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MINUTES of the SPECIAL FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING of STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL held at Stanley Civic Hall on Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: G Binney* Milburn A Clegg A Hanson A Jones S McMahon O

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Stuart Wardle (Interim Town Clerk) Alan Tubman (Deputy Town Clerk)

178 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members **ACCEPTED** apologies for absence from Cllr L Ferry, Cllr J Kane, Cllr J McMahon and Cllr J Nicholson

179 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

180 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPIRATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The meeting will be live streamed via the Stanley Town Council Youtube channe, and will be available for months.

Deputy Town Clerk informed Committee that 2021 pantomime had been very well received by customers and that there had been no issues or problems at the Civic Hall. A fuller report will be made to Council and the pantomime production team are looking to put on another performance, next this year and potentially a three year program.

Cllr Binney asked the Deputy Town Clerk to pass on his thanks to all staff involved in the delivery of the pantomime.

181 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present and no questions had been received in advance.

182 STANLEY MASTERPLAN

Finance and General Purpose Committee **AGREED** that the following points should be forwarded to Durham County Council for consideration as part of the consultation process.

 Stanley Town Council are generally supportive of the overall intentions within the draft master plan and acknowledge that it is a living document to provide an ongoing plan to bring about real improvements for Stanley and the surrounding area Finance and General Purposes Committee Minutes 11th January 2022

- Stanley Town Council is a key stakeholder in the community and wish to remain fully involved and active in the ongoing development and implementation of the masterplan
- Stanley is recognised as an area of deprivation and the master-plan acknowledges the need for the whole area to receive major investment to provide for a sustainable and thriving community. In doing so STC note that all investment will need to be properly prioritised around community needs to maximise positive outcomes and benefits
- Stanley Town Council acknowledge that to achieve the wider ambitions set out in the plan will require a long-term investment and a multi-agency approach requiring ongoing and effective community consultation
- The Stanley Civic Hall is recognised by the community as a major community asset. The building incorporates a Civic Theatre and needs major investment to be sustainable in order to thrive and be able to develop community, cultural and heritage activities for the community and wider region. (The building is owned by Durham County Council and leased to Stanley Town Council)
- The need for good and accessible public transport links from the outlying villages is a key area identified by the community and also to nearby conurbations i.e. Durham, Sunderland & Newcastle
- Stanley Town Council have concerns surrounding the possibility of introducing parking charges as it would deter visitors to the Town Centre
- There is a need for the masterplan to take account and as far as possible clearly link to the leveling up bid to ensure resources and investment are maximized and not disadvantaged

183 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 8th February 2022, 6.30 pm Civic Hall, Stanley.

Stanley Town Council, Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley, DH9 0NA, Tel: 01207 299 109; email: info@stanley-tc.gov.uk