

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held on **WEDNESDAY, 20 October 2021** at **6.00 pm** at **Dean Bank & Ferryhill Literary Institute.**

PRESENT: Councillor: J Makepeace (Vice Chair)

Councillors: C Atkinson, P Atkinson, G Barker, C Bihari, K Conroy,
P Donald, R Hume, B Lamb, R Petitjean, J Quinn, K Tinkler

Officials: D. Anderson, Town Clerk
D. Shingleton Consultant Accountant
K. Younghusband, Events & Projects Officer
S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

Before the meeting commenced a minute silence was held in memory of Mrs Zena Roddam and the MP David Amess.

67.21-22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Farry, Jane Makepeace, M Seymour, S Varty, C Woods

68.21-22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

69.21-22 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

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

70.21-22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was 1 member of the public in attendance but no questions were asked.

71.21-22 MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of:-

- 1) Council held on 15th September 2021.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2021 be agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

72.21-22 NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

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

Moved by Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded by** Councillor P Atkinson to adopt the new Code of Conduct.

RESOLVED

That the new Code of Conduct for Members be adopted.

73.21-22 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND INCOME

Members considered the monthly statement of accounts and income.

Moved by Councillor P Atkinson, **Seconded by** Councillor K Conroy to accept the Statement of Accounts and Income.

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts and Income be received.

74.21-22 ACCOUNTS 2020-2021 – COMPLETION OF AUDIT

Members considered a report from the Accountant, which was previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED

That Members:

- a) Approve and accept the audited AGAR
- b) Confirm acceptance of the arrangements for the Notice of Completion of Audit to be displayed on notice boards within and outside of the Town Hall, and on the website, between 21st September until 20th October 2021 and the charge of 50p for a copy of the relevant information; and
- c) Note that every effort will continue to be made to ensure in future that the AGAR is accurate and complete.

75.21-22 BUDGETARY CONTROL TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Members considered a report from the Accountant, which was previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED

That

- a) Members note the financial position of the Council at 30 September 2021 as indicated in the report and the projected figure for the year 2021/2022.
- b) A date be arranged for financial training

76.21-22 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS: RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

The Clerk provided Members with a copy of the results of the consultation.

The report was divided into two sections, the first part being the King George V Playing Field and the second part relating to the installation of a skatepark, it was decided to discuss each section separately.

Anti-social Behaviour

Members gave detailed discussion to the ongoing issues relating to the King George V Field, taking into consideration the outcome of consultation.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy that the Council proceed with the actions detailed in the report.

RESOLVED

1. That additional fencing and gates be installed and the vehicular access gates be extended in height so that the park can be locked on an evening. When the fence and gates have been installed the park will open from 8.00 am and will close at 4.00 pm during winter months and 8.00 pm during summer months in line with other parks in the town.
2. That barriers or kissing gates be installed at each entrance to the Park to make access by off-road bikes and quadbikes more difficult but ensuring that the barriers are accessible for wheelchairs, Motability scooters and pushchairs.
3. That new LED lights be installed on the existing lighting columns and two high quality CCTV cameras will be installed.
4. That the offer from Councillors Peter Atkinson and Joe Quinn to contribute funds from their Durham County Council Neighbourhood Budgets to help finance the fencing and gates be noted and that the AAP be contacted regarding the funding.

Installation of the proposed Skatepark

Members gave detailed consideration to the installation of a skatepark at King George V Playing Fields, taking into consideration the feedback from the most recent and previous consultations.

Moved by Councillor P Atkinson that the decision on the installation of the skatepark be delayed so that the potential inclusion of lighting and CCTV can be discussed with the preferred contractor and the possibility of grant funding be investigated.

RESOLVED

5. That the decision on the installation of the skatepark be delayed so that the potential inclusion of lighting and CCTV can be discussed with the preferred contractor and the possibility of grant funding be investigated.
6. That a report be presented to Council with regard to 1 above following an assessment of the impact of interventions to tackle anti-social behaviour at the Park

77.21-22 FEASIBILITY STUDY: 4G PITCH

Members considered a report from the Events & Projects Officer, which was previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded by** Councillor R Petitjean to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That:

1. The Events & Projects Officer produce a brief to send to a range of Consultants (as suggested by Sport England), inviting them to submit quotations, to carry out a Feasibility Study into the potential for

developing at least one 4G Pitch in Ferryhill.

2. The Brief for the Feasibility Study incorporates the following aspects:
 - Community Consultation – It is expected that a robust community consultation exercise be carried out in the Town as part of the Feasibility Study to demonstrate that there is strong support for this project. Consultation is likely to take the form of questionnaires and focus groups.
 - Location – an options appraisal be carried out of Town Council sites to identify the most suitable location for developing this type of facility.
 - Costs – A breakdown of costs to be provided to enable external funding to be applied for.
 - Maintenance - Identification of any ongoing maintenance and associated costs likely to be incurred on the project in the future.
 - Funding – Identify any potential funding streams that are likely to be supportive of this type of development.
 - Planning – identify if planning permission is required for the project.
3. A further report be brought to Town Council for Members consideration once quotations have been received to undertake the Feasibility Study.

78.21-22

FUNDING FOR RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

Members considered a report from the Events & Projects Officer, which was previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor P Atkinson to accept the recommendations

RESOLVED

That:

1. The Events and Projects Officer submits a funding application to Lafarge-Tarmac Ltd for £65,250 to contribute towards the costs of delivering renewable technology projects 1 – 7 (listed below):
 - 1) Town Hall
 - 2) Town Centre Toilets & Kiosks
 - 3) Mainsforth Cricket Pavilion
 - 4) Mainsforth Bowls Pavilion
 - 5) KGV Football Changing Rooms
 - 6) The Old Chapel
 - 7) Dean Bank Bowls Pavilion
2. Members approve a maximum contribution of £21,525 from the Council's unallocated reserves towards the costs associated with delivering renewable energy projects 1 – 7 (listed above).
3. That external funding continues to be sought to deliver a renewable energy project at Dean Bank Football Facility

79.21-22 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.”

80.21-22 REPLACEMENT OF OFFICE PRINTER

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk regarding the replacement of an office printer, which was previously circulated.

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

RESOLVED

That a three year contract be taken out with Total Business Group for the rental of a Toshiba e-studio 330AC machine as detailed in the report.

79.21-22 HERITAGE CENTRE

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk regarding the Heritage Centre, which was previously circulated.

Members noted that the agent had advised that the premises which the Council had submitted an offer had been sold to another party. Alternative options to achieve the objectives of the Heritage Centre would be identified and reported to Council.

RESOLVED

That the information be noted and a report be submitted to a future meeting to consider alternative options to achieve the desired outcomes.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.05pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....