

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015** at **7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton (Chairman)** and  
Councillors E. Adam, M. Ashcroft, D.G. Atkinson, J. Atkinson, P. Bergg, W.M. Blenkinsopp, A.M. Chandran, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, N. Collinson, M.A. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Mrs. I. Hewitson, J.P. Hillary, Mrs. W.P. Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson and Mrs. V.M. Raw.

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

56.    **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

57.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. B.A. Clare, P. Kjenstad and C. Wheeler.

58.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

59.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest given.

60.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

61.    **DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

To receive information that Declarations of Acceptance of Office had been completed by Councillor M. Ashcroft and Councillor P. Bergg who had been recently elected on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July and 27<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

**RESOLVED** – that the Declarations of Acceptance of Office in respect of Councillors M. Ashcroft and P.J. Bergg be received.

62.    **ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER**

The Finance Manager had received the Annual Audit Letter for the 2014/15 Audit of the Councils Accounts.

**RESOLVED** – that the information in the Final Audit Letter be received.

63. **MINUTES**

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

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

64. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (a) The Mayor submitted a list of appointments she had attended during the period 16 July to 16 September 2015 and spoke on the many events she had attended. Outlining the Fun in the Parks, Opening of Hitachi, the Service of Dedication to Private Edward Henry Pratt, her Charity Golf Day and the Annual Civic Service.
- (b) The Town Clerk asked members to consider the information which had been circulated for attendance at a training course on Code of Conduct and Standards to be held in County Hall on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

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

65. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor A.M. Chandran, seconded by Councillor J. Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 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 J. Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 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. Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

66. **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS**

Information has been received in connection with the Annual Conference for the National Association of Councillors which is to be held in Blackpool from the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

**RESOLVED** – that no attendance be made at the Conference.

67. **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

Information has been received in connection with the Larger Local Councils Conference entitled “Communities Can” which will be held on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 in London.

**RESOLVED** – that a decision on whether it is necessary to attend this Conference be deferred until the next meeting of the Council on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

68. **SCN – ELECTION TO LARGER COUNCILS’ COMMITTEE**

The Town Clerk had submitted information on the three nominees who were standing for the seat on the Super Councils Network Committee.

The Council had been asked to cast its vote for one of the three delegates prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015.

**RESOLVED** – that no nomination be made for any of the three delegates.

69. **DELEGATED POWERS**

Following a meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee held on the 28 August 2015 an application for delegated powers to be given to the Personnel Sub-Committee to deal with recruitment and appointment in reference to the post of Works Manager.

**RESOLVED** – that delegated powers be authorised to the Personnel Sub-Committee to deal with the recruitment and appointment to the post of Works Manager.

70. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

Following the recent by-elections which had taken place and resulted in Councillor M. Ashcroft and Councillor P. Bergg being elected, members were asked to consider appointing to the following vacant positions on Committees:-

- (a) Environment Committee - currently 1 vacancy
- (b) Recreation Committee - currently 1 vacancy
- (c) Policy and Resources Committee - currently 1 vacancy
- (d) To consider amending the current membership of the Policy and Resources Committee which is currently 24 plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (26 in total).

**RESOLVED** – that the following appointments be made:-

- (i) Environment Committee – Councillor P.J. Bergg be appointed.
- (ii) Recreation Committee - Councillor M. Ashcroft be appointed.
- (iii) Policy and Resources Committee – Councillor M. Ashcroft be appointed.
- (iv) That the membership of the Policy and Resources Committee be amended to 25 plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (27 members in total)
- (v) That Councillor P. Bergg be appointed to the Policy and Resources Committee making the total membership 27.

71. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

- (a) Youth Council  
There had been no meetings.
- (b) County Durham Association of Local Councils  
No Report – Only attendance at AGM
- (c) Aycliffe Village Community Association  
Apologies had been given.
- (d) Woodham Village Community Association  
No report.
- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Councils' Committee  
No Meeting.

- (f) Larger Local Councils' Forum  
No meeting – will be held shortly.
- (g) Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre  
No report.
- (h) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society  
Councillor I Gray gave an update.
- (i) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve  
Councillor I Gray gave an update.
- (j) Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway  
No report.
- (k) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group  
No meeting, however, a copy of the report had been circulated.

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

**CHAIRMAN.**