

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on 17th December 2007

Present: Councillor A Hammond
Councillors G Swinbank, I Jackson, A Walker, J M Smith,
V Chapman, L Iddon, J G Huntington (up to Item 11), M Hardy,
G M R Howe, S Bird (up to Item 11) and R J Matthews

TC 97/07 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 98/07 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Stoker, L Smith and D M Hancock.

TC 99/07 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 100/07 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26th November 2007 be approved and adopted.

TC 101/07 Committees

Resolved that the minutes of the following Committees be approved and adopted:-

- a) Service & Amenities - 10th December 2007
- c) Resources - 10th December 2007

TC 102/07 Police Report

The Deputy Town Mayor welcomed PC Brown to the meeting who provided the following statistics for the month of November. The October statistics had been provided previously to Members.

Total recorded incidents	356
Total recorded crime	75
Total violent crime	15
Violence against the person	11
Robbery	1
Burglary (dwelling)	4
Burglary (other)	4

Criminal damage	26
Total vehicle crime	8
Theft of vehicle	1
Theft from vehicle	7
Total theft	21
Shoplifting	2
Antisocial behaviour	52

PC Brown advised that the statistics represented an improvement on October and it was encouraging to note that the level of shoplifting was low for the time of the year.

Members raised the issue of criminal damage to the bus shelters at the bus interchange and the vigilance of the police regarding the movement of vehicles late at night within the industrial estates was praised.

PC Brown advised that the licensing issues regarding the re-opening of the former Jubilee public house had been resolved and currently the credentials of the door supervisors were being checked with the S.I.A.

TC 103/07 Annual Audit Letter

This item was withdrawn due to the Annual Audit letter not being available and will now be presented and considered at the January 2008 meeting of the Town Council.

TC 104/07 Report from representatives on outside bodies

- a) Minutes of the meeting of the Shildon Community Safety Group held on 14th November 2007 - **resolved** that the minutes be noted
- b) Minutes of the meeting of the Shildon Children and Young Peoples Action Network held on 21st November 2007 **resolved** that the minutes be noted.

TC 105/07 Representation on Outside Bodies

- a) Sedgefield and District Citizens Advice Bureau

 Resolved that Councillor J G Huntington be nominated as the Town Council's representative for the Sedgefield and District Citizens Advice Bureau

TC 106/07 Durham County Council Overview and Scrutiny – Transport Services

Resolved that comments be submitted covering:

- a) the absence of a bus service to West Road.
- b) the inadequacy of the bus service serving Byerley Road.

In addition Councillor L Iddon to provide the Town Clerk with a report regarding transport services in the town and that this report also be included in the response to Durham County Council.

TC 107/07 Request for support from Spennymoor Town Council regarding the future of Electrolux

Resolved that:

- a) the local Member of Parliament be requested to bring all possible pressure to bear to preserve the future of the Electrolux factory notwithstanding the recent closure decision.
- b) Central government be advised of the impact on the local economy of the proposed closure.
- c) Details be requested of any central government financial support given to Electrolux and potential repayment provisions should the closure of the factory proceed.

TC 108/07 Letter from Jubilee Fields Community Association

Resolved that the letter be received.

TC 109/07 Appreciations and Congratulations

- a) **Resolved** that the details of the engagements attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor be noted.
- b) In his absence the Town Clerk wished all Members the compliments of the season on behalf of the Town Mayor, Councillor B Stoker and his Consort.
- c) Councillor A Hammond presented Mrs T Bellas, Deputy Town Clerk with her certificate following her success in achieving the CILCA qualification and congratulated Mrs Bellas on behalf of the Town Council.