



Stanley Town Council

NOTICE OF MEETING

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Stanley Town Council will be held on Tuesday, the 27th November 2018 at 6.30pm at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley, Co. Durham, DH9 0NA.

TO ALL MEMBERS of STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

A Clegg (Town Mayor)	C Bell	L Christie	J Clark	G Binney
C Hampson (Deputy TM)	H Clark	M Davinson	B Nair	J Kane
C Marshall	D Marshall	J McMahon	J Nicholson	J Pallas
J Stephenson	L Timbey	D Tully	G Wilkinson	J Tully

You are hereby summoned to attend an **ORDINARY MEETING** of Stanley Town Council to be held in **Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley**, on **Tuesday the 27th November 2018 at 18.30** in order to transact the following business:

Yours sincerely,

Alan Shaw
Town Clerk
20th November 2018

Please turn off all mobile phones or set to silent mode
Please refer to the Policy for recording proceedings

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To **RECEIVE** any apologies and reasons for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to **DECLARE** disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests, along with the nature of those interests, in relation to any item on this agenda.

3 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To **RECEIVE** a verbal monthly report from the Town Mayor and any announcements from the Town Mayor or Town Clerk.

4 LEADER'S STATEMENT

An update on current business from the Leader of Stanley Town Council, Cllr David Marshall.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An adjournment will be allowed at the direction of the Chairman to allow for public comment and response in relation to items on this agenda or to consider written questions from the public submitted in advance of the meeting (*Individuals will be permitted a maximum of three minutes each. Total time for this session is limited to fifteen minutes*).

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Council (ATTACHMENT A)

To **APPROVE** as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23rd October 2018.

Extra-Ordinary Council (ATTACHMENT B)

To **APPROVE** as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Extra-ordinary Council meeting held on 7th November 2018.

7 COMMITTEE MINUTES (ATTACHMENT C)

Council to **RECEIVE** the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 9th October 2018.

8 FEEDBACK FROM FIREWORKS EVENT - STANLEY EVENTS

The Town Council awarded a grant of **£10,000** to support the provision of the Oakies Park Fireworks Display held on 3rd November 2018. A report on the event will be provided by a representative of Stanley Events Limited.

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** item and **DECIDE** if any further action is required.

9 COUNTY DURHAM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION*

Michelle Cooper, Chief Executive of the County Durham Community Foundation will present to members in relation to the proposed establishment of a charitable fund for Stanley.

ATTACHMENT D Vital Signs - About CDCF

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** this matter and **DECIDE** what to do.

**This item was deferred from the Finance Committee held on 14th November 2018*

10 ADVICE IN COUNTY DURHAM (ATTACHMENT E)

Sam Scotchbrook from Advice in County Durham will provide members with an update in relation to the services which have been provided at the STC funded advice centre in Wear Road in the current year to date.

Council is requested to **NOTE** this matter and **DECIDE** if any further action is required.

11 RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE

At the meeting held on Wednesday the 14th November 2018, the Finance & General Purposes Committee **RECOMMENDED** that:

- (i) The Civic Hall Working Group's idea of re-instating the cinema is supported (see Item 12 below);
- (ii) That the Council waives the Hall hire charges related to the staging of the 2018/19 winter performances of the Oxhill Youth Club, South Moor Operatic and Stanley Starz as per the motion in the minutes of that meeting;
- (iii) That a budget heading is created in the accounts where the costs of waiving these charges (and other fees waived for use of the hall by the Council) can be charged to so that the Civic Hall does not cover the losses when the Council makes a decision to support a community group of initiative;
- (iv) That a suitable revenue budget is provided in 2019/20 to cover the likely costs of similar decisions in the coming year;

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** these matters and **DECIDE** what to do.

12 CIVIC HALL WORKING GROUP (ATTACHMENT F)

The Civic Hall Working Group met on Tuesday 6th November 2018. The minutes are attached for reference.

The Group makes the following **RECOMMENDATIONS** to Council:

- (i) The Council should hold a revenue budget to pay for the events it decides to hold free of charge for the public. The Council proposes to waive hire fees for local theatre groups in this financial year and it is not right that this cost should appear as a loss by the Civic Hall, it should appear as a grant from the Council;
- (ii) Some of the remaining PWL money should be set aside to commission a new survey once the specification has been reviewed and agreed by Council; and
- (iii) The group supports the re-instatement of cinema capability to the building and would like some of the remaining loan budget set aside for this purpose.

