

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on 25th March 2008

Present: Councillor B H Stoker
Councillors G Swinbank, D M Hancock, M Hardy, A Walker,
G M R Howe, V Chapman, I Jackson (up to Item 6),
P Quinn, J G Huntington and R J Matthews (up to Item 8).

TC 149/07 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 150/07 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Hammond, J M Smith, S Bird and F Timmiss.

TC 151/07 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 152/07 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25th February 2008 be approved and adopted.

TC 153/07 Minutes of Special Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 4th February 2008 be approved and adopted.

TC 154/07 Committees

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

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| a) | Service & Amenities | - | 10 th March 2008 |
| b) | Resources | - | 10 th March 2008 |
| c) | Special Resources | - | 13 th March 2008 |

TC 155/07 Police Report

The Town Mayor welcomed Sgt Milne and PC Brown to the meeting. PC Brown advised that following the introduction of a new crime recording computer system the relevant statistics for February were not yet available.

P C Brown was able to advise Members of an increase in damage to motor vehicles but also advised that following a recent increase in garden shed burglaries arrests had been made which hopefully will redress the situation.

The issue of off -road motorbiking was again raised and it was **resolved** that the Town Council request an update from Sedgefield Borough Council with regard to the provision of a purpose built facility for this activity.

Finally, with regard to the problem of under-age drinking and the sale of alcohol to young people, PC Brown advised that suspects had been identified and arrests would be forthcoming.

Councillor I Jackson left the meeting.

TC 155/07 Presentation by the Seymour Trust

Chris Jones representing the Seymour Trust provided Members with details of the activities undertaken by the Trust and requested that the Town Council provide a letter of support for the work of the Trust which would be used to supplement applications for Grant Support. A copy of the presentation is attached

Resolved that the Seymour Trust be advised that the Town Council would support all organisations who provide services and activities for the young people of the town.

TC 156/07 Report from representatives on outside bodies

- a) Minutes of the meeting of the Shildon Community Safety Group held on 20th February 2008 – **resolved** that the minutes be received.
- b) Minutes of the meeting of the Larger Local Council's Forum held on 27th February 2008 – **resolved** that the minutes be received.

Councillor R J Matthews left the meeting.

TC 157/07 Appointment of Works Supervisor

Resolved following the withdrawal of Mr J D Bush, the offer and subsequent acceptance of the post to Mr G Gibson, 7 St Christopher Walk, Newton Aycliffe, be noted.

TC 158/07 Closure of Electrolux

Resolved that the response from the Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform to be noted and the intention to seek full repayment of the relevant Regional Selective Assistance Grant be welcomed.

TC 159/07 Appreciations and Congratulations

Resolved that the mayoral engagements be noted.