

## FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held on **WEDNESDAY, 18 January 2023** at **6.00 pm** at **Ferryhill Town Hall, Chapel Terrace, Ferryhill.**

**PRESENT: Councillor:** C Atkinson (Chair)

**Councillors:** P Atkinson, C Bihari, S Bowron, K Conroy, P Donald, D Farry, L Fellows, R Hume, S Jones, B Lamb, J Quinn

**Officials:** D Anderson, Town Clerk,  
D Shingleton, Accountant  
S Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

### **74.22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors G Barker, J Lamb, J Makepeace, K Tinkler and C Woods.

### **75.22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest declared.

### **76.22-23 MEMBERS DISPENSATION**

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

### **77.22-23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation

### **78.22-23 MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of:-

- a. Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- b. Community Services Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022
- c. Special Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the above meetings be agreed as a true and accurate record.

### **79.22-23 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & INCOME**

Members considered the Statement of Accounts & Income which was previously circulated.

Councillor J Quinn queried a payment on page 10 for 'grasscutting October 22'. The Town Clerk advised he would provide a written response.

### **RESOLVED**

That the Statement of Accounts & Income be approved.

### **80.22-23 PRECEPT 2023/24**

Members considered a report which was previously circulated. Mr D Shingleton was in attendance and presented his report to Members.

**Moved by** Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded by** Councillor C Bihari to confirm the provisional decision made at the Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

### **RESOLVED**

That:

- i) Council confirms its provisional decision, made at its meeting on 14 December 2022, to accept the proposed savings reported at that meeting, subject to any minor amendments, which results in a Precept of £537,746 and a Council Tax rise of 1.9% for the year 2023/2024;
- ii) Budget proposals received from political groups (paragraphs 9.2 and 9.3 of the report considered on 14 December 2022) be taken into account within service reviews.
- iii) The fees and charges for the year 2023/2024 be agreed.

**81.22-23**

### **ROYAL GARDEN PARTY**

Members considered the report which previously circulated, nominations were sought for a Member of this Council to be included in the draw to attend a Royal Garden Party in 2023, should CDALC receive invitations.

**Moved by** Councillor K Conroy, **Seconded by** Councillor S Jones that Councillor C Atkinson be nominated.

### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor C Atkinson be nominated.

**82.22-23**

### **MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

1. **Moved by** Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Quinn that Ferryhill Town Council use the upstairs as a warm safe place over the winter period for residents wanting to use it.

Before Members considered this motion the Clerk reminded Members that Warm Spaces have been established at the following places:

- Ferryhill Ladder Centre
- Ferryhill Library
- Ferryhill Sports and Education Centre
- St Luke's Parish Centre

The availability of these facilities has been advertised on the Town Council's Facebook page.

He also added that the upstairs room is not usually heated, provision of a warm room will require funding to provide heating, refreshment and some form of activity. Ferryhill Town Council did not qualify for funding, there is no spare capacity for staff to facilitate the warm space and also access and suitability of the upstairs room would need to be considered.

**Moved by** Councillor P Atkinson, **Seconded by** Councillor D Farry to amend the motion that Ferryhill Town Council provide a warm space but

use the chamber instead of the upstairs room and don't want to put pressure on staff so should be manned by volunteers.

Members voted on the amendment and everyone was in agreement.

Councillor C Bihari offered to help fund this from his Neighbourhood Budget if needed. Councillor J Quinn also offered to help with any funds from his Members Initiative Fund to purchase a boiler if needed.

As there are already venues within the Town Centre offering warm spaces, Councillor L Fellows suggested that the Town Hall be offered on days when there are no other warm spaces.

Members agreed that the Clerk be given delegated authority to make suitable arrangements.

**RESOLVED**

That Ferryhill Town Council offer the Town Hall chamber as a warm space and this be manned by volunteers, the Clerk be given delegated authority to make suitable arrangements.

