

BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Minutes of the meeting 25 February 2025
Held at Bishop Auckland Town Council Offices, Kingsway Court, Bishop Auckland

In Attendance: M Harker (chair), D Wilson, K Lawson, M Siddle, S Zair,

Also Present: Vicki Booth (Acting Town Clerk),

TC 125/24 Apologies for absence:, A Zair, L Zair, K Lawson

Resolved: that apologies were accepted. No apologies were received from J Blackburn, H Balmer-Howieson, K Fryatt,

TC 126/24 Declarations of Interest - To invite members to declare any interest they may have.

Resolved: No declarations of interest declared

TC 127/24 Minutes - To approve the Minutes of the following meetings:

Full Council 22 October 2024

Full Council 14 January 2025

HR Committee 16 January 2025

Allotment Committee 4 February 2025

HR Committee 11 February 2025

Community Committee 11 February 2025

Resolved: that the minutes were accepted and approved. That Policy and Resources Minutes from 18 Feb 2025 to be brought to the next council meeting.

TC 128/24 Matters Arising To receive any matters arising from the above Minutes which are not included elsewhere on the agenda (for information only).

The Acting Clerk sought clarification on item AE019/24 regarding the recharge for plots being left in a condition that requires the Council to clear before they can be reallocated.

That the charge is per plot or per tenant?

That members would like to include in the letter that failure to pay the outstanding balance may result in them being taken to the small claims court?

Resolved: that members agreed with the small claims notification and requested a common sense approach to the recharge of plots and discretion be used.

TC 129/24 Public Participation - To hear from any members of the public subject to [Public Participation Policy](#)

Resolved: that no members of the public were present

TC 130/24 Reports

a) **Durham County Council** – Cllr S Zair gave a brief update as to DCC's

Resolved: that members noted the update

b) **Outside Bodies representation feedback**

Resolved: no update given.

TC131/24 Report of the Mayor - the Mayor gave feedback on meetings and events he has attended.

Resolved: that members noted the Mayor's update

TC 132/24 Report of Acting Town Clerk –

- i) **Website** – that members were advised that the second meeting had taken place and the draft design looks very good and everything is currently on track for completion in April.

Resolved: that members noted the update.

- ii) **Bread and butter Thing** – Following the initial proposal at community committee the Clerk was tasked with attending a centre to observe the process. Feedback was given to members.

Resolved: that members were in agreement that this is a good way to stop food waste and support the community however the logistics of the car park is of concern. That 80 people attending in the space of 30 minutes would cause a disturbance to the traffic on Kingsway. Members agreed that the Council office was unsuitable.

Meeting Closed: The meeting was closed due to an intruder in the building.