

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 7th DECEMBER 2016** at **7.15 p.m.**

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

IN ATTENDANCE Mr. D. Priestley (Head Teacher – Greenfield Community College)
11 Students from Greenfield Community College
PCSO Neil Stonehouse (Community Cohesion Officer – Wear and Tees Durham Constabulary)
PCSO Faye Callan – (Community Liaison Officer- Spennymoor Police Office)

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

80. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

81. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. S. Haigh, Mrs. V.M. Raw and C. Wheeler.

82. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

83. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There had been no declarations of interest submitted.

84. **GREENFIELD SCHOOL – STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS PRESENTATION**

Students from Greenfield Community College were in attendance to give a presentation on the Thiepval Commemoration for the Somme which they had put together and carried out earlier this year.

RESOLVED – that the students from Greenfield be congratulated on their excellent work and on their confidence and clarity in carrying out the presentation.

85. **PRESENTATION ON 'HATE CRIME'**

PCSO Neil Stonehouse and PCSO Faye Callan were in attendance to give a presentation to Members on 'Hate Crime' and to answer any of their questions.

RESOLVED - that the two Officers be congratulated on their informative presentation and thanked for their attendance.

86. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

87. **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 26th October 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

88. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments he had attended for the period 26th October 2016 to 6th December 2016.

He gave special mention to the Firework Display, Remembrance Day and the Golf Presentation Award which had been received from 'Get into Golf'. The Mayor had also attended the PCP Craft Fayre where an amount of £165 had been raised for his charity.

Thanks were given to the Deputy Mayor, Michael Dalton, for his attendance at Greenfield Community College and the Firework Poster Competition Presentations.

RESOLVED – that the information be received.

89. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 23rd November 2016 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted subject to the amendment of the Chairman to read Councillor I. Gray and not Councillor A.M. Chandran.

(b) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor B. Hall, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 23rd November 2016 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(c) **Policy and Resources Committee**

The Town Clerk advised that the transfer of land to the Council and sale of land to Chapter Homes will proceed “subject to contract” and due diligence by the Council’s Legal Advisors.

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

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 30th November 2016 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.
- (iii) That information provided by the Town Clerk be noted.

90. **ADOPTION CONSIDERATION**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report following information being received from County Durham Association of Local Councils that, at their Annual General Meeting, they had adopted the following motion concerning the acceptance of diversity.

‘We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, gender prejudice, xenophobia, homophobia, religious intolerance and hate crimes have no place in our county. The County Durham Association of Local Councils condemns all such intolerance and hate crimes unequivocally.

We will not allow hate to become acceptable and will work with the Police and Crime Commissioners and others to fight prejudice and hate crimes. We reassure all people living in the area that they are valued members of our communities.’

CDALC were now requesting member Councils to consider also adopting the motion.

It was proposed by Councillor P. Bergg and seconded by Councillor M. Iveson that this Council adopts the motion with the appropriate amendments.

A named vote was requested which resulted in a unanimous vote for the adoption of the motion.

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the following motion be adopted by this Council:-

‘We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, gender prejudice, xenophobia, homophobia, religious intolerance and hate crimes have no place in our county. Great Aycliffe Town Council condemns all such intolerance and hate crimes unequivocally.

We will not allow hate to become acceptable and will work with the Police and Crime Commissioners and others to fight prejudice and hate crimes. We reassure all people living in the area that they are valued members of our communities.'

91. **NALC – LARGER LOCAL COUNCILS – ‘GOOD PRACTICE’ VISIT**

The Town Clerk asked members to consider the provision of hospitality being afforded for the above event which would be co-hosted with Shildon Town Council.

Arrangements were still ongoing, however, the hospitality being sought was in respect of a buffet.

RESOLVED – that the provision of hospitality for the ‘Good Practice’ visit by members of NALC – Larger Local Councils be agreed in respect of a buffet.

92. **ROYAL GARDEN PARTY**

Information had been received from CDALC seeking nominations from this Council for inclusion in a draw for the 4 places allocated to attend at a Royal Garden Party scheduled to be held in 2017.

One of the criteria for attendance was that the invitations are in recognition of past service and it is therefore appropriate that outgoing members, rather than those newly elected should be considered.

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor M. Iveson that the following nominees be submitted to CDALC to be entered into the draw for tickets to the Royal Garden Party in 2017.

Councillor Jed Hillary and Partner (as a Past Mayor)

RESOLVED – as follows:

That Councillor Jed Hillary and Partner be the nominees from this Council to be entered into the draw for tickets to the Royal Garden Party.

93. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

- (a) Youth Council
Councillor D. Atkinson gave an update on the Youth Council.
- (b) County Durham Association of Local Councils
There was no report.
- (c) Aycliffe Village Community Association
No report.
- (d) Woodham Village Community Association
No report next meeting Tuesday, 13th December.

- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Council's Committee
Councillor R.S. Fleming gave an update on the meeting earlier today.
- (f) Larger Local Councils' Forum
Councillor M. Iveson gave an update.
- (g) Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre
Councillor J. Clare gave an update from the meeting.
- (h) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society
Councillor I. Gray reported on activities from the Society.
- (i) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve
Councillor I. Gray gave an update from the Group.
- (j) Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway
Councillor J. Atkinson gave an update from the last meeting minutes.
- (k) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Councillor B. Hall gave an update.
- (l) Crime and Community Safety Task Group
Councillor M. Ashcroft gave an update on the Group's meeting.

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

CHAIRMAN.