

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ORDINARY** meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ferryhill, on **WEDNESDAY, 25th JANUARY 2017** at **7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: *Councillor:* P Atkinson (Chair)

Councillors: Z Roddam, K Conroy, M Walton, J Makepeace, B Lamb,
P Atkinson, P Crathorne, K Campbell, G Barker, T Garrett,
D Allen

OFFICIALS: D.Snowball, Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator
D. Shingleton, Consultant Accountant
K. Youngusband, Projects & Grants Officer
N. Leeming, Leeming Associates

Prior to the meeting Members, Officers and members of the public observed a one minute's silence as a mark of respect for the sad and unexpected loss of Councillor Denise Richardson.

90.16-17 EMERGENCY ITEM – CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk advised members that a notice had been received from Durham County Council advertising a casual vacancy following the sad and unexpected loss of Councillor D Richardson. Although an election would not be necessary in the short time until the elections in May, the Council could if they so wish co-opt a member to the Council.

Moved by Councillor B Lamb, **Seconded** by Councillor J Makepeace not to fill the vacancy before the May elections as a mark of respect.

RESOLVED

That the vacancy remain until the elections in May.

91.16-17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors M Seymour, B Gibson , D Harrison and M Brown, these were approved by resolution of the Council.

Apologies not received but absent; Councillor A Patchett.

92.16-17 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

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

93.16-17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

94.16-17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public questions in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

95.16-17 MINUTES

Ordinary Council - 14th December 2016

Moved by Councillor B Lamb, **Seconded** by Councillor P Crathorne that the minutes are a true and accurate.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council, held on Wednesday 14th December 2016, be confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

96.16-17 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance, Planning and General Purpose - 14 December 2016

Moved by Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded** by Councillor B Lamb that the minutes are a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED
As follows;

That the minutes of the meetings of the;

- i) Finance planning and General Purpose Committee held on the 14th December 2016 be received and that the said minutes be approved and adopted.

97.16-17 OTHER MINUTES

- a) Friends of Dean Bank - 2 December 2016
- b) Neighbourhood Plan - 10 January 2017

RESOLVED
That the minutes be received.

98.16-17 MEMBERS REPORTS

Reports were received from the following meetings:
Councillor G Barker was unable to attend the Dean Bank Residents meeting on 7th November 2016, however, he read out the minutes of the

meeting. Some of the issues discussed at the meeting included dog fouling at Dean Bank Park and the suggestion of fencing off the football fields within the park, fly tipping in Ferryhill and the proposed housing development behind Southside.

Councillor P Atkinson gave a brief report on the PACT meeting held on 4 January 2017, main issues at the PACT meeting included continued anti-social behaviour, quad bikes on grassed areas, parking and the road closure at Thinford.

RESOLVED

That the reports be received.

99.16-17 DEAN BANK PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY

This item was brought forward on the agenda and Members considered the report previously circulated. Mrs Karen Younghusband spoke briefly to give members an update and Mr Nick Leeming of Leeming Associates was in attendance to answer any questions.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded** by Councillor J Makepeace to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That members consider the contents of the Feasibility Study and an extraordinary meeting be held in February to agree the best way forward.

At this point Mrs K Younghusband and Mr Leeming were thanked for their attendance whereupon they left the meeting.

100.16-17 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2017/2018

Members considered the report previously circulated. Mr Derek Shingleton was in attendance and spoke in detail about his report.

It was agreed that members vote on each individual recommendation of the report.

Recommendation a) Consider the proposals submitted by FAIR Members:

It was proposed and seconded to accept the proposals by FAIR members and a named vote was requested.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	NOT PRESENT
G Barker	P Crathorne		B Gibson
D Allen	K Campbell		M Seymour
J Makepeace	P Atkinson		D Harrison
T Garrett	Z Roddam		M Brown
	B Lamb		A Patchett
	K Conroy		
	M Walton		

RESOLVED

That he proposals submitted by the FAIR Members not be accepted.

Recommendation b) Consider the current position and agree a Precept on Durham County Council for the year 2017/2018.

It was proposed and seconded for a 1% increase on the precept to go towards the work identified in the recent building condition survey commissioned by the council especially for the priority one works of approximately £93,000 as well as in support of the loss of budget from the reductions in the region of £30,000 from the Local Council Tax Support Grant received from Durham County Council.

Vote as follows:

For	7
Against	4
Abstain	0
Absent	5

RESOLVED

That a 1% increase in precept is applied for the financial year 2017/18.

Recommendation c) Ensure that the budget reflects any increase in precept from the current position

RESOLVED

That this was agreed unanimously.

Recommendation d) Confirm whether or not any increase in fees & charges is required for 2017/18.

It was proposed and seconded the there be no increase in the fees & charges for the financial year 2017/18

RESOLVED

That this was agreed unanimously.

The Chairman thanked Mr Shingleton for his comprehensive report and asked that he pass on the Council's thanks to Mrs E Gildersleeves for her assistance in compiling the Budget details.
At this point Mr Shingleton left the meeting.

101.16-17 TURNERS FUNFAIR REQUEST 2017

Members considered the report previously circulated requesting permission to hold the Annual Fun Fair in Ferryhill Market Place on Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th August 2017.

Moved by Councillor K Campbell, **Seconded** by Councillor P Crathorne to agree to the recommendations of the report.

It was unanimously agreed to accept the report recommendations.

RESOLVED

That members agree to:

- a) Turners Annual Fun Fair event request as identified in the report;
- b) The closure of the Town Centre car park for the duration of the event;
- c) Authorise the Town Clerk to agree any acceptable change of dates for the event if required.

102.16-17 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE REVIEW

Members considered the report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor B Lamb, **Seconded** by Councillor P Crathorne to accept the recommendations of the report.

Vote as follows:

For	10
Against	0
Abstain	1
Absent	5

RESOLVED

That members agree to the proposed changes to the Committee structure of Ferryhill Town Council to take effect at the Annual General Meeting to be held in May 2017.

103.16-17 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES CHAIRMAN GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Members considered the report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor B Lamb, **Seconded** by Councillor K Conroy to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That;

- a) Members consider the attached Council and Committees Chairman Guidance document and adopt with immediate effect; and
- b) A copy of this document is issued to all Council Committee meeting Chairmen and Vice Chairmen and training is provided if requested

104.16-17 COUNCILLORS CODE OF CONDUCT

Members considered the report previously circulated.

RESOLVED

That this be received.

105.16-17 MEMBERS BRIEFING NOTE - ECAFE SALE UPDATE

Members considered the report previously circulated.

RESOLVED

That this be received.

106.16-17 RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. Eurokit Buildings Ltd. Voluntary Liquidation notification

RESOLVED

That this be received

- 2. Mainsforth Cricket Club Request to name the bar lounge

A request had been received from Mainsforth Cricket Club requesting permission to rename the lounge in the Cricket Club 'The Tom Stoddart Lounge'.

RESOLVED

That this be approved.

- 3. Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Notification of changes to the External Auditor Appointed from 2017/2018

RESOLVED

That this be received.

4. Information Commissioner's Office Data Protection Outcome Resident complaint

RESOLVED

That this be received.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.40pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....