

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 13th JUNE 2018** at 7.15 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs. T. Pemberton (Chairman of Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway)

OFFICERS Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs. C.A. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mr D. Austin (Finance Manager)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

20. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

21. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. S. Haigh, M. Iveson and Mrs. S.J. Iveson.

22. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

23. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Arun M. Chandran declared a pecuniary interest under Agenda Item No. 10 (Western Area Regeneration) as he owns property in the area.

24. **STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY**

Mrs. Trish Pemberton, Chairman of the Stockton and Darlington Railway, attended the meeting to give a presentation and update on the significant progress on the preservation of the Stockton and Darlington Railway and the forthcoming bicentenary celebrations.

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

RESOLVED – that Mrs. Pemberton be thanked for her attendance and for the much appreciated update.

25. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

26. **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council on the 16th May 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

27. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments which had been attended by the past Mayor and himself for the period 25th April to 12th June 2018.

RESOLVED – that the information be received.

28. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 16th May 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted subject to the dates on the Appointment of the Vice-Chairman being for the municipal year 2018/19.

(b) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Dave Hardaker, seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 16th May 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(c) **Policy and Resources Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp and

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 16th May 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(d) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 30th May 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(e) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Jed Hillary, seconded by Councillor Dave Hardaker and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 30th May 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(f) **Policy and Resources Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp and

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 6th June 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted subject to the following:-

Minute No. 16 – Pre-School Flooring Replacement

That the quotation from Millenium Carpets be accepted only if the appropriate paperwork had been received in support of their quotation.

Should the paperwork not be forthcoming the quotation from Dobermans in the sum of £5,525 be accepted.

29. **WESTERN AREA REGENERATION**

Councillor Arun M. Chandran had declared a pecuniary interest in this item but would remain in the meeting during any discussion.

Councillor R.S. Fleming had submitted a briefing note following a meeting on the 30th May 2018 with Livin with regard to the West Ward Regeneration.

RESOLVED – that the information contained in the Briefing Note be accepted.

30. **TOWN COUNCIL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2018 - 2019**

A copy of the Service Delivery Plan for 2018 – 2019 had been circulated for members approval.

RESOLVED – that the Town Council Service Delivery Plan 2018 – 2019 be approved.

31. **APPROVAL OF THE 2017 – 2018 ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

The Finance Manager had submitted a report to put forward for approval the Annual Internal Audit Report for the 2017 – 2018 financial year.

RESOLVED – that the Annual Internal Audit Report for the 2017 – 2018 financial year be approved.

32. **APPROVAL OF THE 2017 - 2018 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The Corporate Management Team submitted a report requesting Members' approval for the Annual Governance Statement for the 2017- 2018 financial year.

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the Annual Governance Statement in respect of the 2017 - 2018 financial year, as set out in Section 1 of the 2017 - 2018 Annual return, be approved.
- (ii) That the Annual Governance Statement for the 2017 - 2018 financial year be signed off by the Town Clerk and the Chairman of the Council.

33. **APPROVAL OF THE 2017 - 2018 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**

The Finance Manager submitted a report requesting Members' approval for the Council's Accounting Statements for the 2017 - 2018 financial year, as set out in Section 2 of the 2017 - 2018 Annual Return.

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) The the 2017 - 2018 Accounting Statements set out in Section 2 of the Annual Return be approved.
- (ii) That the supporting financial documents to be submitted to the external auditors with the Annual Return be agreed.
- (iii) That the Annual Return and supporting documents be sent to the external auditor on 14th June, following approval at this meeting.
- (iv) That the 30 day public inspection period in relation to the statement of accounts commences Monday 18th June and runs until Friday 27th July.
- (v) That notice of the publication of the accounts and the public inspection rights and period be advertised in the Newton News and on the Council website on Friday 15th June.
- (vi) That following the completion of the external audit by Mazars LLP, and receipt of the signed audit opinion and certificate, the accounts be published in accordance with the statutory framework, by no later than 30th September 2018.

34. **CDALC – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Nominations were being sought for the undermentioned positions on the Executive Committee of the County Durham Association of Local Councils:-

- President of the Association
- 3 Vice Presidents

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the information be received.
- (ii) That the current post holders be re-affirmed to those positions.

35. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

- (a) Youth Council
Councillor Derek G. Atkinson gave an update on the last meeting of the Youth Council.
- (b) County Durham Association of Local Councils
AGM to be held in October.
- (c) Aycliffe Village Community Association
Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp gave an update on the Community Association.
- (d) Woodham Village Community Association
Councillor K. Henderson update on the Association.
- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Council's Committee
No meeting had been held.
- (f) Larger Local Councils' Forum
The Town Clerk updated on the meeting.
- (g) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society
Councillor I. Gray gave an update.
- (h) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve
Councillor I. Gray gave an update.
- (i) Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway
Councillor D. Hardaker gave a short report as a full presentation had been given earlier in the meeting by the Chairman.

RESOLVED – that the information given from the Representatives serving on the Outside Bodies be received.

CHAIRMAN.