

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2019 – 7.15 p.m.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on Wednesday, 18th September 2019 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton (Chairman) and
Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Bill Blenkinsopp, Arun M. Chandran, George C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Mrs. I. Hewitson, Jed Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs V. Raw, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

OFFICERS

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

54. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

55. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Mrs. D. Bowman, J. Clark, R.S. Fleming, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper and Ken Robson.

56. MEMBERS' DISPENSATION

No dispensation requests had been received.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There had been no Declarations of Interest submitted.

58. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions from the public.

59. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor Dave Hardaker and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 24th July 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

60. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had submitted a list of appointments she had attended for the period 24th July to the 17th September 2019.

Councillor Mrs. Dalton particularly mentioned the visit she had made to a resident of the Town who had recently received the Arctic Star Medal for his services during WW2.

The Town Clerk informed members of the forthcoming road works to be carried out on School Aycliffe Lane and how this would affect this Council.

RESOLVED – that the information be received.

61. COMMITTEE MINUTES

(a) Environment Committee

It was proposed by Councillor M. Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor M. Iveson and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 4th September 2019 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 Jed Hillary and

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on the 4th September 2019 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

(c) Policy and Resources Committee

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor Dave Hardaker and

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 11th September 2019 be received, and
- (ii) That the said minutes be approved and adopted.

62. CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The Town Clerk submitted a report to advise and update members in regard to progress in relation to the motion to Council on the 12th June 2019 – ‘that this Council instructs its Officers to conduct a review and return to this Council with a report and recommendations which will enable this Council to’:-

1. Declare a ‘Climate Emergency’.
2. Adopt targets and actions which will make significant progress towards making Great Aycliffe Town Council carbon neutral within an ambitious timeframe.

Following a lengthy discussion on the possibilities of complying with Climate Change it was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor Jim Atkinson that:-

- (i) That this Council agrees to the declaration of a Climate Emergency.
- (ii) That the Council agrees to work towards making this Council carbon neutral by 2030.
- (iii) That the Council seeks appropriate professional support to assist the Council in establishing its carbon footprint and the development of an Action Plan together with detailed delivery plans to enable the Council to become carbon neutral.

Councillor Arun M. Chandran wished to have it recorded in these Minutes that he did not agree to Item 13.1 (ii) of the report for the Council to agree to a declaration of a Climate Emergency.

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That this Council agrees to the declaration of a Climate Emergency.
- (iii) That the Council agrees to work towards making this Council carbon neutral by 2030.
- (iv) That the Council agrees to work towards making this Council carbon zero by 2050.
- (v) That the Council seeks appropriate professional support to assist the Council in restablishing its carbon footprint and the development of an Action Plan together with detailed delivery plan to enable the Council to become carbon neutral.

63. CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

Correspondence had been received from the ‘Friends of the Earth’ seeking this Council to help with the setting up of a Climate Action Group in Great Aycliffe.

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the information be received.

- (ii) That the setting up of a Climate Action Group is not a function that this Council could undertake.
- (iii) That this Council does recognise that individual Councillors or members of the public may wish to organise the setting up of a group.

64. WESTERN – HAVE GO FUND

Information had been received from 'Livin' who were to set up a Grants Panel for the West Ward. This was being created through the Lottery for the West Ward for a 2 year period. 'Livin' were seeking this Council to put forward a representative and a reserve representative to serve on the Panel.

It was proposed that Councillor M. Ashcroft be nominated as the representative and Councillor G.C. Gray be appointed as the reserve.

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That Councillor M. Ashcroft be appointed as the Representative from this Council to serve on the 'Grants Panel'.
- (ii) That Councillor George C. Gray be appointed as the Reserve Representative from the council to serve on the 'Grants Panel' in the absence of Councillor Ashcroft.

65. OUTSIDE BODIES

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

- (a) **Youth Council**
There had not been a meeting.
- (b) **County Durham Association of Local Councils**
AGM to be held in October each year.
- (c) **Aycliffe Village Community Association**
There was no report
- (d) **Woodham Village Community Association**
There was no report.
- (e) **Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Council's Committee**
No meeting held.
- (f) **Larger Local Councils' Forum**
Further meeting to be called shortly.
- (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**
Councillor Dave Hardaker had been unable to attend the AGM and was awaiting the notes.
- (j) GAMP – Community Safety Task Group**
Next meeting to be held on Tuesday.

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

CHAIRMAN.