTERNAL CONTROL**

It was proposed by Cllr D Walker, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that this item be deferred until the Acting Town Clerk returns from annual leave.

STC.235-14 **CIVIC HALL LEASE**

Members discussed the report from the Acting Town Clerk. Cllr J Nicholson said that she was not comfortable signing the lease as Vice-Chairman of the Council. It was proposed by Cllr L Marshall seconded by Cllr D Walker and **APPROVED** that Cllr R Harrison sign the lease alongside the Chairman. It was also **AGREED** that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman or, in their absence, any other member of STC be authorised to sign any future legal deed (as long as it had been approved by Full Council), to be witnesses, as appropriate, by the Town Clerk.

STC.236-14 **CIVIC HALL ISSUES**

Bar Manager Appointment – it was proposed by Cllr D Walker, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **APPROVED** that the recommendation from the Personnel committee to appoint Lydia-Anne Lannigan as the Bar Manager for the Civic Hall.

Other Issues – Claire brought the following issues to the meeting:

- The ticket/booking system has been ordered. Staff will be trained on 2/3 June. The system will be on 3 pc's and will enable the Civic Hall to print tickets as well as use the booking system. The total cost of the system is £8,000.
- New updated quotes for the theatre seating are coming in around £35-36,000. A decision is needed asap to avoid delays due to school holidays.
- Quotes for starting a coffee shop in the Civic Hall come to around £13,000.
- The Civic Hall now has a wedding licence and a brochure is going to be made to advertise the facilities.

Members noted these issues.

Members agreed that verbal reports to Full Council are not acceptable and written reports in advance should be given.

STC.237-14 **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.

PART B

STC.238-14 **STAFFING ISSUES**

Former Town Clerk –

STC.239-14 **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 26th May 2015, 6:30pm at Stanley Civic Hall.