

Minutes of the **MEETING** of **BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Wesley Room at the Four Clocks Centre, Bishop Auckland on **TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2016** at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Golightly (Mayor), and Councillors Anderson, Brownson, Lethbridge, Wilson, L Zair and S Zair.

Also Present: Clive Auld (Bishop Auckland Town Team), K James, D Lewin, J Wood (Durham County Council Events) and Sheila Horner (Assistant Town Clerk)

Public in Attendance: None

TC.117/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Blackburn, Fleming, Race and A Zair

TC.118/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public in attendance.

TC.119/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Golightly declared an 'other registerable interest' in respect of Item No 6C 'Minutes of Finance Committee 6th December 2016', FIN.41/16, 'Community Fund Application' in respect of an application from the 'Four Clocks Club' and took no part in the voting or discussion thereon.

TC.120/16 TOWN TEAM (CORE)

Councillor Anderson, Chair of the Core Team, updated members with regard to a meeting of the Core Team held on 9th November 2016, in particular a presentation given by John Elms from Eleven Arches:

General update on Kynren

An outline was given for shows that would be held in 2017: It was noted that there were 17 shows planned from 1st July – 16th September. Tickets were currently on sale. Adult prices ranged from £25 to £47 with child tickets ranging from £19 to £35

Action Plan

An action plan for regeneration of the town would be developed in partnership with Durham County Council, Auckland Castle, Eleven Arches and the Enterprise Agency.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

TC.121/16 TOWN TEAM (EVENTS)

Clive Auld updated Members with regard to the activities of the Events Team

Members noted that the Events Team had began their Christmas programme. The number of visitors to see Santa in Beales Store on the 3rd December and the Newgate Centre on the 10th December had doubled from 2015 proving the event had been very popular.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

TC.122/16 THE BIG LOCAL – GAUNLESS GATEWAY

Clive Auld updated Members on the Gaunless Gateway project.

Signed:
Town Mayor

Members noted that the project had £60k to fund to local groups in the next 2 years and would begin a broader method of advertising to reach and encourage applicants.

Project members would meet Auckland Castle Trust on the 15th December to discuss in more detail the apprenticeships programmes proposed for the walled garden project.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

TC.123/16 MINUTES

Town Council	25 th October 2016
Planning Committee	25 th October 2016
Finance Committee	6 th December 2016

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be approved as a correct record and recommendations contained therein be adopted.

There were no matters arising.

TC.124/16 REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Members noted a report of the Mayor detailing the events attended since the previous meeting. (For copy see file of Minutes).

The Mayor explained that she had been unable to attend a number of events during the past month as she was recovering from a spinal operation. She expressed her gratitude to the Deputy Mayor for his ongoing support who had ably attended several events on her behalf.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

TC.125/16 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND TRAINING

There were no reports

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

TC.126/16 CERTIFICATE IN LOCAL COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

Members noted that Michael Armstrong, Administration Assistant, has successfully completed the CiLCA qualification, a foundation qualification for local council officers and others working with local councils

RESOLVED:

1. That Mr Armstrong be congratulated for his success.
2. That an accelerated increment be added to Mr Armstrong's salary point from the date of his qualification.

TC.127/16 BEREAVEMENT LEAVE POLICY

Consideration was given to a Bereavement Leave Policy which sought to clarify leave entitlement in relevant circumstances (for copy see file of minutes). Members acknowledged the need for the policy although Councillors Golightly and L Zair had reservations on the specific detail.

RESOLVED: That the Bereavement Leave Policy be adopted.

Signed:
Town Mayor

TC.128/16 TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

The following would be invited to attend an appropriately timed meeting to update the Town Council on their activities:

- John Brennen, Wannasee (January 2017)
- Inspector Warren Edwards, Neighbourhood Policing
- Chris Myers, Regeneration Projects Manager, Durham County Council
- Kate James, Durham County Council, Food Festival (March 2017)

TC.129/16 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 next item by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

TC.130/16 FOOD FESTIVAL 2017

Members noted updates given with regard to the Food Festival 2017.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

TC.131/16 DETERMINATION OF TENANCY

Members were updated with regard to an ongoing determination of a tenancy at Mill Race Allotments.

RESOLVED: That a further update be given at the next meeting.

ITEM FOR INFORMATION ONLY

TC.132/16 DELEGATED DECISIONS UNDER FINANCIAL REGULATION 4.5

It was noted that no decisions had been taken under Financial Regulation 4.5 since the previous Council meeting.

Signed:
Town Mayor