

Minutes of the meeting of the Service & Amenities Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 13th February 2017.

Present: Councillor P Quinn in the Chair
Councillors A Walker, H Nicholson, J G Huntington, L Iddon, B Bates, P A Pemberton and S Quinn.

SA 67/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Gordon, L Cockfield, L Deakin, J Miller and J Gash.

SA 68/16 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

SA 69/16 Civic Hall Performance

The Town Clerk advised Members of the trading position for the month of January 2017 and advised that both bar and food sales exceeded budget resulting in an overall underspend of almost £7k. Cumulatively for the year to the end of January the financial performance indicated an underspend of £14k.

Recommended that the report of the Town Clerk be received.

SA 70/16 Civic Hall

The Civic Hall Manager presented a report to Members and provided an update on current projects as well as progress on the construction of the website with an expected launch date of 6th March 2017. It was also reported that the new menu and wedding brochure was to be launched on 27th February 2017.

Members were also informed of the intention to increase advertising on social media platforms in order to reach a larger audience and to allow specific niche targeting. This will hopefully raise awareness of the Civic Hall to existing and potential customers and increase footfall at the Civic Hall.

Recommended that the report of the Civic Hall Manager be noted.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the construction of the Town Council website had now been completed with just technical testing of the site to be performed before its launch soon. An information Facebook page had also been created in order to share information with the public.

SA 71/16 Durham County Council: Planning Applications

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

- a. Alterations to planning approval ref: DM/16/1955/FPA concerning larger industrial building at Unit 10, Furnace Industrial Estate, Shildon submitted by Mr Robert Camp.

Signed
Chairman.....

SA 72/16 Durham County Council: Planning Decisions

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

SA 73/16 Hackworth Park, Shildon : Tree Planting and Installation of Bear Themed Seat

The Town Clerk informed Members of a proposal received from Shildon Alive : A St John’s Church Project to work in partnership with the Town Council involving the installation of a bear themed seat , toadstools and fairy houses to be located on land in the ownership of the Town Council at Hackworth Park. As part of the same project, working with local children and young people, a proposal to plant six apples trees as part of a sustainable food project on land in the ownership of the Town Council along with plaques depicting the contribution made by the children and young people to the project. Funding for the project would be secured through Shildon Alive and Greggs Community Foundation.

Recommended that:

- a. the project be approved, in principle, for the planting of six fruit trees and the installation of the bear themed seat, toadstools and fairy houses together with associated plaques on land in the ownership of the Town Council at Hackworth Park.
- b. the possibility of alternative fruit trees such as plum and cherry be explored to determine which trees would be more beneficial to the area.

Signed
Chairman.....