

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held at Stanley Civic Hall on Tuesday 25th September 2018 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: A Clegg* C Bell L Christie G Binney C Hampson
 M Davinson B Nair D Marshall J McMahon J Nicholson
 L Timbey D Tully J Tully G Wilkinson

*Chairman

OFFICERS: James Harper (Community Development Manager - CDM)
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 members of the public

Before the meeting began, the Town Mayor welcomed Cllr Gordon Binney to his first Full Council meeting.

100 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Cllrs J Clark, H Clark, J Kane, C Marshall, J Pallas & J Stephenson were accepted by Council.

101 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J McMahon declared a pecuniary interest in item 11 (Fireworks) and will leave the room when this item is discussed.

102 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor updated Members on his commitments since the last Full Council meeting. He has attended most of the Play in the Park events which had gone well. He attended the EID awards, Sedgefield afternoon tea, and the Alfie Taylor fun day.

The CDM introduced the two Stanley Town Council Neighbourhood Wardens, Kieron and David, to Members. He reminded Members to wait until recognised by the Town Mayor and to stand when speaking. He announced that the meeting was being recorded by STC and Mr Rollings and that mobile phones should be switched off or turned to silent.

103 LEADER'S STATEMENT

Cllr David Marshall congratulated Cllr Gordon Binney on becoming the newly elected Councillor for the Havannah ward. Gordon will no doubt be valuable to the Council as he is involved in a number of local organisations and works hard in the community. Cllr Marshall noted that the Play in the Park events during the summer went extremely well and were well received. He noted that families well grateful for the new siting of the miners memorial.

Cllr Marshall noted that the Council are fulfilling their election promises, such as bringing back the Neighbourhood Wardens and completing a reorganisation of staff. The Neighbourhood Wardens are now in post doing an excellent job. The Deputy Town Clerk post is now being advertised and will be filled soon.

104 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No questions were received in writing and there were no questions from the floor.

105 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr B Nair, seconded by Cllr L Timbey and **RESOLVED** that the following minutes be approved by Council and signed as a correct record:

- (i) Ordinary Council 24th July 2018
- (ii) Extra Ordinary Council 20th July 2018
- (iii) Extra Ordinary Council 13th August 2018

106 COMMITTEE MINUTES

It was queried that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 12th September 2018 did not include an action for the Town Clerk to add to the actions list that there needs to be a discussion with DCC re: the Stanley Plan. This is to be amended prior to the minutes being agreed by Committee.

107 CLLD UPDATE

This item was deferred as Gemma Dobson was unavailable. Council requested a written report to be distributed.

108 RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE

- (i) **Chair of Committee** - It was proposed by Cllr B Nair, seconded by Cllr L Christie and **RESOLVED** that Cllr M Davinson be Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.
- (ii) **Budget Monitoring** - It was proposed by Cllr B Nair, seconded by Cllr L Timbey and **RESOLVED** that the Council set aside a salaries budget of £370,000 in 2019/20 to cover salaries and occasional out of hours/ overtime payments.

109 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & BANK RECONCILIATION

It was proposed by Cllr B Nair, seconded by Cllr D Marshall and **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVE** the payment of accounts for August 2018 and **NOTE** the Bank Reconciliation for August 2018.

110 FIREWORKS

Cllr J McMahon left the meeting 18.43.

It was proposed by Cllr C Hampson, seconded by Cllr G Binney and **RESOLVED** that the request for payment be agreed as this is a popular event with fantastic reviews which gives local businesses and charities a chance to stay open and get further trade with passing members of the public.

Cllr J McMahon rejoined the meeting 18.49.

111 CIVIC HALL WORKING GROUP

Cllr D Marshall noted that for the Council to make a difference this working group needs to be underway. He is delighted that Cllr H Clark is joining the working group. The terms of reference are wide ranging, and the group will find out where money is being spent in the Civic Hall which will be reflected in the budget. Another meeting is to be arranged when the Town Clerk is back from annual leave.

It was proposed by Cllr M Davinson, seconded by Cllr L Christie and **RESOLVED** that the Council **APPROVE** the Terms of Reference, **GRANT** the delegations tot he group required by them and **AGREE** the Aims and Objectives identified by the group.

112 BEACONS OF LIGHT

The CDM noted that installation costs could not be obtained until he had met with DCC on 26th September. It was proposed by Cllr M Davinson, seconded by Cllr B Nair and **RESOLVED** that the proposal go ahead, equipment be ordered and an update on the siting and the pit can be provided to Council at a later date.

113 NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS UPDATE

The CDM noted the reports that had been provided to Members and advised that the Wardens continue as they are.

Cllr C Bell questioned where the money from fines goes. The CDM will discuss this with Belinda Snow and get back with an answer.

Members **NOTED** the reports.

114 TOWN MAYOR'S CAROL CONCERT

Members **NOTED** that the Town Mayor's Carol Concert will be held on Sunday 16th December at 6pm.

115 APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTIONS

It was proposed by Cllr B Nair, seconded by Cllr L Timbey and **RESOLVED** that the job descriptions for the Operations Manager and Duty Assistant be **APPROVED**.

116 CONCLUSION OF AUDIT

The CDM noted the two minor issues identified by the external auditor. It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr J McMahon and **RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**.

117 COUNCIL ACTIONS UPDATE

The CDM noted the following updates:

War Memorial Working Group - Another meeting is to be arranged.

Stars YC - Cllr J McMahon noted that this information was provided in April and that the actions log needs updating.

Dying to work Policy - The Town Clerk to progress.

DBS checks - It was proposed by Cllr D Marshall, seconded by Cllr J McMahon and **RESOLVED** that this issue be resolved asap.

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DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 23rd October 2018, 6.30pm, Civic Hall, Stanley