

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ferryhill, on **WEDNESDAY, 17th JULY 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, N Jones, J Lindsay, Z Roddam,
M Seymour, L Smith, R Smith, M Walton, C Woods

Officials: E. Gildersleeves, Finance & Administration Manager
R. Seymour, Works Manager
S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

34.19-20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor K Graham.

35.19-20 **MEMBERS DISPENSATION**

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

36.19-20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor C Woods declared an interest in agenda items 10 & 11
Councillor C Atkinson declared an interest in agenda items 10 & 11
Councillor P Atkinson declared an interest in agenda items 9b, 10 & 11

37.19-20 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr J Hall was in attendance and spoke in relation to item 11, playing golf in Council run parks. He advised that he has been practising golf at this site for 7 years without an issue, until recently when he was approached by a member of staff and told the Council gave backing to no more golf, he questioned if this person has the authority to make decisions.

Councillor J Makepeace confirmed that the Works Supervisor does act as an agent for the Council, he advised Mr Hall that the Council will discuss the matter later in the meeting and will write to him with the outcome.

Mr Hall advised Members that if the Council decision is to not allow golf he will appeal and contact an Inspector to check the decision.

Mr I Hall was also in attendance and gave a short statement in relation to item 11, playing golf in Council run parks – he advised Members that he was the complainant in regard to this issue, he informed members that his complaint wasn't personal it was about the possibility of children getting hurt and gave details of recent instances where accidents have happened.

The Chair informed Mr I Hall that he would also receive a letter to inform him of the decision made later in the meeting.

38.19-20

**CRIME IN FERRYHILL, INSPECTOR EDWARDS OF DURHAM
CONSTABULARY IN ATTENDANCE**

Inspector Warren Edwards and Sergeant Peter Newman were in attendance and gave Members a very informative verbal report on crime in Ferryhill.

Members were advised that June was a particular bad month with a massive increase in crime in Ferryhill with the biggest issue being shoplifting.

Figures for the last 12 months showed that Shoplifting offences were up 68% however, all crime was down 7% and Victim based crime was down 9%.

Inspector Edwards advised the meeting that the Police have a good relationship with Red Supported Living and can confirm that the majority of crimes taking place in Ferryhill are by residents of Ferryhill and are not affiliated with Red Supported Living, only two arrests have been linked to Red Supported Living.

Both the Police and Members agreed that it is important that Selective Licensing is brought back in sooner rather than later. The Police also highlighted that it is important all crime is reported.

Councillor Cansella told the Officers that the police are doing a fantastic job and she is pleased to hear there are no plans to cut the police team in Ferryhill.

Inspector Edwards and Sergeant Newman were thanked for their attendance whereupon they left the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

39.19-20

MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19th June 2019.

Councillor J Cansella asked that an amendment be made to minute no. 25.19-20, to show that it was agreed that Council contact the Co-op Head Office and not the Co-op Store in Ferryhill.

Moved by Councillor R Smith to accept the minutes subject to the above amendment.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19th June 2019 be agreed as a true and accurate record subject to the amendment to minute no. 25.19-20 being made.

40.19-20

COMMITTEE MINUTES

To receive the Minutes of the following Committees:

- a) Policy & Resources – 16 January 2019
- b) Community Services – 3 April 2019
- c) Policy & Resources – 1 May 2019

Councillor K Conroy asked that Councillor D Farry be added to the attendees at

the Community Services meeting held on 3rd April 2019 as his name had been omitted from the minutes.

RESOLVED

That the minutes be received and Councillor Farry's name be added to the Community Services minutes of 3rd April 2019.

41.19-20

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & INCOME

Members considered the Statement of Accounts and Income previously circulated.

The following queries were raised:

Councillor K Conroy queried the £80 for Skatepark Consultation and what this involved. The Finance & Administration Manager advised this was a site visit and could be the cost for transport, however she would look into this.

Councillor K Conroy also queried payments being made to Councillors for purchases, payments should not be made in Councillors names. Councillor J Cansella agreed and stated payments should be made in the name of the company the goods were purchased from. Mrs Gildersleeves advised Members that this was a re-imburement for goods already purchased and therefore had to be made in the name of the payee, however she would look into this.

