
MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 24th January 2017 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: J Nicholson* G Graham R Ferris B Nair
W Nixon D Tully C Bell D Mills
D Walker M Wilkinson R Harrison

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)
Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)
James Harper (Community Development Manager)
Lee Brannigan (Civic Hall Events Manager)

ABSENT: Cllr C McKee

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 members of the public

273 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs J Charlton, A Clegg, T Davinson, L Elliott, D Marshall, L Marshall, D McMahon and C Thompson were accepted by Council.

274 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

275 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Clerk reminded Members not to speak until they have been recognised by the chair, and to stand when speaking.

The Clerk noted that no one was recording the meeting.

276 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Caulfield stated that he wished to discuss the behaviour of a Councillor at the December meeting, however that Councillor was not in attendance. He asked if he passed the questions to the Town Clerk if they could be forwarded to the Councillor.

The Town Clerk advised that conduct in meetings is controlled by the Chairman and Standing Orders and beyond that if any member of the public had a complaint about a Member's conduct they could make a referral to the Monitoring Officer at Durham County Council. The conduct of members was not a matter over which he had control.

John Caulfield also informed Members that the Road Safety Team will be at Tanfield on Thursday morning.

277 **CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr R Harrison, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that the Council **APPROVE** the Full Council minutes of 20th December 2016 as a correct record.

278 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Communications & Events Committee held on 10th January 2017 and the minutes of the Crime & Community Safety Committee held on 11th January 2017 be **RECEIVED** by Council.

279 **CORRESPONDENCE FOR REVIEW/ DECISION**

(i) External Audit Fees

Members **NOTED** the external auditors' fees from 2017/18 - 2021/22.

(ii) Brass Band Competition - Request for Funding

Following the decision in respect of item 11, Grants Policy (*Minute #283*), the applicant will be advised how to apply for grant support under the new scheme.

280 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Communications & Events

Chairmans Awards - It was proposed by Cllr R Harrison, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that Council approve the recommendation that the Chairman's awards is to be held toward the end of the Chairman's Civic Year in March. Therefore the event for the 2017/18 Civic Year will be held in March 2018.

Crime & Community Safety

Detached Youth & Environmental Services - It was proposed by Cllr D Mills, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that Council approve the recommendation that any procurement process required after the Committee has developed a specification for these initiatives should be overseen by the Finance Committee.

281 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & BANK RECONCILIATION**

Council **APPROVED** the payment of accounts for December 2016 and **NOTED** the Bank Reconciliation.

282 **BUDGET & PRECEPT**

It was proposed by Cllr R Harrison, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVE** the adoption of a standstill budget and **AUTHORISE** the Chairman to sign the precept demand of **£674, 837** on behalf of the Council.

283 **GRANTS POLICY**

Council **CONSIDERED** the draft Full Council Grants policy and requested that the Town Clerk insert a paragraph under 'publicity' stating that applicants should provide photos for the Council to use to publicise the grant they have received.

It was **RESOLVED** that the policy be **APPROVED** and adopted subject to this change.

284 **CIVIC HALL - REVIEW OF FEES, CHARGES, TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Members discussed the updated Fees and Charges, Terms and Conditions and the revised booking form. It was **RESOLVED** that the revised rates and forms be **APPROVED** and implemented.

285 **MEMBER MOTIONS**

(i) Motion from Cllr J Nicholson

Councillor Nicholson requested that:

“Consideration be given by the Town Council of adopting the practice of routinely filming, recording and broadcasting Town Council meetings.”

This motion was seconded by Cllr C Bell, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The Town Council will implement the proposal to film, record and broadcast Town Council Meetings; and
- (b) The Town Clerk be given **AUTHORITY** to incur expenditure to procure the required equipment to implement this decision as detailed in his report.

(ii) Motion from Cllr D Tully

“Standing Order 3.2. states that ‘The minimum three clear days for notice of a meeting does not include the day on which notice was issued, the day of the meeting, a Sunday, a day of the Christmas break, a day of the Easter break or of a bank holiday or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning. (FC)’

It is proposed that ‘three clear days’ is amended to ‘five’ clear days, allowing members to research agenda items more thoroughly and to give time for members to consult with their constituents in advance of the meeting.”

This motion was seconded by Cllr C Bell, it was **RESOLVED** that the Standing Orders be amended as requested.

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

Tuesday 21st February 2017, 6:30pm, Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley.