

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 15th January 2018.

Present: Councillor S Quinn in the Chair
Councillors A Walker, H Nicholson, P Walton, A Farlow, M P Johnson, J G Huntington, L Cockfield, D Reynolds, D A Anderson, S Townsend, D L Mather, L Deakin and P Quinn.

In attendance: Peter Garrod, South Durham Community Led Local Development Co-ordinator

TC 89/17 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 90/17 Public Question Time

The following letter containing questions, submitted in advance, was put to the Meeting by the Town Mayor:

"Public Question Time"

Addressed to Shirley Quinn

These are not private matters where a Councillor is involved in a Public capacity.

A copy of the letter concerned can be seen read and recorded from the Town Crier 10th Oct 2017 issue

1. I sent this Councillor representative a copy of a letter regarding Hallgarth Surgery Merger. An important issue that was brought up by IntraHealth at the Hallgarth Surgery Patients Forum, which I was invited to attend

And I want to know why I received no acknowledgement from this councillor

Why this matter was not taken up in Council considering the local MP's involvement.

Why there was no official report in the Town Crier on the Public Meeting in SHILDON, advertised in and called by Helen Goodman MP who became involved and claimed she wanted to "offer reassurance about future local health service changes" and inappropriately called on the Public wanting to attend to declare themselves to this MP.

The response of mine which was published in the In Your Area information, which the Council can retrieve.

2. Being new to the area and responding to the Christmas Table Top "Sale" at the Civic Hall organised by the Council, which was little more than a Tombola, I want to know why the, a for said, Councillor wearing a ? Gold chain of office around her neck, did not have the courtesy of acknowledging my wife and I at our two tables officially designated for the sale, of Philippine Handmade Gifts.

This was little more than abject ignorance to a resident of this community, and designed to make them feel deliberately unwanted there or here.

I demand a full record of these questions and comments made and answered at Council and a copy of Councils response published publicly in the Council Minutes and the Town Crier.

G Wynne

Signed
Chairman.....

Following which the Town Mayor responded as follows on behalf of the Town Council

In accordance with the Public Question Time Policy, your public questions submitted to the Town Council via email on 15th December, 2017 were submitted to a meeting of the Town Council held on Monday, 15th January, 2018.

The public questions were put to the Meeting by the Town Mayor in your absence.

The Town Mayor has responded accordingly as follows:-

- 1. I can confirm that I have not received a letter via email, by post or hand delivered regarding the merger of Hallgarth Surgery, Shildon. Consequently a reply was not forthcoming.*

The question regarding the M'P's involvement and a Public Meeting in Shildon about Hallgarth Surgery merger – I would advise that this question needs to be addressed to Helen Goodman M.P. direct regarding the concerns.

Shildon Town Crier is a company which is not connected to the Town Council.

Contact has been made with Intrahealth regarding the consultation process on the merger. Patients from both surgeries were provided with a letter explaining the merger together with a question and answer sheet. Patients were also invited to an Open Meeting held on 3rd October, 2017 at Hallgarth Surgery to discuss the merger. At the open meeting there were 5 PPG Members, 14 patients in total (including PPG Members) attended. Intrahealth has confirmed that all concerns regarding the merger have been addressed.

- 2. My only role on the evening of 1st December was to officially take part in the Christmas Procession and the Christmas Tree Switch On.*

I attended the Shildon Civic Hall to support my volunteers working on my behalf raising funds for my nominated charities/causes which are the Royal British Legion (Shildon Branch), the Sanctuary and a celebration event for the older people of Shildon. My role on the evening was not to meet and greet people at the table top sale. The table top sale on the evening was managed by staff at the Shildon Civic Hall. After visiting my own fundraising table, I then left to attend a Civic Ball in my official capacity as Town Mayor. The Town Council would like to thank all individuals/organisations attending on the evening who raised money for their causes

As Town Mayor, I would like place on record that the Town Council always welcomes new residents to Shildon and hope they enjoy living in our community spirited town.

Thank you for submitting your public questions.

A written copy of the above response will be sent to Mr Wynne due to his absence at the meeting.

Signed
Chairman.....

TC 91/17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Childs, J Miller and A Farlow.

TC 92/17 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 93/17 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 11th December 2017 be approved.

TC 94/17 Committees

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 11th December 2017
- b) Resources - 11th December 2017
- c) Special Meeting of the Resources Committee - 4th January 2018

TC 95/17 Police Report

In the absence of a police representative, the Town Clerk presented details of the crime statistics for the month of December 2017 which had previously been circulated to Members.

Resolved that the report be received.

Councillor A Farlow joined the meeting.

TC 96/17 Presentation

Peter Garrod, South Durham Community Led Local Development Co-ordinator, gave a presentation to Members on the Community Led Local Development Funding opportunity.

Resolved that thanks be extended to Peter Garrod for attending the meeting and providing an informative presentation.

TC 97/17 Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement

The Town Clerk provided information to Members on the draft Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement confirming that the Government intends to defer the settling of referendum principles for town and parish council for three years.

Resolved that Members receive the report for information purposes.

Signed
Chairman.....

TC 98/17 Budget and Precept Requirement 2018/19

The Town Clerk submitted the budget and precept requirement report seeking approval for the setting of the Council's 2018/19 precept.

Resolved that:

- a) the 2018/19 council precept requirement of £596,300 be approved
- b) the Town Mayor and Town Clerk be duly authorised to sign the relevant precept request form.

TC 99/17 NALC : General Data Protection Regulation Update

The Town Clerk provided Members with NALC update documents on the General Data Protection Regulation, appointment of a Data Protection Officer together with an update received from the Information Commissioner.

Resolved that:

- a) Members receive the GDPR NALC Activity document and consider feedback on the options presented within the document.
- b) Members receive the update from the Information Commissioner.
- c) Members receive the NALC Data Protection Officer information on the appointment and responsibilities of a Data Protection Officer.

TC 100/17 Appreciations and Congratulations

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

Signed
Chairman.....