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** these matters and **DECIDE** what to do.

13 NOTIFICATION OF TAX BASE (ATTACHMENT G)

The Council has received notification of the tax base and Local Council Tax Revenue Support Grant for the parish for next year. This updates the interim guidance provided by DCC which the first draft of the budget for 2019/10 was based upon.

Current Tax Base (2018/19) [A]	7632.6
Indicative Tax Base (2019/20) (previous estimates)[B]	7654.9
Final Tax Base (2019/20) (actual)[C]	7745.9
Estimated base increase [D] = [B]-[A]	22.3
Actual Tax Base Increase [E]=[C]-[A]	113.3
Current Band D Council Tax [F]	£92.53
Increase in Council Tax Yield [G] ([E] x [D])	£10,483.65
Removal of 2018/19 LCTRS Grant [H]	£117,132.00
LCTRS Grant for 2019/20 [I]	£106,417.00
Net Position [G] - [H] + [I]	-£231.35

The net position therefore has improved from the first estimate, which showed that the overall Council tax yield (based on a standstill budget) would fall from the current year by **£6,394.58**. The higher than forecast increase in the tax base has reduced this deficit to only **£231.35**, effectively increasing the overall standstill budget by **£6100** from the first estimates.

The increase required in the local precept to achieve a complete standstill budget would be 0.03%, which would equate to 2p for a Band A property and 3p for a Band D over the full year.

Council is requested to **NOTE** this item and **DECIDE** if any further action is required at this time.

14 MEMBER'S INITIATIVE & GRANT FUNDING*

(ATTACHMENT H) MIF Expenditure 2018/19 (year to date)
 (ATTACHMENT I) MIF & Grants Policy

The Chairman of the Finance Committee requested that the Committee **REVIEW** the policy and budget allocations for Grant Funding and Member's Initiative Funding with a view to putting forward **RECOMMENDATIONS** to Full Council for next year's budget setting exercise.

Members were asked for their feedback in relation to the current budget allocations for MIFs and grants. 5 members responded. Of the 5, 4 proposed no change to the current MIF allocation of £3,000, one proposed a reduction of the MIF to £1500 and the remainder to be used for other grants. 2 of the 5 proposed creating a larger funding pot in addition to the MIF. One proposed that 10% of the overall budget should be allocated to grants. The comment was also made that if larger grants are to be awarded there should be more thorough assessment of the sustainability of the project prior to award.

**This item was deferred from the Finance Committee held on 14th November 2018, therefore Council is requested to review the policy and budget allocation associated with MIFs and Grants.*

Budget allocations and expenditure in recent years are provided below for information:

Financial Year	MIF Budget	MIF Expenditure	Full Council Grant Budget	FC Grant Expenditure
2015/16	£70,000	£61,474	£102,480	£61,975
2016/17	£70,000	£78,835	£11,872	£67,376
2017/18	£70,000	£68,753	£55,153	£42,046
2018/19	£70,000	£70,000	£0	£15,473

Notes:

- (i) The apparent 'overspend' on MIF for 16/17 relates to projects committed in 15/16 but not paid until 16/17. The apparent 'underspend' in 15/16 correlates with this.
- (ii) The MIF expenditure for 18/19 is estimated.
- (iii) The grant expenditure reported in 18/19 relates to grants awarded in 17/18 to be met from reserves.
- (iv) This item was deferred by the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 9th October 2018

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** this matter and **DECIDE** what to do.

15 COUNCIL ACTIONS UPDATE (ATTACHMENT J)

Details of Full Council decisions taken since the AGM held on 16th May 2017 are attached with a record of those completed and outstanding.

Council is requested to **CONSIDER** the report, **REVIEW** the decisions and **DECIDE** if any further action is required at this time.

Members may also request verbal updates in respect of any of the decisions.

Additional Updates: The Town Clerk has appended an additional short report in respect of other matters not covered by the Actions checklist. **(ATTACHMENT K)**

15 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

22nd January 2019, 6.30pm, Stanley Civic Hall.

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, members of the public and press are welcome to attend the meeting. Members of the public will only be permitted to speak at the beginning of the meeting during Public Question Time.