

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 10th October 2016.

Present: Councillor P A Pemberton in the Chair
Councillors H Nicholson, A Walker, D Hancock, B Bates,
L Cockfield, L Iddon, J Miller, P Quinn and S Quinn.

In Attendance: Andrew Walker, Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership Co-ordinator and Julie Anson, Community Economic Development Team Leader, Durham County Council

TC 66/16 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 67/16 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 68/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Gordon, L Deakin, J Gash and J G Huntington.

Resolved that a further dispensation be granted to Councillor David Gordon due to compassionate leave, effective until the parish and town council elections in May 2017.

TC 69/16 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 70/16 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 12th September 2016 be approved.

TC 71/16 Committees

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 12th September 2016
- b) Resources - 12th September 2016

TC 72/16 Police Report

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

Signed
Chairman.....

The Town Clerk informed Members that a new Acting Sergeant would be starting work within the Shildon Neighbourhood Policing Team until a permanent replacement can be made.

Resolved that the report be received.

TC 73/16 Shildon Arches Consultation - Presentation

Andrew Walker, Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership Co-ordinator and Julie Anson, Community Economic Development Team Leader, Durham County Council, gave an oral presentation to Members on the Shildon Arches Consultation document and the options on the future of the Shildon Arches situated at Main Street, Church Street and the Town Square. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Resolved that thanks be extended to Andrew Walker and Julie Anson for attending the meeting and giving an informative presentation.

Shildon Arches Consultation

The Town Clerk informed Members of the public consultation on the future of the Shildon Arches and the options contained in the consultation document.

It was proposed by Councillor A Walker, seconded by Councillor P Quinn and **unanimously resolved** that the Town Council formally respond to Durham County Council that the Town Council would support the majority view of the community on the future of the Shildon Arches.

TC 74/16 Audited Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2016

Resolved that:-

- a) The Town Council approves and accepts the audited Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2016.
- b) The Town Council confirms that in future external grants will be recorded as other receipts for the purpose of the Annual Return.
- c) The Town Council confirms that it will continue to record assets at cost

TC 75/16 Local Government Finance Settlement 2017/18 – Technical Consultation Paper

The Town Clerk presented Members with details of the Local Government Finance Settlement 2017/18 Technical Consultation Paper which included proposals regarding council tax referendum principles to apply to town and parish councils. It is proposed that the referendum principles are introduced for town and parish councils whose Band D precept for 2016/17 is higher than £75.46 and whose total precept for 2016/17 is at least £500,000. The band D precept of £75.46 is equivalent to that of the lowest charging district council.

Resolved that the proposal to apply the referendum principles to town and parish councils, which will only serve to exacerbate the funding problem and does not appear to accord with the Government's stated appreciation of the value of town and parish councils, be strongly opposed.

Signed
Chairman.....

TC 76/16 County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) : Annual General Meeting

The Town Clerk requested Members to consider a motion, proposed by Bishop Auckland Town Council, which is to be presented at the Annual General Meeting of the County Durham Association of Local Councils on 22nd October 2016 as follows:

We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia, homophobia, religious intolerance and hate crimes have no place in our county.

County Durham Association of Local Councils condemns all such intolerance and hate crimes unequivocally.

We will not allow hate to become acceptable and will work with the Police & Crime Commissioner and others to fight prejudice and hate crimes.

We reassure all people living in the area that they are valued members of our communities

Once the motion has been considered and adopted at the AGM, the County Durham Association of Local Councils has asked that the motion be considered and operated at a local level by parish and town councils.

Resolved that:

- a) the Town Council mandate its representatives on CDALC to approve the motion proposed by Bishop Auckland Town Council at the AGM of CDALC to be held on Saturday, 22nd October, 2016
- b) once the statement, proposed by Bishop Auckland Town Council, is adopted by the County Durham Association of Local Councils, that this be endorsed at a local level and operated by the Town Council.

TC 77/16 Appreciations and Congratulations

Councillor P A Pemberton informed Members of the outstanding success of the event held at Locomotion on 1st October 2016, celebrating the 191st anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway, also raising funds for the Town Mayor's charity, the NSPCC.

Resolved that the schedule of mayoral engagements be received.

Signed
Chairman.....