

BILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 6.30PM

**HELD IN MEETING ROOM C, BILLINGHAM LIBRARY & CUSTOMER
SERVICE CENTRE**

Present: Councillors Gamble (Chairman)
 Atkinson
 Lacey
 Leckonby
 McCall
 McCoy
 Peebles
 Sandbach
 Scollen
 Shotton
 Stoker
 Wallace

Apologies: Councillor Bendelow (Personal)

Officials: Miss Dee Smith - Town Clerk/RFO
 Mrs Kate Minza – Administration Officer
 Ms Tracy Reece – Business Support Officer

Two Police Officers and three members of the public were also in attendance.

The meeting commenced at 6.33pm.

174/22 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and announced the following:

- Housekeeping;

175/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations on this occasion.

176/22 POLICE UPDATE

Sergeant Gary Cookland gave the following report:

- There has been a slight increase in anti-social behaviour;
- Also slight increases in violence and criminal damage;
- Spate of thefts from motor vehicles;
- To remind residents of crime prevention.

 24.1.23

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

Two police officers left the meeting.

177/22

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

- (i) A member of the public present reported graffiti and anti-social behaviour at bus stops in Billingham.
- (ii) A member of the public contacted the Town Council via email regarding the previous Community Newspaper and newsletter 'Billingham Matters'. Also the inclusion of community organisations and that only current Town Councillors can contribute to any article in the current newsletter. .

RESOLVED

- a. To report the issues with the bus shelters to Stockton Borough Council.
- b. To advise the member of the public that his points are noted regarding the newsletter.

Councillor Shotton left the meeting at 6.55pm.

178/22

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Members were asked to approve the draft minutes from the Full Council meeting held on 27th September 2022 as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED

That the above minutes, a copy which has previously been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chairman with the following amendment:

179/22

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LISTS

Members considered the following:

- (i) To approve the list of payments to creditors for October 2022.
- (ii) To approve the list of payment to creditors for October 2022 for the cafe accounts.
- (iii) To approve the staffing costs for October 2022.

- (vi) To note the income received for October 2022.
- (vi) Members are provided for information, with the bank reconciliation for all accounts up to 31st October 2022.

RESOLVED

Members approved the above reports.

180/22 BUDGET WORKING GROUP

Members were advised that a meeting has taken place and a draft budget for 2023/24 has been produced. A member's briefing, via Zoom, will be arranged in the next two weeks for all members to attend.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

181/22 GRANT FUNDING

- (i) Members are asked to consider a grant funding request from Tees Community Sports CIC for £500, to provide weekly sports sessions for families in the central Billingham ward.
- (ii) Members are asked to consider a grant funding request from The Moses Project for £500, to host Christmas day activities.

RESOLVED

- a. To clarify with the applicant how many children will be attending from the central ward and how it will be policed. To refer back to the next Finance & General Purposes committee for reconsideration.
- b. To clarify with the applicant that this funding is for residents from Billingham only and to ask how residents can attend on Christmas Day.

182/22 CAFÉ REPAIRS UPDATE

The Town Clerk advised members that work is ongoing to install the central heating in the café. A decision was taken last week to close the café earlier than expected due to some additional electrical work that needed to be completed. The café is due to reopen on Monday 5th December.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

ITEMS REFERRED FROM THE COMMUNITY WELLBEING COMMITTEE

- (i) Councillor Lacey advised members that a doctor from a local surgery is looking for grant funding for two defibrillators.
- (ii) Councillor McCoy advised members that there has not been much uptake on the Soup & Sandwich project. Members discussed changing the voucher to a monetary value voucher so customers can select their own items from the café.

RESOLVED

- a. The Town Clerk to email a grant funding application form to the doctor.
- b. To give Soup and Sandwich vouchers to those who attend the Pantry in the Park. To contact social prescribers for feedback regarding the distribution of the vouchers and refer this item back to the Community Wellbeing committee in January 2023.

UPDATE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FOLLOWING EXTERNAL BODIES

- **Cleveland Local Councils Association** – Cllr Gamble & Town Clerk – no report
- **Billingham Environment Link Programme** – Councillor Scollen – no report
- **Billingham Legacy Foundation** – Councillor Peebles – no report
- **Low Grange & Cowpen Residents Association** – Councillor Bendelow – no report
- **Billingham Community Partnership** – Town Clerk to circulate the minutes to all members
- **Billingham International Folklore Festival of World Dance** – Councillor Shotton – no report
- **Catalyst Health & Wellbeing Committee** – Councillor McCall & Deputy Town Clerk – no report
- **Port Clarence in Bloom** – Town Clerk – no meetings taken place
- **Stockton Volunteers** – Councillor Scollen – no report
- **The Voice Forum** – Councillor Scollen – no report
- **Stockton Housing, Neighbourhoods & Affordable Warmth Partnership** – Councillor Scollen – no report
- **CCIN** – Councillor Gamble advised members that she had recently attended the 10th anniversary CCIN conference in Telford which included a tour of community buildings and looked at the cost of living crisis.
- **Catalyst Funders Forum** – Town Clerk – no report

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

185/22

DISPENSATION

Members were asked to consider a dispensation for Councillor Mark Bellerby due to illness.

RESOLVED

To grant a dispensation to Councillor Mark Bellerby for six months.

186/22

MEETING TIMES

Members were asked to consider changing the evening meeting times to an earlier time.

RESOLVED

Members unanimously voted against changing the meeting times.

The meeting concluded at 7.40pm with Cllrs Atkinson, Gamble, Lacey, Leckonby, McCall, McCoy, Peebles, Sandbach, Scollen, Stoker and Wallace present.