Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 10th February 2025.

Present: Councillor S Quinn in the Chair
Councillors K Ambrosini, D Reynolds , M Johnson, R A Bell, D Bell, D L Mather, H M Hanratty and P Quinn

In attendance: Jez Light, Festivals, Events and Cultural Engagement Manager, Durham County Council and Sarah Price, Head of Locomotion

TC 144/24 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 145/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors G Mather, S Townsend, S Luckhurst, W Keal and N Hanratty.

TC 146/24 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 147/24 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 148/24 Members' Dispensations

No written requests for dispensations had been received.

TC 149/24 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 20th January 2025 be approved.

TC 150/24 Committee Minutes

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

a) Service & Amenities - 20th January 2025

b) Resources - 20th January 2025

TC 151/24 HR Committee Minutes

The Town Clerk updated Members on the office restructure and advised that interviews for the Town Clerk post were to be held on 7th March 2025.

Signed
Chairman …….

Members were provided with a verbal update on the decline of the offer for the post of Community Development and Engagement Co-ordinator.

Resolved that

a) the minutes of the HR Committee held on 21st January 2025 be approved.

b) the verbal update presented by the Town Clerk be received.

TC 152/24 Presentation of Mayoral Award

Councillor S Quinn presented the following Mayoral Awards for recognition of dedication and support to the local community.

- January Award – Mark Arnott
- February Award – Carol Fletcher

Resolved that the Mayoral Awards be received.

TC 153/24 Bicentenary Celebrations

Jez Light, Durham County Council and Sarah Price, Locomotion gave a presentation on the Bicentenary Celebrations and the S&DR200 festival.

The festival would take place from March to November 2025 and included a series of events and exhibitions including activity programs, WOW Festival, a touring library exhibition, heritage trail, Locomotion No. 1 replica, Little Inventors, painted wooden doll art project and the Fringe Festival.

Resolved that thanks be extended to Jez Light and Sarah Price for providing an informative presentation.

TC 154/24 Police Report

Members were provided with an update provided by Sergeant Mike Welch which included empty homes, fly tipping, problem tenants, crime prevention, street lighting and allotments.

Resolved that the report be received.

TC 155/24 Town Clerks Report

Bicentenary Update

The Town Clerk provided Members with an update on the little street cavalcade and bicentenary event in Hackworth Park, Shildon.

A funding application had been submitted to S&DR200 and it had been confirmed that the Town Council had been awarded £8591.00 which included funding to support marching bands taking part in the mini cavalcade.

Signed
Chairman …….

Further meetings were scheduled with the Bicentenary Committee and the next meeting was to be held on 13th February 2025.

Resolved that the report be noted.

Brass Band Competition

The Town Clerk advised Members that an approach had been received from a Mr Scarlett to organise a Brass Band Competition in Hackworth Park, Shildon to celebrate the Bicentenary. Members were informed that Mr Scarlett would organise the event and oversee the running of the event with the support of the Town Council, however, funding would be required to sponsor the event.

Resolved that:

a. the Brass Band Competition be agreed.

b. a Bicentenary Celebration Community Grant form be sent to Mr Scarlett for funding towards the event.

Playzone Update

The Town Clerk updated Members on the Playzone application and advised that a full application had been submitted to the Football Foundation with a decision anticipated no later than March 2025.

An initial ground investigation report of the site had not highlighted any major problems with the location and matched funding was still progressing with the Area Action Partnership and the Football Foundation.

Resolved that the report be noted.

TC 156/24 Durham County Councillor Updates

No updates provided.

TC 157/24 Town Councillor Updates

Councillor P Quinn provided an update from the CDALC meeting.

Resolved that the Town Councillor updates be noted.

TC 158/24 Announcements

Resolved that the schedule of mayoral engagements and announcements by the Town Mayor and Town Clerk be received.

Signed
Chairman …….