

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ferryhill, on **WEDNESDAY, 19th JUNE 2019** at **7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: *Councillor:* J Makepeace (Chair)
Councillors: C Atkinson, P Atkinson, G Barker, K Campbell, J Cansella, K Conroy, D. Farry, K Graham, N Jones, J Lindsay, Z Roddam, M Seymour, L Smith, R Smith

Officials: D. Shingleton, Acting Town Clerk
S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

20.19-20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies were received from Councillors M Walton and C Woods.

21.19-20 **MEMBERS DISPENSATION**
There were no members' dispensations in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

22.19-20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Councillor P Atkinson declared an interest in agenda item nos. 7a)iii), 7b)i) and agenda item 9.

23.19-20 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
Two members of the public had questions in relation to item 6 – Crime in Ferryhill.

24.19-20 **MINUTES**

a) Annual meeting of the Council held on 15th May 2019.

Councillor K Conroy advised that the Planning Sub Committee had been missed on item 12.19-20

Moved by R Smith, **Seconded by** D Farry to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record subject to the amendment being made.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th May 2019 be agreed as a true and accurate record subject to the amendment being made.

25.19-20 **CRIME IN FERRYHILL**
Members considered the issue of current crime levels in the Ferryhill area and agree a course of action (raised by Councillors Makepeace and Farry)

Considerable discussion took place with members agreeing there is an issue with crime levels in Ferryhill.

Two members of the public also raised their concerns about the increase in crime in Ferryhill.

Moved by Councillor J Cansella, **Seconded by** Councillor D Farry to write to Durham County Council, Mr R Hogg at Durham Constabulary to express concerns and also the Co-op Head Office to suggest they examine the layout of the store. Members also to encourage everyone to attend the PACT Meeting to raise issues.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk write to Durham County Council and Mr R Hogg at Durham Constabulary to express concerns and also the Co-op Head Office to suggest they examine the layout of the store. Members also to encourage everyone to attend the PACT Meeting to raise issues.

26.19-20

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

To consider the following motions submitted by Councillor Farry:

- i) *Memorial Benches – that the Town Council considers the purchase of a number of memorial benches to commemorate anniversaries related to World Wars 1 and 2.*

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Cansella to purchase the memorial benches.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Council purchase possibly 6 memorial benches to commemorate anniversaries related to World Wars 1 and 2.

- ii) *VE Day – that the Town Council agrees to hold an event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May 2020, and this be added to the Councils list of events for 2020/2021. Arrangements to be made by the Events and Community Engagement Sub-Committee.*

Councillor J Lindsay suggested that the 75th anniversary of VJ Day also be recognised.

Members agreed.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded by** Councillor N Jones to hold events for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day.

RESOLVED

That events be held to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day.

- iii) *That the Town Council writes to the Chief Executive of Durham County Council expressing Members' dismay at the lack of resources deployed within Ferryhill, especially with regard to street clean, refuse collection and the lack of governance over the once Selective Licensed area of Dean Bank, and what plans he has, if any, to rectify this now massive problem in the short, medium and long term to safeguard the dignity of the residents of Ferryhill.*

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor N Jones that the motion be agreed.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Town Council writes to the Chief Executive of Durham County Council expressing Members' dismay at the lack of resources deployed within Ferryhill, especially with regard to street clean, refuse collection and the lack of governance over the once Selective Licensed area of Dean Bank, and what plans he has, if any, to rectify this now massive problem in the short, medium and long term to safeguard the dignity of the residents of Ferryhill.

a) To consider the following motion from Councillor Cansella:

- i) The B6287 currently has a 40mph limit as it enters Ferryhill, from the 60mph Kirk Merrington road. In 2018, in a bid to improve safety for pupils, 20mph advisory speed limit signs were introduced at drop off and pick up times. These signs are located immediately either side of FBEC. The issue is that a 40mph repeater sign remains located directly outside the school, between the 20mph advisory signs.
Motion - that the Town Council writes to the Traffic Assets Team at Durham County Council to formally express Members' concerns and request that the 40mph sign be re-sited as soon as possible.

Moved by Councillor J Cansella, **Seconded by** Councillor M Seymour to *that the Town Council writes to the Traffic Assets Team at Durham County Council to formally express Members' concerns and request that the 40mph sign be re-sited as soon as possible*

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Town Council writes to the Traffic Assets Team at Durham County Council to formally express Members' concerns and request that the 40mph sign be re-sited as soon as possible

27.19-20

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2018/19

Members considered the report from the Acting Town Clerk which was previously circulated.

Members expressed their thanks to staff for looking after the Councils accounts under the circumstances, staff have done a great job.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor R Smith to accept the recommendations of the report.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That Members:

- a) Note the financial performance for the year 2018/2019 and the financial position at 31 March 2019
- b) Approve Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), the Annual Governance Statement, and note the answers given to each of the questions
- c) Approve Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), the Statement of Accounts for Ferryhill Town Council;
- d) Consider the proposals for earmarked reserves and whether the Budget Review Working Group should further consider the use of General Reserves;
- e) Authorise the Chair of the meeting and the Responsible Financial Officer/Town Clerk to sign the AGAR in the appropriate places on pages 4 and 5 and
- f) Approve the placing of the Return on the Council's website on Thursday, 20 June 2019, with the public inspection period to start on Friday, 21 June 2019 and end on Thursday 1 August 2019.

28.19-20

MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD

Members considered the report from the Acting Town Clerk previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Cansella that due to current circumstances of Ferryhill Town Council's own issues with allotments, the Council decline the offer made by the school and let Durham County Council continue with the school field.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk advise Ferryhill Station School that due to current circumstances of Ferryhill Town Council's own issues with allotments, the Council decline the offer made by the school and let Durham County Council continue with the school field.

29.19-20

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members are requested to move the following motion:

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the public and press for the remaining items on the Agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to public interest.”

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the next section of the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.45pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....