

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held on **WEDNESDAY, 19 October 2022** at **6.00 pm** at **Ferryhill Town Hall, Chapel Terrace, Ferryhill.**

PRESENT: Councillor: C Atkinson (Chair)

Councillors: P Atkinson, G Barker, C Bihari, K Conroy, P Donald, D Farry, L Fellows, R Hume, J Lamb, S Jones, B Lamb, J Makepeace, J Quinn, K Tinkler, C Woods

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

As this was the first full Council meeting since the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, a one minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect before the meeting commenced.

50.22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

51.22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

52.22-23 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

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

53.22-23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation

54.22-23 MINUTES

a) Council held on 7th September 2022

Councillor J Quinn asked for an amendment to minute number 46.22-23, to note that he had stated that he would support the loan being used to renovate Dean Bank Bowls Pavilion and the Heritage Centre on the condition that Ferryhill Town Youth got free rent. The Town Clerk had advised that the Council supported clubs in various ways and would provide details at a future meeting. Councillor Quinn agreed to this.

Councillor J Makepeace queried minute number 49.22-23 and stated he had asked for the issue with the Feryemount building to be placed on the agenda for members to discuss, however, no discussion took place.

At this point Councillor D Farry submitted his apologies and left the meeting.

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Feryemount had been on the Council agenda on two previous meetings. The Town Council had no power to influence the development.

It was suggested to move on as this item was only to approve the minutes.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th September 2022 be agreed as a true and accurate record subject to the above amendment.

b) Community Services held on 27th September 2022

Councillor K Conroy asked that her name be added to the list of those present as she was present at this meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Community Services Committee held on 27th September 2022 be agreed as a true and accurate record, subject to the above amendment.

c) Resources Committee held on 12th October 2022

Councillor K Conroy queried why Councillor D Farry was listed in apologies when he hadn't submitted apologies, it is not usual practice to add apologies for a member who is not in attendance.

The Clerk advised that in his experience it is standard practice to add apologies for any member not in attendance.

It was agreed that only members submitting apologies should be noted as such.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Resources Committee held on 12th October 2022 be agreed as a true and accurate record and the actions contained therein be agreed and endorsed.

55.22-23

CIVILITY & RESPECT - DIGNITY AT WORK POLICY

Members considered a report previously circulated.

The Clerk advised Members that the Civility & Respect logo will be added to all Council agendas and the Council had been awarded a certificate to acknowledge support, this will be signed by the Mayor and displayed in the Town Hall.

RESOLVED

That the Civility and Respect Dignity at Work Policy be adopted.

56.22-23

ACCOUNTS 2021-2022 - COMPLETION OF AUDIT

Members considered a report previously circulated

RESOLVED

That Members:

1. Approve and accept the audited AGAR
2. 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, until 31st October 2022 and the charge of 50p for a copy of the relevant information.

57.22-23 FRAMEWORK FOR CANOPY LIGHTS, TOWN HALL

Members considered a report previously circulated.

Considerable discussion took place, it was suggested that the Clerk be given delegated authority to deal with this matter in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Councillor J Quinn asked that if it is not possible for this to be done before Christmas if the Council could put a message out to the public to let them know it will be going ahead in the future, but Council are still working on it to ensure it is safe.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, be given delegated authority to appoint a structural engineer to advise on the dimensions of a suitable framework for the safe installation of the canopy of lights over the Town Hall garden.

58.22-23 CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Members considered a report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor K Conroy to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That the Christmas and New Year holiday arrangements be as follows:

Monday, 26 th December 2022	Closed (Bank Holiday)
Tuesday, 27 th December 2022	Closed (Bank Holiday)
Wednesday, 28 th December 2022	Closed (concessionary day)
Thursday, 29 th December 2022	Closed (annual / flexi leave)
Friday, 30 th December 2022	Closed (concessionary day)
Monday, 2 nd January 2023	Closed (Bank Holiday)
Tuesday, 3 rd January 2023	Office re-opens

59.22-23 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS, CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT

Members considered a report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor J Quinn, **Seconded by** Councillor S Jones to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED

That the level at which formal tenders are required be increased to £60,001 and Standing Orders – Contracts and Procurement be amended accordingly.

60.22-23 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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.

61.22-23 TOWNS AND VILLAGES FUNDING UPDATE

Members considered a report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor J Makepeace, **Seconded by** Councillor L Fellows to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That

1. Delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Town Council and Chair of the Resources Committee, to appoint Contractors to undertake the project works for the Mainsforth Car Park & Electric Vehicle Charging point project, subject to approval of the funding application submitted to the Towns and Villages Fund.
2. Prior to appointing a Contractor to install the Electric Vehicle charging point element of the Mainsforth project, that further advice be sought from the EV Officer at Durham County Council, to ensure that the most appropriate EV charging system for the Sports Complex is installed.
3. Ferryhill Town Council contributes 30% of the total cost of the Mainsforth project from the Council's unallocated reserves (based on September prices this would be approximately £21k).

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.45pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....