

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 11th April 2022.

Present: Councillor D L Mather in the Chair
Councillors K Ambrosini, D Reynolds, J Graham, A Farlow, N Hanratty, H M Hanratty, S Quinn and P Quinn.

Before the meeting commenced a one-minute silence was observed in memory of Allan Walker and Paul Walton who sadly passed away. Both had served the people of Shildon as a valued member of the Town Council.

TC 153/21 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 154/21 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 155/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Childs, M Johnson, L Deakin, R A Nicholson, D Bell and S Townsend.

TC 156/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 157/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 14th March 2022 be approved.

TC 158/21 Committee Minutes

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 14th March 2022
- b) Resources - 14th March 2022

TC 159/21 Police Report

The Town Clerk presented details of the crime statistics for the month of March 2022.

A discussion took place regarding shoplifting incidents and anti-social behaviour.

Resolved that:

- a. the report be received.

Signed
Chairman

- b. Shildon Neighbourhood Police Sergeant be contacted to discuss preventative measures in relation to shoplifting incidents.

TC 160/21 Greenfields School (Sunnydale Site)

Councillor D Reynolds provided a verbal report and informed Members that Durham County Council had announced that Greenfields School (Sunnydale Site) was to officially close on 31st August, 2022.

The Zoom meeting with Paul Rickeard, Diocese Director of Education on 28th March 2022 had been re-arranged and was now to be held on 27th April 2022.

Members were informed that correspondence had been received from Mr Priestly, Headteacher, to work together with the Town Council for the benefit of the young people of Shildon in relation to secondary education provision.

Resolved that:

- a. the verbal report be received.
- b. a site visit of Greenfields School, Newton Aycliffe be arranged.
- c. a representative of Durham County Council be invited to a meeting of the Town Council to discuss the future of Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre.

TC 161/21 2025 Bicentenary Railway Celebrations Working Party Minutes

Resolved that the recommendations of the 2025 Bicentenary Railway Celebrations Working Party Minutes be approved.

TC 162/21 Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit

The Town Clerk provided Members with details of the internal audit function provided for the Town Council by Allen Sykes, Chartered Accountants. The review of internal audit had been undertaken and a copy of the completed review checklist had been provided to Members. As a result of the review it was considered that the internal audit service was effective.

Resolved that Allen Sykes be re-engaged to provide the internal audit function for 2022/23.

TC 163/21 Durham County Councillor Updates

Councillor S Quinn provided Members with various updates concerning the parish of Shildon including the Community Art Project, Health Express Bread and Butter project, LIVIN walkabouts, PACT meetings and Gypsy Roma Traveller forums.

Members were provided with a written report from Councillor M Johnson in his absence which included updates on the closure of Greenfields School (Sunnydale Site), UK City of Culture 2025 and the Great British Railways HQ competition.

Resolved that the Durham County Councillor updates be noted.

Signed
Chairman

TC 164/21 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Reports were received from representatives on the following outside bodies: -

- a. Shildon Children and Young People's Action Network

No update provided.

- b. County Durham Association of Local Councils

No meeting held.

- c. Jubilee Fields Community Association

Councillor S Quinn provided an update and informed Members that the Big Spring Clean was to take place on 13th April.

- d. Larger Local Councils Forum

Councillor P Quinn provided an update and informed Members of Councillor Code of Conduct training which was provided by NALC.

- e. Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership

No update provided.

- f. Shildon Chamber of Trade

No update provided.

- g. Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway

Councillor D Reynolds was unable to attend the meeting.

Resolved that the reports given by representatives on outside bodies be received.

TC 165/21 Announcements

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

Signed
Chairman