

**MINUTES** of the **COMMUNICATIONS AND EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL** held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 4th October 2016 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Mills\*                      Cllr M Wilkinson                      Cllr C Bell                      Cllr R Ferris  
                    Cllr D McMahon                      Cllr J Nicholson                      Cllr W Nixon

\*Chairman

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

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr G Graham & 7 members of the public

**141                      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllrs D Tully, R Harrison and D Walker were accepted by the committee.

**142                      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr C Bell declared an interest as Chair of the Traders.

**143                      PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OR TOWN CLERK**

No one was recording the meeting.  
As the meeting was to be an open forum, the Chairman asked the public to join Cllrs at the meeting table.

**144                      PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

This item was skipped due to the meeting being an open forum.

**145                      CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Members **APPROVED** the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr D McMahon, seconded by Cllr G Graham and **RESOLVED** that agenda item 8 (ii) be moved up the agenda and dealt with before item 6.

**146                      ITEM 8(ii) - 2017/18 EVENTS - OPEN SESSION**

The following proposals for 2017/18 events were discussed by Committee:

**Summer Stage School** - The Events Manager put forward a proposal for a summer stage school to be arranged in the Civic Hall. It was proposed by Cllr G Graham, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RESOLVED** that Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council creates a budget for the Civic Hall cost centre to cover the costs of the stage school, of around £5500, with an income target of £5000 (net £500)

**Alun Armstrong Theatre Performers** - The Events Manager put forward a proposal for the Civic Hall to start it's own theatre group. Alun Armstrong has given his backing to the company being named after him. It was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council creates a budget for the Civic Hall cost centre to cover the costs of setting up the company of around £11,200. The company will perform regular shows at the Civic Hall, the proceeds of which will help to offset the costs and improve the theatrical offer of the Theatre.

**Mini Music Festivals** - Cllr D McMahon proposed 2/3 music festival events be staged in the Civic Hall. It was proposed by Cllr D McMahon, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RESOLVED** that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council creates a budget of £15,000 be allocated for up to 3 festivals.

**Writers Fair** - Cllr D McMahon put forward a proposal for a writers fair from Bryan Irving. Members **RESOLVED** that Cllr D McMahon should go back to Mr Irving and advise him that Stanley AAP's Northern Writes festival might be a good vehicle to incorporate his suggestion.

**Stanley Show** - This idea was proposed by a member of the public, Rob Rendle. Members discussed combining a full sized funfair event with the horticultural show, motorcycle displays, a beer tent etc. to produce one big Stanley Show. It was proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council creates a budget the of £20,000 for the Stanley Show.

**A Year in Stanley** - This proposal was from Simon Green. Following positive feedback from the 'This is Stanley' project, he has requested funding to start 'A Year in Stanley'. It was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr C Bell and **RESOLVED** that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council creates a budget of £6,250 for this project.

**Local History Project** - This idea was put forward by Cllr R Harrison, to ask members of the public to put their stories of the 40s - 80s in writing to create an exhibition. Members **RESOLVED** that this could be taken forward without a specific budget allocation, and perhaps incorporated into a wider heritage project or incorporated with Simon Green's 'A Year in Stanley' project.

**Fireworks** - Members discussed the options for a Stanley Firework Festival next year. It was proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr M Wilkinson and

**RESOLVED** that a budget of £15,000 be allocated for a Fireworks festival which STC will put out to market tender to ensure best value is achieved.

**Fun Run** - Catchgate Partnership requested the Town Council consider organising a fun run. Committee **RESOLVED** that Cllr J Nicholson would contact Catchgate Partnership and ask them to speak to Derwentside Athletics Club as the club already organises a number of fun runs in the area.

**Farmers Markets** - Members were all in favour of exploring organising farmer's markets in the town centre as long as they were cost neutral.

**Civic Hall Christmas Pantomime** - Members agreed to decide whether a budget for a Pantomime be agreed in the next financial year after the performance of this year's Pantomime has been reviewed.

