

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER 2013** at **7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor Mrs. B. A. Clare (Chairman) and**
Councillors E. Adam, D. G. Atkinson, J. Atkinson, B. Blenkinsopp,
T. R. Bowman, A. M. Chandran, J. D. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M.
Dalton, M. A. Dalton G. C. Gray, I. Gray, K. Henderson, J. P.
Hillary, Mrs. W. P. Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S. J. Iveson, W. Iveson
P. Kjenstad and Mrs V Raw.

IN ATTENDANCE Ms Joanne Scott, Development Worker with Healthwatch, County Durham

OFFICIALS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs. C. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mrs. M. J. Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)

64. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

65. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors N. Collinson, R.S. Fleming, B. Hall, Mrs. A. Palmer, D. Summers and C. Wheeler.

66. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

67. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest given.

68. **HEALTHWATCH COUNTY DURHAM**

Ms Joanne Scott, Development Worker with Healthwatch, County Durham attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the organisation which was set up in April 2013 as a new consumer champion for health and social care.

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That Ms Scott be thanked for her attendance to give the presentation on Healthwatch County Durham.
- (ii) That the information from the presentation be received.

69. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 17th July 2013 and the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 29th August 2013 be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

70. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments she had attended for the period 18th July to the 18th September 2013.

The Mayor gave information on the various events she had attended with special mention of the Aycliffe Young Talent Project at Newton Aycliffe Working Mens' Club which she enjoyed very much.

The Mayor also gave information about the Charity Golf Day which had been a huge success and said that everyone had had a wonderful time.

Thanks were given to the Deputy Mayor for deputising for the Mayor while she was on holiday.

RESOLVED – that the information be received.

71. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions raised by the Public.

72. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor M. Dalton and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 4th September 2013 be received subject to the following amendment:-

Item 36(2)f - Planning Application – that it be noted that No. 1 St. Andrews Court, Aycliffe Village be amended to “1 St. Andrews Court, Newton Aycliffe”.

- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(b) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor J. P. Hillary

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 4th September 2013 be received, and

- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(c) **Policy and Resources Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs M. Dalton, seconded by Councillor Mrs. V. M. Raw and

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 11th September 2013 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

73. **ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER**

The annual audit letter from Mazars had been received and circulated for members information.

RESOLVED - that the letter be received.

74. **LARGER LOCAL COUNCILS - CONFERENCE**

Members considered whether the Council should send a representative to attend the Larger Local Councils' Conference to be held in London on the 27th November.

RESOLVED – that no representative attend.

75. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following Notice of Motion had been received from Councillors E.M. Adam and A.M. Chandran requesting a change to the Parish Boundaries of Great Aycliffe and Eldon Whins:-

“That this Council instructs the Town Clerk to:

1. Write to Middridge Parish Council and invite them to take part in an informal discussion related to the area known as Eldon Whins with a view to a mutually agreed transfer of land and change of its boundary to the Parish of Great Aycliffe. (see map 1a)
2. Investigate a further change to the boundary of Great Aycliffe Parish in relation to the Southern half of the Parish Boundary (School Aycliffe and the Industrial Estate).
3. Inform Durham County Council and Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Partnership (GAMP) of our intention to pursue these changes through consensus therefore, subject to the outcome of our investigations and discussions we will make an application for a Community Governance Review of the Great Aycliffe Parish Boundary.
4. Convene the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Councils committee to facilitate both of these reviews and, that it reports back on its findings to the Full Council during its normal cycle of meetings.

Councillor E. Adam spoke on the motion explaining the reasons for its submission and the benefits to the Parish of Great Aycliffe if it were successful.

Councillor J.D. Clare proposed two amendments to the motion:-

- (i) 'To replace in clause 1 the words '(see map 1a)' with the words '(as indicated by the yellow line on map 1a)
- (ii) To reword clause 4 to read: 'Convene the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Councils Committee to discuss the transfer of Eldon Whins and report back on its findings to Full Council.'

The amendment was seconded by Councillor W. M. Blenkinsopp.

After discussion and consideration of the motion, voting took place and resulted as follows:

For the amendments – unanimous

The amendment now became the substantive motion and voting took place:

For the substantive motion – unanimous

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk:-

- (i) Writes to Middridge Parish Council and invite them to take part in an informal discussion related to the area known as Eldon Whins with a view to a mutually agreed transfer of land and change of its boundary to the Parish of Great Aycliffe. (*as indicated by the yellow line on map 1a*)
- (ii) Investigates a further change to the boundary of Great Aycliffe Parish in relation to the Southern half of the Parish Boundary (School Aycliffe and the Industrial Estate).
- (iii) informs Durham County Council and Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Partnership (GAMP) of our intention to pursue these changes through consensus therefore, subject to the outcome of our investigations and discussions we will make an application for a Community Governance Review of the Great Aycliffe Parish Boundary.
- (iv) Convene the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Councils Committee to discuss the transfer of Eldon Whins and report back on its findings to Full Council.

76. **CIVIC DIGNITARY LIST**

The Town Clerk submitted a report at the request of Councillor J.D. Clare, which asked members to consider changing the Civic Dignitary list by adding further councils.

Councillor J.D. Clare proposed that a decision on the matter be deferred until the Council's AGM but in the meantime the current Mayor be permitted to invite the Parish Councils of Heighington, Middridge, Morden, and Eldon to Council events on an informal basis. The proposal was seconded by Councillor A.M. Chandran.

After discussion a vote took place which resulted as follows:

For the Proposal	19 votes
Against	1 vote

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That a decision on the matter be deferred to the Council's AGM.
- (ii) That the present Mayor be permitted to invite the Parish Councils of Heighington, Middridge, Morden and Eldon to Council events on an informal basis within the current budget.

77. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

(a) Youth Council

Councillor J. D. Clare informed members that the Youth council would be holding elections. Next meeting 22nd October 2013.

(b) County Durham Association of Local Councils (AGM)

The Town Clerk advised that the AGM was due in one month.

(c) Citizens Advice Bureau

No representative.

(d) Woodham Village Community Association

Councillor Henderson reported that the refurbishment of the Centre is now complete. An open day will be held in October.

(e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge A.A.P. Local Council's Committee

Meeting called for two weeks time.

(f) Larger Local Councils' Forum

No meeting.

(g) Lifelong Learning Committee

No meeting.

(h) Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre

No report.

(i) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society

Councillor I Gray reported that a successful event had been held at the Locomotion in Shildon with 700 people attending to view over 20 vehicles on show.

(j) Health and Wellbeing Partnership Network

No report.

(k) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve

Councillor I Gray reported that a working party met on 7th September and used tools provided by GAMP.

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

CHAIRMAN.