

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018** at 7.15 p.m.

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor J. Clark (Chairman)** and  
Councillors Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Jed Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs V. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

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

36.    **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

37.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, Dave Hardaker, Mrs. I. Hewitson, Wendy Hillary and Kate Hopper.

38.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

39.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest had been submitted.

40.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

41.    **MINUTES**

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

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

42.    **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments which he had attended for the period 13<sup>th</sup> June to the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018. He made special reference to the 10k run and the excellent organisation of this event.

The Mayor reminded Councillors that the 'Mayoress At Home' would be held on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors of the G.D.P.R. Training which had been arranged for Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018.

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

43. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

(a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor Jim Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(b) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Jed Hillary, seconded by Councillor Jim Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 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 M. Iveson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

44. **APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT SURVEYORS – OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX**

The Town Clerk submitted a report to seek approval for the retention of a Building Surveyor to undertake a full building survey of the Oakleaf Sports Complex.

Councillors were informed that should the survey costs exceed £5,000 quotations would need to be sought and reported back to Council.

The Town Clerk reported that it would also be beneficial, whilst the survey was being undertaken, if consideration was made as to ways to allow vehicles to gain access to the sports hall.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That Consultant Surveyors be authorised to undertake the Building Condition Survey.
- (iii) That should the cost exceed £5,000 quotations be sought from suitable companies to undertake the work.
- (iv) That the Consultant Surveyors take into consideration ways to allow vehicles to gain access to the sports hall.

45. **COUNTY DURHAM PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION**

A copy of the draft response, following consideration by the Planning Sub-Committee, had been circulated for Councillors to make any final changes or additions to the Plan.

**RESOLVED** – that the suggested responses as set out in Document (b) be agreed and forwarded to Durham County Council.

46. **NALC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018**

Information had been submitted in respect of the Annual Conference of NALC to be held in Milton Keynes on the 30 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 and to seek Councillors views on attendance by this Authority.

**RESOLVED** – that the Conference be attended by the Town Clerk and the Deputy Leader of the Council.

47. **MERCHANT NAVY DAY – 3 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Information was submitted from Seafarers UK seeking the Council to consider flying a Red Ensign flag on Merchant Navy Day, Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That two Red Ensign flags be purchased to fly on the flagpoles at St. Clare's Church and the Council Offices.
- (ii) That the Mayor be authorised to raise the flag for publicity purposes.
- (iii) That the event be advertised for members of the public to attend.

48. **BATTLE'S OVER – A NATION'S TRIBUTE – 11 NOVEMBER 2018**

The Town Clerk submitted a report following receipt of a request from the Pageantmaster to take part in a National Tribute Event to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The event would be in the form of a Lone Piper to play "Battles Over – Sleep in Peace now the battles over" at 6 a.m. and then followed at 6.55 p.m. with a buglar playing the 'Last Post', a beacon being lit and at 7.05 p.m. the Church bells to ring out as a celebration of the end of the Great War.

It was pointed out that the Council's original Beacon situated at School Aycliffe was no longer viable in its current position and would not be available to use.

A lengthy discussion took place and resulted as follows:-

The following proposal was made by Councillor Arun M. Chandran and seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp:-

"That the report be received with no further action being taken and that the existing beacon be removed to a more suitable site for the future".

The following amendment was submitted by Councillor Mrs. V.M. Raw and seconded by Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson:-

"That the suggested events be organised with the exception of the 6 a.m. Lone Piper".

Voting took place and resulted with amendment being lost.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That no further action be taken.
- (iii) That the existing Beacon at School Aycliffe be removed to a more suitable site for its use.

#### 49. **CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report to advise the Council that two Code of Conduct complaints had been made against a member of the Council. The outcome of the complaints was that no further action was required in either complaint.

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

#### 50. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

- (a) Youth Council  
Councillor Jim Atkinson gave an update on the Youth Council and wished to record his and Councillor Derek Atkinson's thanks and appreciation to the Junior Members for their input and support.
- (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  
No report.
- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Council's Committee  
Meeting in the process of being organised as soon as possible.
- (f) Larger Local Councils' Forum  
The next meeting would be on the 26<sup>th</sup> July.
- (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  
No report.

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

**CHAIRMAN.**