**Moria Con** - Following the success of Moria Con in the last 2 years, it was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RESOLVED** that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council sets aside a budget of £9,000 for a Moria Con event in 2017.

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## **REVIEW OF SUMMER EVENTS**

Members reviewed and discussed the following events:

**Brass Festival** - Members agreed that this was a very good event this year, however they do not wish to fund this next year as the time and date is not down to STC to decide.

**Stanley Fringe** - There was great feedback from the events held this year, especially for the 'This is Stanley' project.

**Armed Forces Day** - Members agreed armed forces day was a great success and should be funded in 2017. A slightly larger budget will be required than was set aside for 2016.

**Play in the Park Days / Community Fun Days** - Members agreed these were great events, however the feedback from the public was not a lot for older kids. Some of the parks were not well suited for the rides etc. It was proposed that the larger parks have bigger events and the smaller parks have smaller events and that different days be tailored to different age groups.

**Moria Con 2** - Members were happy with the success of the last 2 Moria Con events and recommended that funding be set aside to fund next year.

**148 CHRISTMAS EVENTS UPDATE**

The Events Manager updated members on the plans for Christmas

- 2 Dec Old Folks Christmas party.
- 3 Dec Switch on and market. All the lights except for the tree will be on before then.
- 4 Dec Christmas Fayre at the Civic Hall
- 11 Dec Carol concert.
- 13 Dec Panto starts

The Clerk reported that the Santa’s Grotto would be set up in the Front Street. The Grotto in the Civic Hall had been well received but caused operational issues in the Civic Hall. The queueing in the building was an issue, the time taken to set up and take down the Grotto was not proportional to the income and the purpose of Christmas events should be to pull footfall into the shopping area rather than away from it.

**146 ITEM 8.1 - 2017/18 EVENTS**

Members **RECOMMENDED** the following budgets should be set aside for 2017/18:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Christmas Festival</b>	£20,000
<b>Play in the Park</b>	£20,000
<b>Community Fun Days</b>	£5,000
<b>Remembrance Services</b>	£400
<b>Armed Forces Day</b>	£5,000
<b>Moria Con</b>	£9,000
<b>Older People’s Entertainment</b>	£1,000
<b>Blue Plaque Scheme</b>	£2,000
<b>Christmas Decorations</b>	£30,000
<b>Stanley Show</b>	£20,000
<b>Fireworks</b>	£15,000
<b>Mini Music Festivals (x3)</b>	£15,000
<b>A Year in Stanley</b>	£6,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>£148,650</b>

**149            CIVIC HALL**

Members were asked to consider the new proposed schedule of fees and charges for 2017/18. It was **RESOLVED** that all members agreed to **RECOMMEND** the prices proposed by the Events Manager.

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

Tuesday 10th January 2017, 18:30 at the Civic Hall

**MINUTES of the CRIME & COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL** held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Wednesday 5th October 2016 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr C Bell\*                      Cllr C Thompson                      Cllr Cllr L Elliott                      Cllr R Ferris  
                   Cllr J Charlton                      Cllr J Nicholson                      Cllr W Nixon

\*Chairman

**OFFICERS:** Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)  
                   Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)  
                   James Harper (Community Development Manager)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Viva Training and Resources - Val & Vicki, Sgt Dave Clarke and 2 members of the public

**151                      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**152                      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr C Bell declared an interest as Chair of the Stanley Traders Association.  
 Cllr J Charlton declared an interest as a Durham County Councillor.

The Clerk advised Cllr Bell and Charlton that as there was no likely conflict of interests on the agenda, the declarations were not required.

**153                      PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OR TOWN CLERK**

The Clerk advised members that Cllr G Graham had informed him that he would be standing down from the Committee.  
 The Clerk noted that no one was recording this meeting.

**154                      PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

As this was an open meeting this item was deferred.

