

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2012** at **7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton (Chairman) and**  
Councillors S. Bambridge, W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, T.R. Bowman, J.D. Clare, V. Crosby, W. Curtis, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, P. Gittins, G.C. Gray, G.R. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. I. Hewitson, Mrs. K. Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, Mrs. V.M. Raw and A. Warburton.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mr. P. Thompson (Chair of Durham Police Authority)  
Mr. M. Barton (Deputy Chief Constable, Durham Constabulary)  
Mr. I. McDonald (Chief Superintendent, Durham Constabulary)  
Mr. G. Ridley (Assistant Chief Officer, Durham Constabulary)

**OFFICIALS**                Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)  
Mrs. C. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)  
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Thompson, Mr. Barton, Mr. McDonald and Mr. Ridley back to the Council meeting to give an update from their previous visit in July 2012.

115.    **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

116.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs. B.A. Clare.

117.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Declarations of Personal Interest were submitted by Councillors Mrs. D. Bowman, P. Gittins, Mrs. J. Gray, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Mrs. E.M. Paylor on Agenda Item Nos. 9 (Library Strategy consultation) and 10 (Woodham Community Technology College) as they are Durham County Council Members. They would, however, be remaining in the meeting during the discussion thereon.**

**A declaration of Personal Interest was submitted by Councillor M. Iveson on Agenda item No. 10 (Woodham Community Technology College) as he is a member on the Board at that College. He would be leaving the meeting during the discussion thereon.**

118.    **DURHAM POLICE AUTHORITY**

The representatives from the Durham Policy Authority and Durham Constabulary had returned to the meeting to give an update from their previous attendance on Policing in Newton Aycliffe.

They circulated a copy of the questionnaire which had sought a response to the temporary Police Station. The decision for the re-location of the Police Station had still not been finalised.

Information was given on Policing and Management and touched briefly on the appointment of Crime Commissioners and they would be prepared to attend a future meeting to outline the introduction of the Commissioners.

Crime figures and statistics were reported for the Aycliffe Area.

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the Officers be thanked for their attendance and for giving an update on policing and crime statistics in Newton Aycliffe.
- (ii) That the Officers be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council to further discuss policing issues.

119. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor V. Crosby and

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting of the Council held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

120. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments she had attended for the period 26<sup>th</sup> January to the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

The Mayor give special mention to the success of the Junior Cross Country Competition she had attended at the Sports Complex.

The Town Clerk had brought the plaque for members to view prior to it being erected on the stone at Jubilee Wood

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

121. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

122. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Crosby, seconded by Councillor B. Hall and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 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 V. Crosby and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 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 J.D. Clare and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

123. **LIBRARY STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

**Declarations of Personal Interest were submitted by Councillors Mrs. D. Bowman, P. Gittins, Mrs. J. Gray, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Mrs. E.M. Paylor as they are Durham County Council Members. They would, however, be remaining in the meeting during the discussion thereon.**

Information had been circulated on a consultation on proposed changes to the library service. The proposed changes showed that Newton Aycliffe library would remain open although on reduced opening hours.

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

124. **WOODHAM COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE**

**Declarations of Personal Interest were submitted by Councillors Mrs. D. Bowman, P. Gittins, Mrs. J. Gray, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Mrs. E.M. Paylor as they are Durham County Council Members. They would, however, be remaining in the meeting during the discussion thereon.**

**A declaration of Personal Interest was submitted by Councillor M. Iveson on Agenda item No. 10 (Woodham Community Technology College) as he is a member on the Board at that College. Councillor Iveson left the meeting during the discussion of this item.**

The governing body of the above College had submitted an information document seeking comments on whether Woodham Community Technology College should become an Academy.

**RESOLVED** – that this Council would wish to leave any decision to the Parents and Governors of the College.

125. **NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY**

The Town Clerk had submitted previously submitted information in connection with a Casual Vacancy in the Shafto / St. Mary's Ward. A copy of the timetable of proceedings for the vacancy was submitted and it was pointed out that nominations needed to be submitted to the Returning Officer at Durham County Council by Noon on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

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

126. **AUDIT PLAN 2011 / 2012**

The Audit Commission had submitted the 2011/2012 Audit Plan for members consideration.

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

127. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

- (a) Youth Council  
Councillor V. Crosby gave an update on the Youth Council and grants which had been allocated.
- (b) County Durham Association of Local Councils (AGM)  
No Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Citizens Advice Bureau  
Meeting to be held next week.
- (d) Woodham Village Community Association  
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray gave an update on the Association.
- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge A.A.P. Local Council's Committee  
The Town Clerk gave an update on the recent meeting with Middridge T.C.
- (f) Durham Countryside Volunteers  
Councillor I. Gray gave an update on this Group.
- (g) Larger Local Councils' Forum  
Councillor R.S. Fleming gave a report from a meeting that took place between members of the County Durham Association of Local Councils Executive, and members of Durham County Council. Councillor Fleming attended in his capacity as Chariman of the Larger Local Councils Forum.

The main issues were the financial cut backs that faced Durham County Council and the resultant reductions in services which may affect Town Councils.

- (h) Lifelong Learning Committee  
Councillor V. Crosby gave an update on the meeting.

- (i) Normandy Veterans' Association  
Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton had attended the last meeting when she was asked if, at a future time, this Council would be prepared to accept the Normandy Veterans' Standard when it was 'laid up' to be displayed in the Council Chamber.

Councillor R.S. Fleming proposed and it was seconded by Councillor Mrs. V.M. Raw that this Council responds to the Normandy Veterans that at the appropriate time this Council will be delighted to accept their Standard.

- (j) Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre  
Councillor Mrs. K. Hopper gave an update on the Youth Centre meeting and would deposit a full report at the Council Offices when it was available.

- (k) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society  
Councillor B. Haigh gave members an update.

- (l) 'The Cubby'  
Councillor R.S. Fleming had attended the last meeting and gave information on the need for the issue of the 'Cubby' building being replaced.

- (m) Health and Wellbeing Partnership Network  
There was a vacancy on this Partnership Network following the death of Councillor T. Hogan.

It was proposed that Councillor M. Iveson be appointed as representative to the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Network.

- (n) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve  
Councillor I Gray gave updating information.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the information given from the Representatives serving on Outside Bodies be received.
- (ii) That the Normandy Veterans' Standard be accepted for display in the Council Chamber at the appropriate time.
- (iii) That Councillor M. Iveson be appointed as the Council's representative on the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Network.

**CHAIRMAN.**