

Minutes of the **MEETING** of **BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Wesley Room at the Four Clocks Centre, Bishop Auckland on **TUESDAY 13TH MARCH 2018** at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor A. Zair (Mayor), and Councillors Blackburn, Brownson, Chappell, Fleming, Wilson, L. Zair and S. Zair

Also Present: David Anderson (Town Clerk)

Public in Attendance: None present

TC.178/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen and Tucker

TC.179/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

TC.180/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public in attendance.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

TC.181/17. REPRESENTATION ON HAZ ADVISORY GROUP

Consideration was given to Town Council representation on the Heritage Action Zone Advisory Group.

Councillors Blackburn and S. Zair were nominated and seconded.

On a vote being taken Councillor Blackburn was appointed representative.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Blackburn represent the Town Council on the HAZ Advisory Board.

TC.182/17. PROPOSED ART EVENT, TOWN HALL

Consideration was given to a report relating to a request to help fund a proposed art event aimed at children and young people which was to be held in Bishop Auckland Town Hall during May 2019 and August 2019.

Members were supportive of the event and agreed in principle to assist with funding. A decision on the amount to be donated was to be considered by the Finance Committee when the actual amount of shortfall was known.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That financial support for the proposed art event be agreed in principle.
 2. That the amount to be donated be considered by Finance Committee when the amount of shortfall was known.

TC.183/17 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.

Signed:
Town Mayor

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

TC.184/17 OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

Consideration was given to a report regarding the proposed purchase of a property for use by the Council as office accommodation. (For copy see file of Minutes)

The report set out the background to the long time aim for the Council to own premises to meet its current and long term objectives to support its communities, together with a proposal to pursue the purchase a property which was identified in the report, which met all of the Council's criteria.

The purchase of the property would be financed via earmarked funds together with a loan from the Public Works Loans Board.

Members at the meeting were unanimous in agreement to pursue the purchase of the property. A further report would be submitted for consideration setting out a financial appraisal and options to fund the purchase.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the purchase of the property identified in the report be agreed.
 2. That a further report would be submitted to Council setting out a financial appraisal and options to fund the purchase.

Signed:
Town Mayor