

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held on **WEDNESDAY, 30 November 2022** at **6.00 pm** at **Ferryhill Town Hall, Chapel Terrace, Ferryhill.**

PRESENT: Councillor: J Lamb (Vice Chair)

Councillors: G Barker, C Bihari, S Bowron, K Conroy, L Fellows, R Hume, 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

Councillor J Lamb welcomed newly elected Councillor Stephen Bowron to the Council.

69.22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors C Atkinson, P Atkinson, P Donald and D Farry.

70.22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

71.22-23 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

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

72.22-23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation

73.22-23 MINUTES

1. Council held on 19th October 2022
2. Special Council held on 9th November 2022
3. Resources Committee held on 23rd November 2022

With respect to the Minutes of Council held on 19th October, Councillor B Lamb pointed out an error in minute number 58.22-23, 'Friday 30th January 2023' should read 'Friday 30th December 2022'.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the above amendment, the Minutes be approved as a correct record and recommendations contained therein be adopted.

74.22-23 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Police & Crime Commissioner – Reply to Town Clerk's Letter regarding policing in Ferryhill

Councillor J Makepeace commented that this was a thorough response, however, it does not answer the question that was asked.

Discussion took place regarding the number of police and wardens in the Ferryhill area.

It was **Moved by** Councillor L Fellows, **Seconded by** Councillor J Makepeace, to write to the Chief Constable, Jo Farrell and ask the same question that was asked of the Police & Crime Commissioner and also write to Durham County Council to ascertain the number of wardens Ferryhill should have.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk write to the Chief Constable Jo Farrell and also Durham County Council.

2. **HM King Charles III – Thank you card for the letter of condolence.** Councillor K Conroy asked if the card could be framed and displayed in the Chamber. Councillor J Makepeace queried if a framed picture of HM King Charles III would be displayed in the Chamber, the Clerk advised he was in the process of sourcing a picture.

RESOLVED: That the thank you card be framed and displayed.

75.22-23 REVIEW OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Members considered a report previously circulated.

It was noted that even though the new recently elected Councillor is part of the Labour Group this did not change the political balance on the committee structure and therefore Ferryhill First were asked to nominate a member for the Community Services Committee, Councillor J Makepeace nominated himself.

The Town Clerk advised Members that the report presented an opportunity to review the membership of Committees generally. Councillor K Conroy requested that as she was a member of both the Resources Committee and Community Services, she would step down from Community Services Committee so that Councillor S Bowron could be appointed to that committee.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the membership of Groups set out in paragraph 3 of the report be confirmed as accurate
 2. That Councillor J Makepeace be appointed to the Community Services Committee.
 3. That Councillor K Conroy step down from the Community Services Committee and be replaced by Councillors S Bowron.

76.22-23 CITIZENS ADVICE COUNTY DURHAM, PROGRESS REPORT AND FUNDING REQUEST 2023/24

Members considered a report previously circulated.

Considerable discussion took place.

It was agreed that an advice service is definitely needed in Ferryhill especially during the cost of living crisis, however there are other local organisations who provide advice services and it may be worth speaking to these before a decision is made.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk contact Ferryhill Ladder Centre and Cornforth Partnership to see what advice services they could provide in Ferryhill.

77.22-23 PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Members considered a report previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor J Quinn, **Seconded by** Councillor C Bihari to agree to the proposed traffic regulation orders.

RESOLVED That the Council agree to the proposed traffic regulation orders.

78.22-23 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.

79.22-23 CORRESPONDENCE

3. Care Co Plus – Update on Feryemount Home

Members received an update on the refurbishment of Feryemount Home received from Care Co Plus, owners of the building.

Following discussion of the update Members felt that further information was required. Councillor C Bihari offered to contact the Assets Team at Durham County Council. Councillor J Quinn offered assistance. Councillor L Fellows suggested that the County Councillors also contact the Commission & Placement Management Team at Durham County Council.

RESOLVED: That Councillor C Bihari and J Quinn contact the Assets Team and Commission & Placement Management Team at Durham County Council.

80.22-23 SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION / FACILITIES

Members considered a report previously circulated detailing costs of support provide to community organisations that used/leased Town Council facilities.

Councillor B Lamb thanked the Clerk for an in-depth report and moved that the information be noted.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

81.22-23 CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Members considered a report previously circulated. It was agreed to discuss each project individually.

1. Jubilee Commemorative Benches

Moved by Councillor C Bihari, **Seconded by** Councillor S Jones that

rather than purchasing 6 Jubilee benches as previously agreed, 3 benches be purchased for the Jubilee using the grant recently received and the Council purchase 3 Coronation benches, 1 of each to be placed in each ward.

RESOLVED: That 3 Jubilee benches & 3 Coronation benches be purchased.

2. Skatepark Project

Members were made aware that there is currently no funding available for this project and should consider deferring the project until external funding becomes available to deliver the project.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted, the project be deferred, and the Events & Projects Officer continue to seek funding. An update be provided to Council in 6 months.

3. Mainsforth Car Park & Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points Project

Members considered an update regarding the above project.

RESOLVED: That a further report be brought back to Council once final project costs have been established and a contractor had been appointed.

4. Town Hall Renewables

Members considered an update regarding the above project.

RESOLVED:

1. That Rothwell's Plumbing Services be appointed to install the Solar Photovoltaic Array at the Town Hall.
2. That the remaining grant monies obtained for the Town Hall Renewables project be used to improve the insulation of the building, and that the installation of ASHPs be revisited at a later date

5. Football Renewables Project

Moved by Councillor J Quinn, **Seconded by** Councillor L Fellows to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. That Members agree to contribute a maximum of £25,000 towards the Football Renewable Project.
2. Durham County Council Procurement be appointed to undertake a Tender Exercise for the Football Renewables project.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.05pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....