

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in Hackworth Park Rest House, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

Present: Councillor B H Stoker, Town Mayor  
Councillors S C Bird, G Swinbank, I Jackson, P Quinn, F Timmiss,  
V Chapman, A Walker, L Iddon, A Hammond and J M Smith.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a minutes silence was observed following the recent deaths of Alderman W Nunn and G Lipinski.

TC 22/07 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 23/07 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G M R Howe, J G Huntington, M S Hardy and L Smith.

TC 24/07 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 25/07 Minutes of Annual Council Meeting

**Resolved**, subject to the amendment of Shildon Museum Limited to Shildon Community Museum Limited at Minute No 06/07 and TC 14/07j, the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2007 be approved and adopted.

TC 26/07 Committees

- a) Service and Amenities - 11<sup>th</sup> June 2007
- b) Resources - 11<sup>th</sup> June 2007

TC 27/07 Police Report

In the absence of a representative from the Police, the Town Clerk presented the following statistics for the month of May 2007:

Total reported incidents	<u>352</u>	
Total number of crimes	<u>104</u>	Detection rate 27%
Violent crime	14	
Robbery	0	

Burglary dwelling	2
Burglary other	7
Criminal damage	35
Theft of vehicle	8
Theft from vehicle	5
Shop theft	7
Total theft	38
Rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour	44 (17 youth related)

The Town Clerk advised that the Police had requested Members to inform their local communities of the need to make garden furniture secure following a number of thefts of such items in previous weeks. Members were also asked to advise the public to alert the police as soon as possible if such items are offered for sale.

**Resolved** that the report be received and noted.

TC 28/07 Report from representatives on outside bodies

- a) Minutes of the meetings of the Shildon Children's and Young Peoples Action Network held on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007 – **resolved** that the reports be noted.
- b) Minutes of the meetings of the Shildon Community Safety Group held on 18<sup>th</sup> April and 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007 – **resolved** that the reports be noted.

TC 29/07 Fire Damage at Hackworth Park Play Area

**Resolved** that the comments of the Attorney General be noted with regret and the local MP be advised of the subsequent 'copycat' arson attack on the play equipment at the newly opened Children's Centre at Timothy Hackworth Primary School.

TC 30/07 Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007

Following consideration of the draft Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 and the Statement of Internal Control it was **resolved** that:-

- a) the draft Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 be approved subject to audit and the Town Mayor be authorised to sign the Statement
- b) the Statement of Internal Control be approved and the Town Mayor be authorised to sign the Statement.

TC 31/07 Performance Plan 2007

**Resolved** that:

- a) the Performance Plan 2007 be approved and adopted subject to audit.
- b) a summary of the Plan be included in the next edition of the Parish Newsletter.
- c) the award of Quality Town Council status be welcomed and staff be congratulated for their efforts in preparing the submission.
- d) in the event of the removal of the Best Value obligations from April 2008 the Town Council continues to prepare an annual Performance Plan in the current format.

TC 32/07 Implementation of smoke-free legislation

**Resolved** that

- a) the implications of the introduction of the smoke-free legislation with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 be noted
- b) the revised smoke-free policy be approved and adopted
- c) consideration be given to the development of a planned programme of bus shelter replacement.

TC 33/07 Neighbourhood Wardens and Streetsafe Response Team Performance Reports for the quarter ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007

**Resolved** that the reports be received.

TC 34/77 Consultation Paper : Proposals for Future Unitary Structures : Means of Prioritising Proposals

**Resolved** that a response be submitted to the Secretary of State in accordance with the comments proposed in the report of the Town Clerk.

TC 35/07 Installation of Overhead Projector and Screen in the Council Chamber

**Resolved** that an overhead projector and fixed screen be installed in the Council Chamber and the cost be charged against the contingency provision in the tender for the building works.

TC 36/07 Appreciations and Congratulations

The Town Mayor advised Members that he had recently performed duties as a judge for Smile Awareness Week and had attended a farewell reception for the town twinning delegation from Rheinhausen.