

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025 at 7.00PM.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are summoned to a Meeting of the Council which will be held on **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.00pm** in attendance at the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6QF.

Yours faithfully,

Dan Austin  
Town Clerk.

**AGENDA**

**1. NOTICE OF MEETING**

Public Notice of the Meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12, paragraph 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence.

**3. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

To consider written requests for dispensations from members who have declared interests under Disclosable or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Section 33 of the 2011 Localism Act.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To notify of any items that appear in the agenda in which you may have an interest, including those that have previously been recorded in the Members Register of Interests.

**5. GUEST SPEAKER – STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY**

To receive a presentation from representatives from the Stockton and Darlington Railway Project Team and Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway providing an overview of the Stockton and Darlington Railway 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans including timeline, events, and initiatives and how Great Aycliffe Town Council may be able to get involved in the programme.

*It is requested that Members submit any questions they might have about the Stockton and Darlington Railway 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans to the Town Clerk ahead of the meeting to allow advance notice of these to be provided to the presenters.*

## **6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

To take questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with the appropriate Standing Order. Members of the public are also permitted to make representations, ask questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Questions will not be received by the Council which are in furtherance of a person's individual circumstances, or which are about a matter where there is a right of appeal to the courts, a tribunal or government minister. A question will not be received by the Council where the issue it concerns has been the subject of a decision of the Council in the last six months.

## **7. MINUTES**

... To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

... To receive any announcements by the Mayor and the Town Clerk.

## **9. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

... To confirm for approval and adoption the reports and recommendations of the undermentioned Committees:-

- (a) Recreation Committee – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- (b) Environment Committee – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- (c) Policy and Resources Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

## **10. SETTING OF THE 2025/26 COUNCIL PRECEPT**

... To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

## **11. CLIMATE EMERGENCY – PROGRESS UPDATE**

... To consider the attached report from the Town Clerk.

## **12. STRENGTHENING THE STANDARDS AND CONDUCT FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN ENGLAND**

... To receive the attached Government consultation in relation to the Standards and Conduct Framework for Local Authorities in England and whether the Council or individual councillors wish to make a response to this.

## **13. CONSENT FOR DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL FLOOD MITIGATION WORK ON COUNCIL LAND AT HORNDALE / BURNHILL WAY**

... To consider the attached correspondence from Durham County Council requesting permission to undertake flood mitigation works on Town Council land close to Horndale Infant School and Burnhill Way.

*Officers have some concerns regarding the impact of these works on the Council's land and have requested a site visit with Durham County Council to discuss these. It is recommended that a decision on this issue is deferred until such a time as the concerns have been discussed and reported back to the Council.*

## 14. OUTSIDE BODIES

To receive reports from representatives on the following Outside Bodies:

- a) **County Durham Association of Local Councils**  
Councillors: Ken Robson and Jed Hillary, and the Town Clerk.
- b) **Aycliffe Village Community Association**  
Councillor Carl Robinson.
- c) **Woodham Village Community Association**  
Councillors: Michael Stead and Lindsey Aston.
- d) **Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Councils' Committee**  
Councillors: Peter Bergg, Jed Hillary and the Town Clerk.
- e) **Larger Local Councils' Forum**  
Councillors: Martin Ashcroft and Jed Hillary and the Town Clerk.
- f) **Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society**  
Councillor Ian Gray.
- g) **Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway**  
Councillor Jim Atkinson.
- h) **Western Area Partnership**  
Councillors: Arun Chandran and Ken Robson.
- i) **Cornforth Partnership**  
Councillors: Eddy Adam and Brian McAnaney.
- j) **Community Hub Development Group**  
Councillor Dorothy Bowman.

***Any questions or queries on agenda items or reports should be raised with officers before meetings by telephone or email.***

***Please note that this does not preclude members from asking the question at the meeting if this is important to the debate or decision.***

***Members are requested, during Council Meetings, to observe the Council's Standing Orders relating to the Business and Proceedings of the Council, with particular reference to the Rules of Debate, as well as the Members' Code of Conduct and the principles of Civility and Respect Pledge.***