

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 9th November 2015.

Present: Councillor M P Burdess in the Chair
Councillors A Walker, H Nicholson, J Gash, B Bates,
P A Pemberton, L Cockfield, P Quinn, S Quinn,
J G Huntington and L Iddon

In attendance : Megan Patterson – Bite the Ballot

TC 72/15 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 73/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Stoker, D Gordon, M Stott and J Miller.

TC 74/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 75/15 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 12th October 2015 be approved.

TC 76/15 Committees

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 12th October 2015
- b) Resources - 12th October 2015

TC 77/15 Police Report

Acting Sergeant D Littlefair presented details of the crime statistics for the month of October 2015. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes. An update was provided on local issues for the information of Members.

Resolved that the report be noted.

TC 78/15 Presentation – Bite the Ballot

The Chairman welcomed Megan Patterson to the meeting who gave a presentation on Bite the Ballot and their mission to empower young people to take an interest in politics.

Signed
Chairman.....

Resolved that:

- a) the presentation be welcomed and thanks be extended to Megan Patterson for attending the meeting.
- b) a letter be forwarded to Megan Patterson, Bite the Ballot, supporting their mission to inspire and inform young people to take an interest in politics.

TC 79/15 Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies

- a) Minutes of the meeting of Shildon Children and Young People's Action Network held on 14th October 2015.

Resolved that the minutes be received.

TC 80/15 Shildon Town Council – E-Cigarette Policy

The Town Clerk requested Members to consider the banning of e-cigarettes, as part of the Town Council's Smoke Free Policy, in all Council owned buildings and vehicles.

Resolved that:

- a) the Smoke Free Policy approved by the Town Council in June 2007 be amended to include 'This policy applies to the use of e-cigarettes'.
- b) appropriate signage be displayed prominently and visibly alongside existing no smoking signs in Council owned buildings and vehicles.

TC 81/15 Durham County Council Home to School/College Transport Consultation

The Town Clerk updated Members on the consultation document on proposed changes to the Home to School/College Transport provision. The changes outlined are within three specific areas of discretionary financial support which is currently provided. In the change to the current approach of an automatic entitlement, it is proposed to target support to those who are in financial need or have exceptional circumstances.

Three areas of current support have been identified :

1. Automatic entitlement to free transport for students in Year 10 and 11 who move house during examination years.
2. Automatic entitlement to free transport for Post 16 students who have no access to public transport.
3. Automatic entitlement to free transport for Post 16 students who cannot travel independently due to a medical condition or disability.

These proposed changes will apply to new applicants from September 2016. Those currently on a two year course receiving support will continue to do so.

Signed
Chairman.....

There being no comments from Members it was:

Resolved that the report be noted.

TC 82/15 Appreciations and Congratulations

Resolved that the schedule of mayoral engagements be noted.

Signed
Chairman.....