Councillor M Seymour queried the cost of the new Town Hall doors by TB Tarn. Mrs Gildersleeves advised that this involved 3 made to measure security doors.

Councillor N Jones questioned the Town Hall roof repairs by Ferryhill Roofing, he was under the impression the roof had been renewed a few years ago. Mrs Gildersleeves advised that this payment was actually for repointing the Town Hall chimney, which was part of repairs needed from the recent Surveyors report.

Councillor J Cansella enquired about the repairs to Mainsforth Bowls Club, Mrs Gildersleeves confirmed she would also look into the details of this.

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts be accepted and as per a previous Council decision, no further spend over £250 be made until the new Contractors list is approved.

42.19-20

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

To consider the following motions submitted by Councillor D Farry:

- a) That the Council agrees to pursue partnership working agreements with local groups, such as Residents Associations, Ferryhill Town Youth FC, Mainsforth Cricket Club, to deliver soft play and/or entertainment in its three main parks over the school holidays. These activities would be funded by the Council through budgets or grant funding would be sought.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor M Seymour that Members agree to the above motion.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Council agrees to pursue partnership working agreements with local groups, such as Residents Associations, Ferryhill Town Youth FC, Mainsforth Cricket Club, to deliver soft play and/or entertainment in its three main parks over the school holidays. These activities would be funded by the Council through budgets or grant funding would be sought.

- b) That Ferryhill Town Council write to DCC expressing its disappointment at not being included in any Master Planning within the County Plan and ask this be reconsidered as residents feel Ferryhill has been forgotten and is not getting a fair share of DCC resources and commitment for development.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor K Conroy that the above motion be agreed.

Councillor J Cansella asked if she could liaise with Officers regarding the wording of the letter.

Members agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That Ferryhill Town Council write to DCC expressing its disappointment at not being included in any Master Planning within the County Plan and ask this be reconsidered as residents feel Ferryhill has been forgotten and is not getting a fair share of DCC resources and commitment for development. Councillor J Cansella liaise with Officers regarding the wording of the letter.

43.19-20

REQUEST TO BORROW THE DEAN AND CHAPTER MINERS COLLIERY BANNER

Members considered the report from the Finance & Administration Manager and the request for the Black Miners Museum Project to borrow the Dean & Chapter replica banner from 21st September 2019 until 5th January 2020.

Moved by Councillor K Campbell to allow the Project to borrow the replica banner.

RESOLVED

That Members agree to allow the Black Miners Museum Project to borrow the replica Dean and Chapter Miners Colliery Banner to display at the National Coal Mining Museum for England from 21 September 2019 until 5th January 2020.

Mrs Gildersleeves write to Miss Gregory advising her of the Council's decision and ask that she provides copy of Insurance cover and any future correspondence be addressed to the Town Clerk in the Town Hall.

44.19-20

VERBAL REPORT ON PLAYING GOLF IN COUNCIL RUN PARKS

Members discussed this matter in detail and took into consideration the comments made by the two gentleman in public participation.

Concern was raised over Insurance as the clubs currently using Council Facilities such as Mainsforth Cricket Club and Mainsforth Bowls Club and also football teams have their own insurance for any incidents.

It was noted that there are currently no signs up regarding playing golf and appropriate signage will be required depending on Council decision

Moved by Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded by** Councillor M Seymour that the Finance & Administration Manager look into this matter further and obtain information on Insurance, Vicarious Responsibilities and Health & Safety, a report be brought back to Council before a decision is made.

RESOLVED

That the Finance & Administration Manager look into this matter further and obtain information on Insurance, vicarious responsibilities and Health & Safety. A report be brought back to Council before a decision is made.

45.19-20 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members were 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. All members of the public left the meeting.

46.19-20 MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the confidential part of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19th June 2019.

Councillor D Farry asked that the minutes be amended to show that Councillor N Jones was in attendance as his name was omitted from the minutes.

Members agreed.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the confidential part of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19th June 2019 be agreed subject to the above amendment being made.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....