

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 9th March 2026.

Present: Councillor D Bell in the Chair
Councillors S Quinn, S Townsend, N Cleasby, T Hillary, S Ring, D Thompson, R A Bell, D L Mather and N Hanratty.

Two members of the public in attendance.

TC 159/25 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 160/25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Luckhurst and P Quinn.

TC 161/25 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 162/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 163/25 Members' Dispensations

No written requests for dispensations had been received.

TC 164/25 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 9th February 2026 be approved.

TC 165/25 Committee Minutes

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

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| a) Service & Amenities | - | 9 th February 2026 |
| b) Resources | - | 9 th February 2026 |

TC 166/25 Police Report

Members received the police report for the month of February 2026.

The Town Clerk was to arrange a meeting with the new Neighbourhood Team Inspector Simon Peele.

Signed
Chairman

Resolved that the report be received.

TC 167/25 Corporate Risk Report and Action Plan

The Town Clerk reported on the revised corporate risk report and updated action plan. Members unanimously agreed to approve the Corporate Risk Report and Action Plan.

Resolved that the Corporate Risk Report and Action Plan for 2026/27 be approved.

TC 168/25 Town of Culture Competition

Councillor D Bell informed Members of a Town of Culture competition which was a new initiative by the Government aimed at recognising and celebrating the creativity and history of various towns.

It was unanimously agreed that due to the short time scale to submit an Expression of Interest and the lack of resources to undertake the consultation and planning process, it was not feasible to apply for the 2028 competition.

Resolved that the Town Council apply for the 2032 competition and a working party be set up nearer the time.

TC 169/25 Durham County Councillor Updates

There were no County Councillors in attendance although invites had been sent.

The Town Clerk had requested the County Councillors to submit a report to the meeting to include any relevant issues that affect Shildon and the surrounding areas. No report had been received from the County Councillors.

TC 170/25 Town Councillor Updates

Councillor S Quinn provided an update to Members from the CDALC forum and a GRT meeting. Councillor P Quinn had attended a CDALC Executive meeting held on 7th March 2026.

Councillor S Townsend had attended Jubilee Fields Stakeholder meeting and provided an update to Members on SYCPAN and youth provision in Shildon. Members were advised that a representative for Sam Rushworth MP had been invited to attend the SCYPAN meeting to be held on 18th March 2026.

Councillor N Hanratty informed Members that new windows had been installed at Jubilee Fields Community Centre and the Annual General Meeting was to be held on 27th April 2026.

Resolved that the Town Councillor updates be noted.

TC 171/25 Announcements

Signed
Chairman

The Town Clerk advised Members that Jubilee Fields Community Centre had requested permission to install a free-standing notice board on Town Council land directly behind the community centre.

Members were also advised of a sink hole which had appeared on Town Council land near to Princes Street field.

Councillor D Bell informed Members that he had presented flowers for a Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 5th March 2026.

Resolved that:

- a. the schedule of mayoral engagements and announcements by the Town Mayor and Town Clerk be received.
- b. permission be granted to Jubilee Fields Community Centre to install a free-standing notice board on Town Council land provided that they maintain it.

Signed
Chairman