

Minutes of the meeting of the Service & Amenities Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 15th April 2024.

Present: Councillor D Reynolds in the Chair
Councillors K Ambrosini, S Luckhurst, A Farlow, M Johnson, W Keal, S Townsend, A Turner, R A Nicholson, D L Mather, H M Hanratty, P Quinn and S Quinn.

SA 83/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Bell, N Hanratty and G Mather.

SA 84/23 Declarations of Interest

Councillors D L Mather and R A Nicholson declared an interest in respect of item 6 – Planning Applications.

SA 85/23 Members' Dispensations

Members unanimously agreed to grant a dispensation to Councillors D L Mather and R A Nicholson to speak on item 6.

SA 86/23 Civic Hall Financial Performance

Members were provided with the Civic Hall Financial Performance report for the month of March which indicated that both bar and food sales exceeded budget and whilst costs also exceeded budget the overall performance for the month was £10.5k better than budget. For the year to the end of March overall performance was £13k better than budget.

Recommended that the report be received.

SA 87/23 Civic Hall Managers Report

The Civic Hall Manager presented a report to Members and advised that an order had been placed for three new sofas to be located within the lounge area at the Civic Hall to replace worn and unsightly furniture. It was further reported that quotations were to be obtained for re-decoration of part of the Main Hall.

Members were informed that sanding and sealing of the external wood panelling was to commence on 27th May 2024.

Members considered a work experience placement over a 5-day period at no cost to the Council.

Recommended that:

- a. the report be received.
- b. the old furniture be offered to a community/voluntary group free of charge on a first come, first served basis.
- b. enquiries be made to ascertain if a DBS check was required prior to a work experience placement.

Signed
Chairman.....

SA 88/23 Durham County Council: Planning Applications

Members considered the following planning application:-

- a. Use of land for siting a mobile home for use ancillary to the main dwelling and the proposed mobile home meets the definition of a caravan at 31 Association Street, Shildon

Recommended that the Council respond to Durham County Council regarding concerns over the definition of the mobile home being classed as a caravan under the Caravan Sites Act. It was believed that this would be a material change of use of the land and, in time, become a permanent self contained dwelling for independent living.

There were also concerns relating to access over land in private ownership with regards to access and egress to the potential mobile home.

SA 89/23 Durham County Council: Planning Decisions

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

SA 90/23 Programme of Events

The Town Clerk provided Members with information on planned events for 2024 organised and supported by the Town Council.

Recommended that the report be received.

Signed
Chairman.....