

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 28th November 2017 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: B Nair* A Clegg D Carmichael L Christie
 H Clark M Davinson C Hampson J Kane
 C Marshall D Marshall J McMahan J Nicholson
 J Pallas J Stephenson L Timbey G Wilkinson

*Chairman

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

IN ATTENDANCE: 7 members of the public & Sam Scotchbrook (County Durham CAB)

180 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs T Armstrong, J Clark, D Tully & J Tully were accepted by Council.

181 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr C Marshall declared an interest as Director of Stanley Events Ltd.

182 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor informed Members of the events he had attended in the month prior to the meeting which included:

- Catchgate and Annfield Plain Action Partnership Christmas Fair,
- EID Party and Awards,
- South Moor Heritage Website Launch Photoshoot,
- Tractor Handover Photoshoot at Annfield Plain Football Ground, and;
- DCC Chairmans Civic Dinner.

The Town Clerk reminded everyone to turn their mobile phones off or to silent, and advised that the meeting was being recorded but not live streamed to Facebook. He also advised that a member of the public was recording the meeting. Members were reminded to stand when speaking after being recognised by the Town Mayor.

183 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sam Scotchbrook from County Durham CAB gave a presentation to Members in relation to information about the rollout of Universal Credit.

Council **DECIDED** that Members should forward information to the Town Clerk in relation to which Wards have kitchens that could support residents in need over the Christmas period.

184 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Council

It was proposed by Cllr L Christie, seconded by Cllr A Clegg and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of 24th October 2017 be **APPROVED** as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

Extra-Ordinary Council

It was proposed by Cllr M Davinson, seconded by Cllr J Kane and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of 7th November 2017 be **APPROVED** as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

185 **MINUTES OF OTHER MEETINGS**

Minutes of the Projects and Initiatives Committee held on 14th November 2017 were **RECEIVED** by Council.

Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee held on 15th November 2017 were **RECEIVED** by Council.

186 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Fools Gold - The Town Clerk noted a letter of appreciation from Fool's Gold for funding the sessions they provided in the care homes.

187 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Finance and Governance

(i) **Dying to Work Policy** - It was proposed by Cllr M Davinson, seconded by Cllr J Stephenson and **RESOLVED** that the Council adopt the Dying to Work Policy to support the Council's staff in the event that they are dealing with terminal illness.

(ii) **Code of Conduct** - It was proposed by Cllr A Clegg, seconded by Cllr D Carmichael and **RESOLVED** that the Council adopt the new CDALC Code of Conduct.

(iii) **BACS Payments and E Banking** - It was proposed by Cllr J Stephenson, seconded by Cllr L Christie and **RESOLVED** that Council approve the following recommendations:

- (a) Settlement of accounts by BACS be authorised by Council;
- (b) A second current account for electronic payments be authorised to reduce the Council's bank charges;
- (c) BACS Payments are reported to the Committee on a monthly basis (as at present) but a Schedule of BACS payments is presented to authorised signatories on a weekly basis with the cheques for signature for checking and signature; and
- (d) Other policies affected (e.g. MIFS and Grants) be updated to reflect the change to permit BACS payments.

Projects and Initiatives

(i) **Fireworks** - Members **RESOLVED** that Council look into providing a funfair on the Front Street whilst the Fireworks Event is running and look into increased enforcement for illegal street trading at any future events.

188 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was proposed by Cllr D Carmichael, seconded by Cllr A Clegg and **RESOLVED** that Council approve the Schedule of Payments for October 2017.

It was proposed by Cllr J Stephenson, seconded by Cllr D Carmichael and **RESOLVED** that Council approve the Schedule of Receipt for October 2017.

189 DRAFT BUDGET

After considering the draft 2018/19 budget, Members **RESOLVED** that any decisions be deferred until the Finance Officer can produce the reports on the Civic Hall that are outstanding.

190 MEDIUM TERM PLAN

Members discussed the amended Medium Term Plan timeline. It was proposed by Cllr J Stephenson, seconded by Cllr J McMahon and **RESOLVED** that the timeline be **APPROVED** to enable Committees to begin development of detailed activity plans.

191 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC*

*Recording of proceedings was 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:
Commercial Sensitivity.*

192 FORMER STANLEY LIBRARY

It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr D Carmichael and **RESOLVED** that STC request that DCC pass the freehold of the Library to us and that a peppercorn rent be charged.

193 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28th November 2017, 6:30pm, Civic Hall Stanley.