

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Present: Councillor P A Pemberton in the Chair  
Councillors H Nicholson, A Walker, J Gash, D Hancock, J G Huntington,  
L Cockfield, L Iddon, S C Bird, B Bates, L Deakin and P Quinn

Before the meeting commenced a one minute silence was observed in memory of Judith Howe, wife of ex Councillor Gareth Howe, who sadly passed away.

TC 78/16 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 79/16 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 80/16 Apologies for Absence

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

TC 81/16 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 82/16 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 be approved.

TC 83/16 Committees

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016
- b) Resources - 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016

TC 84/16 Police Report

In the absence of a police representative the Chair presented details of the crime statistics for the month of October 2016. A copy of the report is attached to these Minutes.

Concern was expressed regarding the increase in crime rate by 14% from 2015 and information was requested on the current policing structure in Shildon.

**Signed**  
**Chairman.....**

**Resolved that:**

- a) the report be received.
- b) thanks be extended to the Police for their help and support during the event at Locomotion on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2016
- c) that the questions posed at the meeting with regards to the crime rate increase, current policing structure in Shildon and the deployment of officers to areas of need be forwarded to the new Acting Sergeant for Shildon.

TC 85/16      County Durham Association of Local Councils : Annual General Meeting Update

The Town Clerk updated Members on two motions discussed and approved by Members present at the AGM of the County Durham Association of Local Councils held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.

At the meeting, CDALC approved the motion put forward by Bishop Auckland Town Council with the addition of the words 'gender prejudice' added to the motion as follows:-

***'We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, gender prejudice, xenophobia, homophobia, religious intolerance and hate crimes have no place in our county. Shildon Town Council condemns all such intolerance and hate crimes unequivocally.'***

***We will not allow hate to become acceptable and will work with the Police and Crime Commissioners and others to fight prejudice and hate crimes. We reassure all people living in the area that they are valued members of our communities.'***

**Recommended** that the Town Council adopt the motion and issue as a public statement.

TC 86/16      Proposal to Remove Street Lights Road No. 35 Middridge Lane : Update

The Town Clerk updated Members on the proposal to remove street lights at Road C35 Middridge Lane and informed Members of Durham County Council's proposal to remove street lighting as part of the ongoing Street Lighting Energy Reduction Project which was approved by the Council's Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

Further to the Town Council's response on the consultation to retain lighting columns at the point where pedestrians cross the carriage way on Road No. 35 Middridge lane, Durham County Council had stated that the decision to remove the street lighting had not changed and removal was intended to proceed as per the recommendations in the risk assessment as and when they can be programmed in.

**Recommended that:-**

- a. the report be noted

**Signed**  
**Chairman.....**

- b. a letter be forwarded to Durham County Council requesting the cost of removal of the lighting columns and energy savings associated with the specified street lights.

TC 87/16      Durham County Council : Public Consultation on Implementation of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Dog Control

The Town Clerk informed Members of a public consultation to be carried out by Durham County Council on the implementation of a countywide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control.

Fenced off play areas which are owned and managed by Durham County Council are included in the criteria for the countywide PSPO for dog control. It was reported that if a parish/town council wished to be covered by any revised arrangements under a PSPO then an approach would need to be made to Durham County Council in order for play areas to be considered to be covered. Durham County Council have stressed that existing Wardens and PCO's numbers are finite across County Durham.

**Recommended** that the Town Council resolve to support the implementation of a countywide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control and to request Durham County Council to consider including parks operated by the Town Council within the PSPO.

TC 88/16      Initial Proposals for new Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in the North East

The Town Clerk informed Members of the initial proposals for Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in England and the proposal to reduce the number of constituencies in the North East from 29 to 25.

**Recommended** that the report be received and individual Members respond direct to the Boundary Commission for England.

TC 89/16      Appreciations and Congratulations

**Resolved** that:-

- a. a letter be sent to Reverend David Tomlinson congratulating St. John's Church and staff and volunteers at Shildon Alive upon winning the Ecclesiastical Nationwide Church Competition 2016 for their community project 'Shildon Alive'.
- b. a letter of congratulations be sent to the Brusselton Incline Group upon winning Volunteer Group of the Year Award at the County Durham Environment Partnership Awards 2016.
- c. a letter of congratulations be sent to the staff at Locomotion and the Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership for being nominated for the Durham County Council 'Great Staff, Great Stuff' Award – Team of the Year.
- d. thanks be extended to the Shildon Royal British Legion and to everyone who assisted and took part in the Remembrance Day Parades on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**Signed**  
**Chairman**.....

- e. thanks be extended to Councillor S Quinn in recognition of her attendance at Mayoral Events in the absence of Councillor P A Pemberton.
- f. the schedule of mayoral engagements be received.

TC 90/16      NALC Larger Councils' Committee – Good Practice Visit

For information purposes, Members were informed of a National Association of Local Councils good practice visit in July 2017 hopefully to be hosted by Great Aycliffe Town Council with a possible visit, time permitting, to Shildon. Full details have yet to be finalised.

**Signed**  
**Chairman.....**