

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2018** at 7.15 p.m.

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor J. Clark (Chairman)** and  
Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I. Gray, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs V. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

**OFFICERS**                Mr D. Austin (Finance Manager)  
Mr. S. Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)  
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin Officer)

### **OBITUARY**

The Chairman announced that Syd Howarth, founder of the Newton Press, had sadly died and he asked that a minutes silence be observed in his memory.

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft , that the Chairman of the Council be authorised to send an official letter of condolence to Syd's family on behalf of this Authority.

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT**

The Chairman pointed out that following the meeting presentations would take place to the winners of the three categories of the Community Enhancement Competition. A buffet would be available at the conclusion of the presentation.

#### 62.    **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

#### 63.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P.J. Bergg, Mrs. S. Haigh, K. Henderson, Mrs. I. Hewitson and M. Iveson.

#### 64.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

#### 65.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest had been submitted.

#### 66.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

67. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Councillor Kathy Beetham had submitted the following Notice of Motion which was seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary:-

“That the Council purchases two LGBT+ Rainbow Flags to fly the flags in the Council’s two locations, annually, on the days of the Durham Pride March (Next one being 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019) in support of the LGBT+ community, to promote inclusivity. The cost to the Council should be minimal as preliminary research would indicate the price of two large flags should be no more than £50 .”

Lengthy discussions took place from numerous Councillors which resulted in a vote being sought on the Motion.

Councillor Arun M. Chandran asked for a named vote, which was seconded by Councillor Ken Robson and resulted as follows:-

For the Motion:-

Councillors Derek Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary and Wendy Hillary.

Against the Motion:-

Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, B. Hall, Kate Hopper, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

Councillor J. Clark (Chairman) abstained.

**RESOLVED** - That the Notice of Motion was defeated

68. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming and seconded by Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson and

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Council, held on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

69. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor submitted a list of appointments which he had attended for the period 19<sup>th</sup> September to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

He gave particular recognition to the Royal Visit which had taken place at the UTC South Durham which is a credit to the town.

A statement on the proceedings of the meeting of the Events Sub-Committee held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in connection with the Santa Tours was given on behalf of the Town Clerk.

## **Christmas Santa Tours**

*The Events Sub-Committee met on Monday 29 October to consider new proposals following assistance from the Chief Constable of Durham Police.*

*As Santa will be allowed to be carried on the rear of vehicles at walking speed, there is no reason to change the format of the tours to designated stops.*

*However, it is anticipated that tours of each route will take longer and therefore it has been agreed that further vehicles and volunteers are sought to take the time pressure off each route.*

*Additional equipment and materials have been sought and purchased to dress more vehicles.*

*Currently we have had offers of 12 vehicles. This is very important as the tours rely on the loan of vehicles for the Santa Tours. To clarify, the Council only has two suitable vehicles. A number of additional people have come forward to volunteer to help on Christmas Eve with the Tours, which we are grateful for.*

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

## 70. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### (a) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor I. Gray, seconded by Councillor Jim Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

### (b) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Arun Chandran, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted subject to the following:-

#### **Recreation Minute No. 52**

That it was proposed by Councillor Arun M. Chandran and seconded by Councillor M. Iveson.

That minute No. 29(ii) – (Events Sub-Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018) :-

*‘That it be recommended that the Santa Tours in its present format be replaced with vehicles stopping in strategic locations throughout the parish for the public to come to visit Santa’.*

Be referred back to the next meeting of the Events Sub-Committee for further consideration.

(c) **Policy and Resources Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Dave Hardaker, seconded by Councillor Jim Atkinson and

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

71. **NALC LARGER COUNCILS COMMITTEE**

Information had been circulated from the National Association of Local Councils seeking this Council to vote for up to 4 candidates to serve on the Larger Councils Committee.

Members agreed to vote for three of the five nominated candidates.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That this Council vote for three candidates.
- (ii) That the following candidates be nominated by the Council for election:-

David Fleming – Bishop Auckland Town Council  
Peter Quinn - Shilton Town Council  
Isabel Roberts - Hordon Parish Council

72. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

- (a) Youth Council  
Councillor Derek G. Atkinson reported on the previous meeting with the date of the next meeting being the 12<sup>th</sup> November.
- (b) County Durham Association of Local Councils  
Councillor R.S. Fleming gave information on the AGM which had a disappointing turnout of members.

- (c) Aycliffe Village Community Association  
No report.
- (d) Woodham Village Community Association  
No report.
- (e) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Council's Committee  
Meeting to be held in the next 2 weeks.
- (f) Larger Local Councils' Forum  
No meeting.
- (g) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society  
Councillor I. Gray gave an update report.
- (h) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve  
Councillor I. Gray gave an update report.
- (i) Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway  
Councillor Dave Hardaker gave a detailed update report.

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

**CHAIRMAN.**