**155                      CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

This item was deferred as the Clerk had not circulated the minutes of the previous meeting.

**156                      ITEM 10(ii) - REVIEW OF PROJECTS - OPEN SESSION**

**Anti Bullying Training for Schools** - Val and Vicki addressed the Committee and explained that Viva Training and Resources could offer 4 hours per each of the 21 schools in Stanley, specific anti bullying training from their menu plus 1 year membership of BIG resources for £10,000 or 2 hours training and membership for £5,000.

Members discussed whether it was the Town Councils remit to provide anti bullying training to schools that have not requested it, or budgeted for it with their own funds. It was **RESOLVED** that this proposal would not be pursued further unless the schools themselves approached Council.

**Detached Youth Project** - Cllr D McMahon proposed that the Committee budget for a detached youth project for Stanley. It was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr J Charlton and **RESOLVED** that the committee will **RECOMMEND** that Full Council sets aside a budget of £50,000, and that further work would be required in relation to the commissioning of a service in Stanley.

**Diversity Event** - Dr Nath requested a budget for an event at the Civic Hall where different cultural groups could get together. The Town Clerk will see the Diversity Officer at DCC to access their census data. Members agreed to support the idea, but a proposed budget should be pulled together and submitted by Dr Nath.

The Community Development Manager requested that the Committee show support for Harbour using PACT house as an interview room to support victims of abuse. It was agreed that Dave Clarke would be put in touch with Harbour to facilitate this.

**Play Areas & Parks** - It was proposed by Cllr D McMahon, seconded by Cllr B Nixon and **RESOLVED** that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council evaluates the costs and work involved in taking over the play areas and parks in Stanley under asset transfer.

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## **CURSI**

**Update from John Ullathorne:** Since the initiative launched it has worked well with community speedwatch. They have been active lately at White House Farm in Craghead and in Tanfield. There are problems with speed at Harlow Gardens, Billy Pit Row and Shield Row. John requested that the Committee provide CURSI with a budget of £3,000 to help with initiatives, uniforms, equipment etc. It was proposed by Cllr D McMahon, seconded by Cllr J Charlton and **RESOLVED** that Committee would **RECOMMEND** that a £3,000 budget be set aside for Road Safety Initiatives in the Stanley Town Council Area.

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## **MINI POLICE UNIFORMS**

Committee **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** that the same budget was allocated to the Mini Police Project as was allocated in the previous year to allow two further local schools to participate in the project.

**159 COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATORS**

It was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RESOLVED** that further to the decision of Council at the September 2016 meeting, Committee would **RECOMMEND** that Council should purchase 3 defibrillators to be located at the 3 police section offices, rather than at the Civic Hall as was decided at the last meeting of Full Council.

**160 WINTER MAINTENANCE**

The Community Development Manager presented his report to the Committee. It was proposed by Cllr C Thompson, seconded by Cllr J Charlton and **RESOLVED** that the the Committee would **RECOMMEND** that Full Council set aside £4750 from the current year's budget to implement the **RECOMMENDATIONS** of the report.

**156 ITEM 10.1 - REVIEW OF PROJECTS - 2017/18 BUDGET**

Members deferred recommending specific budgets for all projects as further information was required. A further meeting of Committee will need to be held before the budget is set.

**161 UPDATES / PROPOSALS FROM PARTNERS**

Sgt Dave Clarke advised Committee that policing was working well in the area and that ASB incidents were reducing. He requested that the Committee provide £60,000 to employ 2 wardens for STC.

It was proposed by Cllr D McMahon, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RESOLVED** that the Committee would **RECOMMEND** that Full Council should set aside this level of funding if the Town Council could negotiate an arrangement with the County Council where the appropriate powers were delegated to the Town Council and wardens could be tasked by STC and not used in any other areas.

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

Wednesday 11th January 2017, 6:30pm at Stanley Civic Hall.  
There will be another meeting required before this date to establish working groups.