- 2. **Moved by** Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Quinn that Ferryhill Town Council signs up to support Paul Howell's campaign to ensure that Anti Social Behaviour is taken seriously, includes a link on the Council's website and Facebook page and sends a request to all Town and Parish Councils within the Sedgefield Parliamentary Boundary to do the same.

A named vote was requested:

<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
D Farry	C Atkinson	P Donald	G Barker
S Jones	P Atkinson		J Lamb
J Quinn	C Bihari		J Makepeace
	S Bowron		K Tinkler
	K Conroy		C Woods
	L Fellows		
	R Hume		
	B Lamb		
<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

The motion was defeated.

**RESOLVED**

That no action be taken on this motion.

- 3. **Moved by** Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Quinn that Ferryhill Town Council consult with the community to find out views on installing recycling bins in our parks. If supported, the Council engage with local and national charities to supply the recycling bins or contribute to the to their installation.

Considerable discussion took place, Councillor L Fellows moved that an amendment be made to the motion to include at the end 'with no cost or additional work to the Council'.

**Moved by** Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor S Jones, to amend his motion to add on 'with no cost to the Council'

The Clerk advised Members will have to deal with one amendment at a time, Councillor Farry stated there was no seconder for Councillor Fellows' amendment therefore this did not stand. Councillor Fellows' therefore queried whether the amendment put forward by Councillor Farry would include 'additional work' Councillor Farry confirmed that it didn't.

Members agreed to vote on the amendment, a named vote was requested:

<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
D Farry	C Atkinson		G Barker
S Jones	P Atkinson		J Lamb
J Quinn	C Bihari		J Makepeace
	S Bowron		K Tinkler
	K Conroy		C Woods
	P Donald		
	L Fellows		
	R Hume		
	B Lamb		
<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

The amendment was defeated.

Members then voted on the original motion, a named vote was requested:

<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
D Farry	C Atkinson		G Barker
S Jones	P Atkinson		J Lamb
J Quinn	C Bihari		J Makepeace
	S Bowron		K Tinkler
	K Conroy		C Woods
	P Donald		
	L Fellows		
	R Hume		
	B Lamb		
<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

The motion was defeated.

**RESOLVED**

That no action be taken on this motion.

4. **Moved by** Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Quinn that Ferryhill Town Council agree to rename Mainsforth Sports Complex to Queen Elizabeth II Mainsforth Sports Complex in recognition of the great service the late Queen gave us all.

Councillor R Hume advised the meeting that there is an official process that must be followed when naming anything after the Queen and approval would need to be sought from the Cabinet Office.

Councillor C Bihari asked that the Clerk look into the process and user groups of Mainsforth Sports Complex be consulted regarding the name change.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
C Atkinson	B Lamb		G Barker
P Atkinson			J Lamb
C Bihari			J Makepeace
S Bowron			K Tinkler
K Conroy			C Woods
P Donald			
D Farry			
L Fellows			
R Hume			
S Jones			
J Quinn			
<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>5</b>

**RESOLVED**

That the Clerk look into the process of renaming Mainsforth Sports Complex and report back to Council.

5. **Moved by** Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor K Conroy that Ferryhill Town Council agree to plant a tree in each of its park to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles. Cost to come from grant.

**RESOLVED**

That Ferryhill Town Council plant a tree in each of its parks to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles, the cost to come from a grant.

83.22-23

**FILMING OF MEETINGS**

Members considered a report which was previously circulated, proposing that a working group be established to look at such things as

- Establishing aims and objectives
- Potential benefits/implications
- How other councils have approached this to learn from their experiences
- Technical issues, equipment, broadband connections, data storage, any data protection implications
- Costs

Considerable discussion took place on the recommendations contained in the report which were:

1. That a Working Group be established to investigate the practicalities and costs of filming of meetings.
2. That the Working Group consist of 6 members and be politically balanced. (3 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Ferryhill First, 1 Non Grouped)

A vote was taken on whether to agree the recommendations.

For	3
Against	8
Abstain	1

**RESOLVED**

That the Town Clerk look into the costs & practicalities and submit a report to Council.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.30pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

**CHAIR**.....

**DATE**.....