

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shildon Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, Co Durham on Monday, 17th October 2022.

Present: Councillor H Hanratty in the Chair
Councillors K Ambrosini, J Graham, A Farlow, D Childs, M Johnson, S Townsend, R A Nicholson, D Bell, D L Mather, N Hanratty, S Quinn and P Quinn.

In attendance: Paula Nelson, Shildon Alive

TC 70/22 Notice of Meeting

The Notice convening the Meeting was taken as read.

TC 71/22 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

TC 72/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors F Langley, D Reynolds and J Miller.

TC 73/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

TC 74/22 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 26th September 2022 be approved.

TC 75/22 Committee Minutes

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

- a) Service & Amenities - 26th September 2022
- b) Resources - 26th September 2022

TC 76/22 Shildon Alive

Paula Nelson, Shildon Alive, gave a presentation on the work of Shildon Alive and support for Shildon residents.

Following the presentation there was a lengthy discussion around support for the community together with the Town Clerk informing Members of proposals submitted by Councillor F Langley to help vulnerable members of the community during the winter months. The proposals were discussed and it was agreed that Proposal 1 and 3 were already in the process of being developed and proposal 2 would require further research in terms of contacting local Schools to see what was already on offer.

Signed
Chairman

Resolved

- a. that thanks be extended to Paula Nelson for attending the meeting and providing an informative presentation.
- b. that the Council and Shildon Alive co-ordinate emergency crisis grant requests from funding available through the former Edward Metcalfe Charity and report back to Members for consideration.

TC 77/22 Police Report

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

The Town Clerk provided Members with an update on damage to St John's War Memorial.

Resolved that the report be received.

TC 78/22 Review of Attendance Management Policy and Procedure

The Town Clerk presented to Members an amended Attendance Management Policy and Procedure.

Members were informed that the policy supported employees' health needs while providing clear and consistent guidance, emphasising that genuine sickness absence would be supported and to avoid unauthorised absence or inappropriate use of the sick pay scheme.

Resolved that the amended draft Attendance Management Policy and Procedure be approved and adopted.

TC 79/22 Membership : Human Resources Committee and Appeals Committee

It was **resolved** that:

- a. the membership of the Human Resources Committee be the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of full Committees and Leader of the Town Council.
- b. the membership of the Appeals Committee be Councillors M Johnson, S Townsend, D Bell, D Childs, A Farlow and K Ambrosini.

TC 80/22 Town Councillor Vacancy, Thickley Ward, Shildon

The Town Clerk advised Members of a vacancy in the Thickley Ward of Shildon Town Council and informed Members that Durham County Council did not receive the requisite number of signatories to call an election for the vacancy. Members were advised that the vacancy could now be filled by co-option.

Signed
Chairman

Councillor P Quinn proposed and Councillor D Bell seconded a nomination for Gareth Mather to be co-opted onto Shildon Town Council.

Resolved that Gareth Mather be co-opted as a Councillor for Thickley Ward, Shildon.

TC 81/22 Complaint – Hackworth Park

Resolved that the complaint be noted.

TC 82/22 Code of Conduct Complaint Decision Notice

The Town Clerk advised Members that a Code of Conduct complaint had been made against a Member of the Council and of the outcome of the Code of Conduct investigation by Durham County Council Governance Solicitor which had now been completed. A Decision Notice had been issued advising that no further action was required in respect of the complaint.

Resolved that the report be noted.

TC 83/22 Durham County Councillor Updates

Councillors S Townsend, M Johnson and S Quinn provided Members with various updates concerning the parish of Shildon.

Resolved that the verbal report be noted.

TC 84/22 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

Councillor S Townsend provided an update to Members.

b. County Durham Association of Local Councils

Councillor P Quinn provided an update to Members.

c. Jubilee Fields Community Association

Councillor S Quinn provided an update and informed Members that a support worker had been appointed at Jubilee Fields Community Centre.

d. Larger Local Councils Forum

Councillor P Quinn provided an update to Members.

e. Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership

Councillor S Quinn informed Members that the next meeting was to be held on 20th October 2022.

Signed
Chairman

f. Shildon Town Team

Councillor D L Mather provided an update and informed Members of a Halloween litter pick and Halloween window decoration competition.

g. Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway

Councillor D Reynolds was unable to attend the meeting. The Annual General Meeting was to be held on 22nd October 2022.

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

TC 85/22 Announcements

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

Councillor S Quinn left the meeting.

Signed
Chairman