Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 14th October 2024.

Present: Councillor S Quinn in the Chair
Councillors K Ambrosini, D Reynolds, D Childs, M Johnson, S Townsend, D L Mather, G Mather, H M Hanratty, N Hanratty and P Quinn.

In attendance: Jill Cole, Director of Northern Heartlands and Katy Milne, Senior Manager

One member of the public in attendance.

TC 83/24 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 84/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors W Keal, S Luckhurst, A Turner, A Farlow, R A Bell and D Bell.

TC 85/24 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 86/24 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 87/24 Members' Dispensations

No written requests for dispensations had been received.

TC 88/24 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 16th September 2024 be approved.

TC 89/24 Committee Minutes

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

a) Service & Amenities - 16th September 2024

b) Resources - 16th September 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the following Working Party be approved:-

c) 2025 Bicentenary Railway Celebrations Working Party held on 3rd October 2024

Signed
Chairman …….

TC 90/24 Presentation of Mayoral Award

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

- July Award – Ann Hill
- August Award – Eric Craggs
- September Award – Ken Hodgson
- October Award – PCSO Jess Brown

Resolved that the Mayoral Awards be received.

Councillor D L Mather and G Mather left the meeting.

TC 91/24 Place Lab : Shildon

Jill Cole, Director of Northern Heartlands and Katy Milne, Senior Manager were in attendance to give an overview on Place Lab and to answer any questions from Members. A copy of the presentation had been provided to member

Resolved that thanks be extended to Jill Cole and Katy Milne for providing an informative presentation.

TC 92/24 Police Report

The Town Clerk presented details of the crime statistics for the month of September 2024.

Resolved that the report be received.

TC 93/24 Audited Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2024

The Town Clerk informed Members that the external auditor had issued an unqualified limited assurance opinion on the accounts.

It was proposed by Councillor P Quinn and seconded by Councillor D Reynolds and

Resolved that:

a. the Town Council approves and accepts the Audit Completion letter and the audited Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2024.

b. the Town Council approves the proposed action that the standard pro-forma bank reconciliation provided by the Auditor be used in the future.

Signed
Chairman …….

TC 94/24 Shildon Town Council Offices : Christmas Closure

The Town Clerk advised Members of the period of closure of the Council Offices during the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Resolved that the closure of the Town Council Offices on Tuesday, 24th December 2024 until Friday, 3rd January 2025 be noted.

TC 95/24 Middridge Neighbourhood Plan – Consultation

The Town Clerk provided Members with correspondence from Durham County Council on the consultation for Middridge Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved that the correspondence be noted.

TC 96/24 Tree Planting

The Town Clerk informed Members that Durham County Council had been successful in its application to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund to plant large standard trees across towns and villages throughout the County and that tree planting would be carried out within Shildon.

Resolved that the information be noted.

TC 97/24 Durham County Councillor Updates

No updates provided.

TC 98/24 Town Councillor Updates

Councillor P Quinn provided an update to Members from the CDALC Annual General Meeting held on 12th October 2024. Councillor D Reynolds provided an update on fly tipping in New Shildon area and Councillor S Quinn informed Members that Jubilee Fields Community Centre had secured a funding bid from the National Lottery Fund.

Councillor N Hanratty joined the meeting.

TC 99/24 Announcements

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

Signed
Chairman ……