

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026 at 7.00PM.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are summoned to a Meeting of the Council which will be held on **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7.00pm** in attendance at the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6QF.

Yours faithfully,

**Dan Austin**  
**Town Clerk**

**AGENDA**

**1. NOTICE OF MEETING**

Public Notice of the Meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12, paragraph 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence.

**3. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

To consider written requests for dispensations from members who have declared interests under Disclosable or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Section 33 of the 2011 Localism Act.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To notify of any items that appear in the agenda in which you may have an interest, including those that have previously been recorded in the Members Register of Interests.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

To take questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with the appropriate Standing Order. Members of the public are also permitted to make representations, ask questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Questions will not be received by the Council which are in furtherance of a person's individual circumstances, or which are about a matter where there is a right of appeal to the courts, a tribunal or government minister. A question will not be received by the Council where the issue it concerns has been the subject of a decision of the Council in the last six months.

## **6. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

... To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

## **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

... To receive any announcements by the Mayor and the Town Clerk.

## **8. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

... To confirm for approval and adoption the reports and recommendations of the undermentioned Committees:-

- (a) Recreation Committee (AGM) – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- (b) Environment Committee (AGM) – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- (c) Policy and Resources Committee (AGM) – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- (d) Recreation Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- (e) Environment Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- (f) Policy and Resources Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

## **9. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR TO WOODHAM WARD VACANCY – CANDIDATE STATEMENTS**

Each candidate will be given five minutes to introduce themselves to members, give information on their background and experience, and explain why they wish to become a member of the Council:

*Mr. Stephen Smith*  
*Mrs. Vijaya Laxmi Kotur*  
*Mr. John Clark*

After these presentations, there will be an opportunity for members to ask candidates questions

## **10. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR TO WOODHAM WARD VACANCY**

... To receive and consider the attached co-option application forms for the office of Town Councillor, and covering report from the Town Clerk, and to co-opt a candidate for the vacant position on the Woodham Ward

## **11. APPROVAL OF THE 2025/26 ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

... To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

## **12. APPROVAL OF THE 2025/26 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

... To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

## **13. APPROVAL OF THE 2025/26 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**

... To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

## **14. 2026/27 SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN**

... To consider the attached report from the Corporate and Policy Officer.

**15. HERITAGE PLACES PROJECT FOR SHILDON AND NEWTON AYCLIFFE – DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

. . . To consider the attached report from the Corporate and Policy Officer.

**16. STANDING ORDER 21 – STAFFING CHANGES AND APPOINTMENTS**

. . . To consider the attached report from the Town Clerk.

**17. DRIVING RANGE MACHINERY REPLACEMENT**

. . . To consider the attached report from the Head of Leisure and Events.

**18. CODE OF CONDUCT DECISION NOTICE**

. . . To consider the attached report from the Town Clerk.

**19. NOTICE OF MOTION**

To consider the following motion from Councillor Arun Chandran, seconded by Councillor Tracey Williams:

*“That in furtherance of Minute 147 of Full Council on Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> April , Great Aycliffe Town Council calls upon the Government, via the County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), and our Member of Parliament to facilitate all Councils to be able to seek Enhanced DBS Checks on their Councillors. If done immediately after elections and publicised before elections that it will be undertaken, it may help to deter potential undesirable elements from seeking public office. Councillors have regular contact with residents and groups which could have vulnerable adults and or children, we owe a duty of care to try to reduce harm as well as reputational damage. “*

**20. NOTICE OF MOTION**

To consider the following motion from Councillor Arun Chandran, seconded by Councillor Tracey Williams:

*“That the Council asks County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC), National Association of Local Councils (NALC), and the local MP to lobby the Government to amend regulations to allow co-opted members to be paid the Basic Allowance, on the grounds that the only legal difference between elected and co-opted councillors is that they don't get the Allowance, in all other respects, they have the same rights duties and responsibilities, which is unfair.”*

## 21. OUTSIDE BODIES

To receive reports from representatives on the following Outside Bodies:

- (a) **County Durham Association of Local Councils**  
Councillors Arun Chandran and Sharon Hutchinson
- (b) **County Durham Association of Local Councils Executive Committee**  
Councillor Arun Chandran
- (c) **Aycliffe Village Community Association**  
Councillor Carl Robinson
- (d) **Woodham Village Community Association**  
Councillors: Jackie McFadden Lewis and Woodham Co-optee to follow
- (e) **County Durham Association of Local Councils Larger Council Forum**  
Councillors: Sharon Hutchinson and Michael Stead with the Town Clerk.
- (f) **Newton Aycliffe Bus Preservation Society**  
Councillor Chris Clement
- (g) **Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway**  
Councillors: Luke Ellis and Sharon Hutchinson
- (h) **Western Area Partnership**  
Councillors: Arun Chandran and Kyle Robinson
- (i) **Cornforth Partnership**  
Councillors: Tony Armstrong and John Woodward
- (j) **Community Hub Development Group**  
Councillor Tracey Williams and the Town Clerk
- (k) **Oak Leaf Golf Club**  
Councillor Kyle Robinson and the Town Clerk

***Any questions or queries on agenda items or reports should be raised with officers before meetings by telephone or email.***

***Please note that this does not preclude members from asking the question at the meeting if this is important to the debate or decision.***

***Members are requested, during Council Meetings, to observe the Council's Standing Orders relating to the Business and Proceedings of the Council, with particular reference to the Rules of Debate, as well as the Members' Code of Conduct and the principles of Civility and Respect Pledge.***