

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on 28th September 2009.

Present: Councillor G M R Howe
Councillors G Swinbank, A Walker, T Bannister, J G Huntington,
F Timmiss, A Hammond, V Chapman, D Hancock, L Iddon,
S C Bird (up to Item no 12) and H Nicholson

TC 55/09 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 56/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors P Quinn, G Lewis and B Stoker.

TC 57/09 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 58/09 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27th July 2009 be approved and adopted, subject to the addition of the attendance of Councillor H Nicholson.

TC 59/09 Committees

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 14th September 2009
- b) Resources - 14th September 2009

TC 60/09 Police Report

General

The Town Mayor welcomed Sergeant Alex Clarke to the meeting who presented the following statistics for the month of August:-

Assaults	13
Sexual offences	1
Robbery	1
Burglary – dwelling	7
Burglary – other	6
Criminal damage	23
Theft from vehicle	12
Theft of vehicle	1
Total theft	35
Fraud	1
Drug offence	3
Youths street drinking	3

Future PACT meetings were to be held as follows:-

- Thickley - 6.30pm on 3rd October at Jubilee Fields Community Centre
- Byerley - 6.30pm on 30th September at the Civic Hall
- Sunnydale - 7.30pm on 30th September at the Civic Hall

The following priorities had been identified at the previous PACT meetings:-

- Thickley - Tackling anti-social behaviour in Laurel Court
Tackling anti-social behaviour in Jubilee Road
- Byerley - Vehicles causing obstruction in Diamond Street
Nuisance off-road motorcycles
- Sunnydale - Anti-social behaviour in Elm Drive
Nuisance off-road motorcycles

Sergeant Clarke explained that he would be the full-time sergeant based in Shildon from 23rd September 2009 and revised operational arrangements would ensure an additional police presence in the town including CID officers working from the Shildon office.

Sergeant Clarke also identified the availability of 200 smart water kits which had been provided by the Community Safety Group and the Safe Durham Partnership.

Members raised a number of issues including:-

- anti-social behaviour being experienced in Highland Gardens and Furnace Pit Industrial Estate
- car parking on footpaths in Adamson Street

Sergeant Clarke agreed to review these matters particularly the parking issues.

Resolved that the Police report be received.

TC 61/09 Report from representatives on outside bodies

- a) Minutes of the meeting of the Shildon Community Safety Group held on 15th July 2009 – **resolved** that the minutes be received.
- b) Minutes of the meeting of the Shildon Children and Young People's Action Network held on 21st July 2009 – **resolved** that the minutes be received.

TC 62/09 Representation on outside bodies

Resolved that:

- a) Larger Local Councils Forum

The Town Council be represented by Councillors S C Bird, V Chapman and the Town Clerk with Councillor G Swinbank to act as substitute.

- b) Bishop Auckland & Shildon Local Councils Committee

The Town Council be represented by Councillors J G Huntington, G Swinbank, A Walker and the Town Clerk.

TC 63/09 Correspondence from Durham County Council re Open Space in Residential Accommodation

Resolved that the correspondence be noted.

TC 64/09 City of Culture Bid

Resolved that the bid for Durham to become the United Kingdom's first City of Culture be supported.

TC 65/09 Durham Open Space, Sports & Recreation Needs Assessment

Resolved that a response be submitted in accordance with the recommendations submitted by the Town Clerk.

TC 66/09 Consultation on Durham County Council's Strategy for Bus Information

Resolved that the response from the Town Council should address the following issues:-

- a) the re-introduction of a county wide bus and rail timetable booklet
- b) the inadequacy of bus timetables for local services in Shildon
- c) the potential for the use of the free local press for publicising bus and rail timetables
- d) the continuing inadequacy of bus services in New Shildon and the absence of a bus service for the West Road area of the town

Councillor S C Bird left the meeting.

TC 67/09 Consultation on Consolidation of Council Tax Demand Notice Regulations

Resolved that a response be made as detailed in the report of the Town Clerk.

TC 68/09 Membership of the Civic Hall Management Working Party

Resolved that the Town Clerk be advised of an additional Independent member for the Working Party.

TC 69/09 Appreciations & Congratulations

Resolved that the schedule of mayoral engagements be noted.

TC 70/09 Audit for the year ended 31st March 2009

Resolved that the audited Annual Return and action plan for the year ended 31st March 2009 be approved and accepted.