

Minutes of the **RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held on **WEDNESDAY 23rd July 2025** at **6.00pm** at **Ferryhill Town Hall, Chapel Terrace, Ferryhill.**

PRESENT: Councillors: Councillor C Bihari (Chair)
C Atkinson, A Ferguson, J Lathan,

Officials: L Owens, Town Clerk
S Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

R.01-25-26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor J Quinn.

R.02.25-26 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Members voted on the position of Chairman of the Resources Committee for 2025-26. **Moved by** Councillor A Ferguson, **Seconded by** Councillor C Atkinson, to appoint Councillor C Bihari as Chairman for 2025/26.

RESOLVED

Councillor C Bihari be appointed as Chairman of the Resources Committee for 2025-26.

R.03.25-26 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Members voted on the position of Vice-Chairman of the Resources Committee for 2025-26. **Moved by** Councillor A Ferguson, **Seconded by** Councillor J Lathan, to appoint Councillor C Atkinson as Chairman for 2025/26.

RESOLVED

That Councillor C Atkinson be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Resources Committee for 2025-26.

R.04.25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

R.05.25-26 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

There were no members dispensations in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

R.06.25-26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was 1 member of the public present but he had no questions in relation to any agenda items.

R.07.26-26 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members considered the terms of reference of the Resources Committee.

RESOLVED

That the terms of reference of the Resources Committee be agreed and accepted.

R.08.25-26 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & INCOME

Members considered the Statement of Accounts & Income.

The following queries were raised by Councillor C Bihari:

- Why are we paying Peterlee Town Council to remove trees, is this not something our staff can do. The Clerk advised this is something the Works Supervisor can do but he is off work at the minute, however, we do from time to time have to use a tree surgeon for certain jobs.
- Why are we buying de-icer in the summer, the clerk advised that although this had only just been paid, the invoice date was dated January 2025.
- Seems to be multiple repairs to strimmers and asked if would be cheaper to lease the machinery, possibly look at the last 12 months of repair costs and enquire about leasing – the Clerk advised that there has recently been an issue with the completion of machinery check sheets but this has now been looked at and this should help with the amount of repairs needed.

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts & Income be received, the Clerk to look at the last 12 months of machinery costs and enquire about leasing costs.

R.09.25-26 BUDGETARY CONTROL TO 30th JUNE 2025 AND BUDGET UPDATE

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk and Finance & Administration Manager.

Councillor C Bihari queried if the reduced grant would impact the figures shown in the report, the Clerk advised that it wouldn't. He also asked if it would be possible to see how much of a saving has been made through the solar panels.

Members expressed their thanks to Leeanne Owens, Town Clerk and Elizabeth Gildersleeves, Finance & Admin Manager, they have done a remarkable job turning things around, especially in the first financial year without the Accountant.

RESOLVED

That Members note the financial position of the Council at 30 June 2025 and the financial projection for the year to 31 March 2026 and the Clerk to provide members with details of savings made from solar panels.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.20pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....