

Minutes of the **MEETING** of **BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Andrew Pickard Room at the Four Clocks Centre, Bishop Auckland on **THURSDAY, 10th APRIL 2014** at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Fleming (Mayor), and Councillors, Blackburn, Golightly, Race, Wilson, L. Zair and S. Zair.

Also Present: David Anderson (Town Clerk).

TC.145/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anderson, Brownson, Lethbridge, and A. Zair.

TC.146/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Golightly declared an interest in Item No 5 'Town Council Offices' as she was a trustee of Bishop Auckland Partnership and left the meeting for the duration of discussion and voting thereon.

TC.147/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No issues were raised under this item.

TC.148/13 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

In accordance with the provisions 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 excluded the press and public 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 the public interest.

TC.149/13 TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Consideration was given to options available to the Town Council to secure permanent offices.

Members considered in particular a proposal that had been received from South Durham Enterprise Agency.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the Town Council offer to purchase part of the premises proposed by South Durham Enterprise Agency.
 2. That should the offer be acceptable in principle to South Durham Enterprise Agency the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor, be authorised to negotiate terms within approved limits.
 3. That should the offer to South Durham Enterprise Agency be rejected the Town Clerk prepare a report detailing the Town Council's requirements for permanent offices, together with a financial appraisal.

Signed:
Town Mayor