

Minutes of the meeting of the Service & Amenities Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday 20th February 2023.

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

SA 59/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Quinn, J Miller, R A Nicholson, D Bell, A Farlow, D L Mather and G Mather.

SA 60/22 Declarations of Interest

Councillor P Quinn declared an interest in item 9 – Formation of Veterans/Reservist and Serving Armed Forces Group and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

SA 61/22 Members' Dispensations

No written requests for dispensations had been received.

SA 62/22 Civic Hall Financial Performance

Members were provided with the Civic Hall Financial Performance report for the month of January which indicated that both bar and food sales failed to achieve budget which was traditionally a poor trading period following Christmas and New Year.

Costs were also below budget resulting in a net overspend for the month of £7k resulting in the overall overspend for the year to date increasing to almost £10k which was reflected in the probable outturn for the year previously considered during the 2023/24 budget preparation.

Recommended that the report be received.

SA 63/22 Civic Hall Managers Report

The Civic Hall Manager presented a report to Members and advised of a Coronation themed Sunday lunch for the King's Coronation during the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Members were informed that a price increase had been implemented in line with product prices.

Following an electrical inspection the main hall, bar and lighting was to be rewired and updated to LED ceiling lights.

Recommended that the report be received.

SA 64/22 Durham County Council: Planning Applications

Recommended that no comment be made on the following applications:-

Signed
Chairman.....

- a. Change of use of grass verge to front of no. 33-43 Jubilee Road, Shildon to create footpath and change of use of grass verge to create addition layby space, removal of 2no. trees and relocation of street light.
- b. Construction of detached office block, change of use of site from timber recycling to metal recycling and installation of new boundary treatments at Hackworth Industrial Estate Shildon.
- c. Crown clean/deadwood and prune to clear the property by 3m to Sycamore (number 3) and prune to clear the adjacent property by 3m to Sycamore (number 4) at All Saints Church, Shildon.

SA 65/22 Durham County Council: Planning Decisions

Recommended that the decisions taken since the last meeting of the Committee be noted.

SA 66/22 Durham County Council : Review of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Dog Ownership 2023

The Town Clerk informed Members of a consultation by Durham County Council on the Dog Control Public Space Protection Order which was introduced to tackle issues in local communities from irresponsible dog ownership.

The current Public Space Protection Order runs to May 2023 and Durham County Council were proposing to expand the PSPO to tackle additional issues.

Members considered identifying further areas to be included as outlined in the Order.

Recommended that

- a) the Town Council support the proposal by Durham County Council to expand the Public Space Protection Order as identified within the Consultation
- b) following consultation, the Town Council request to include the following locations within the revised Order.

Hackworth Park Tennis Courts be included to ban dogs from the area.
West Road Cemetery, St. Johns' Closed Churchyard and All Saints Closed Churchyard be included within the Order for dogs to be on leads.

- c) the Town Council further investigate the possible inclusion of identified sports pitches at Hackworth Park and Jubilee Fields and to look at how these open spaces can be adequately identified to the public.

SA 67/22 Formation of Veterans/ Reservist and Serving Armed Forces Group

The Direct Works Manager presented a report to Members on the formation of a Veterans/Reservist and Serving Armed Forces Group.

The group would bring together veterans, reservist and serving personnel in a relaxed and informal setting to meet like-minded people.

Recommended that:

Signed
Chairman.....

- a. the formation of a Veterans/Reservist and Serving Armed Forces Group be agreed.
- b. the use of Town Council premises for initial start-up be agreed.
- c. the Direct Works Manager be allowed to initially set up and attend the group, where practicable, to aid its formation.
- d. the Town Council agree, in principle, to facilitate the move from the Armed Forces Covenant Bronze Award to the Silver Award. Further information to be presented to the Town Council.

Signed
Chairman.....