

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017** at 7.15 p.m.

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor Wendy Hillary** and  
Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I. Gray, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Jed Hillary, Kate Hopper, Mrs V. Raw, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

**OFFICERS**                Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)  
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

73.    **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

74.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillors Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. S. Haigh, Dave Hardaker, Mrs. I. Hewitson, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Ken Robson.

75.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

76.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Eddy Adam, J.D. Clare, Jed Hillary and Kate Hopper wished to declare their interest in Agenda Item No. 10 (Land Purchase – 96 Stainforth Close) as members of Durham County Council. They would be staying in the meeting during the discussion thereon.

77.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

78.    **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary and

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

79.    **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments she had attended for the period 2<sup>nd</sup> November to the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

The Mayor gave special emphasis to the popularity and success of the annual firework display. This was also a busy time of year with the large amount of carol services.

The Town Clerk announced that a new supply of Council Scarves had been received should any members wish to receive one.

**RESOLVED** – that the information be received.

80. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Jim Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(b) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor B. Hall, seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(c) **Policy and Resources Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

81. **ROYAL GARDEN PARTY**

The Town Clerk had submitted information in respect of nominations for attendance at a Royal Garden Party in 2018.

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton, that the Past Mayor, Councillor Jed Hillary, be nominated for attendance.

It was proposed by Councillor Arun M. Chandran, seconded by Councillor George C. Gray, that Councillors Mrs. S. Haigh be nominated for attendance.

It was further proposed by Councillor Mrs. V. Raw, seconded by Councillor Derek Atkinson, that Councillor Mrs. V. Raw be nominated for attendance.

A vote took place and resulted as follows:-

For Councillor Jed Hillary	11
For Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh	5
For Councillor Mrs. V. Raw	5

**RESOLVED** - That Councillor Jed Hillary and Partner be the nominees from this Council to be entered into the draw for tickets to the Royal Garden Party in 2018.

82. **LAND PURCHASE – 96 STAINFORTH CLOSE**

**Councillors Eddy Adam, J.D. Clare, Jed Hillary and Kate Hopper declared their interest in this item as members of Durham County Council. They would, however, be staying in the meeting during the discussion thereon.**

Durham County Council had submitted information in respect of an application to purchase a piece of land adjacent to 96 Stainforth Close, Newton Aycliffe to be used as garden land.

**RESOLVED** – that no objections be made to the application.

83. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

Verbal reports were given by representatives on the undermentioned Outside Bodies:-

- (a) Youth Council  
Councillor D. Atkinson gave an update on the Youth Council held on the 11<sup>th</sup> December.
- (b) County Durham Association of Local Councils  
No meeting.
- (c) Aycliffe Village Community Association  
No report.
- (d) Woodham Village Community Association  
Councillor K. Henderson gave members an update on the Association.
- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Council's Committee  
There had been no meetings.
- (f) Larger Local Councils' Forum  
The Town Clerk had attended the meeting with Councillor Iveson.

- (g) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society  
Councillor I. Gray gave an update on activities to date.
- (h) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve  
Councillor I. Gray updated on the activities of the group.
- (i) Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway  
In the absence of Councillor Dave Hardaker, Councillor J.D. Clare, gave members an update on the meeting Dave had attended.

**RESOLVED** – that the information be received.

84. **CLOSURE OF BANK BRANCHES IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE**

Following the importance of information which had been received the Chairman gave permission for the following to be discussed.

Information had been received from the Nat West Bank and Santander regarding their branches closing in Newton Aycliffe town centre with effect from June 2018.

Members wished to express their disappointment at the closure of two banks located in Newton Aycliffe. It was particularly pointed out the effect this would have on elderly people obtaining banking facilities.

**RESOLVED** – that the Town Clerk write to the two banks expressing the Council's concerns at the closures.

**CHAIRMAN.**