

Minutes of the meeting of **BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Wesley Room at the Four Clocks Centre, Bishop Auckland on **TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018** at 6.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor Allen (Deputy Mayor), and Councillors Brownson, Cullen, Tucker and Wilson

**Also Present:** N Bryson (Bishop Auckland Town Team) and David Anderson (Town Clerk)

**Public in Attendance:** None

**TC.70/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were submitted by Councillors Blackburn, Chappell, Fleming and A. Zair, L. Zair and S. Zair

**TC.71/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Item No 5. Minutes, Finance Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

- **Minute No FIN.21/18 Authorisation of Cheques - Delegated Powers**

Councillor Brownson declared an 'other non-registerable personal interest' in respect of cheque no 1642 and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Allen declared an 'other non-registerable personal interest' in respect of cheque nos 1646 and 1651 took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

**TC.72/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No questions were raised by members of the public

**PRESENTATIONS**

**TC.73/18 BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN TEAM**

Nigel Bryson, Chairman of the Town Team, updated members with regard to recent activities of the Town Team.

It was noted that a meeting of the Town Team was held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018, which had been attended by 35 local people.

A presentation was given on the Bishop Auckland Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) by Dr Bob McManners, Chair of the HAZ Steering Group and Annalisa Ward, HAZ Project Manager, who outlined the background and aims and objectives of the HAZ.

Presentations were also given by The Auckland Project and Kynren.

It was noted that Kynren had achieved a five-star rating by 85% of reviewers on TripAdvisor and had been rated as one of the top 3 UK shows. It had been reported that audience numbers were higher than the previous year. In addition, Kynren's cast and crew had been awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

The Auckland Tower would be open for a preview on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to coincide with the Bishop Celebrates Together event and the Town Council's Horticultural Show.

Auckland Castle would be re-opening in spring 2019. The Spanish Art Gallery was planned to open in 2019.

**Signed:** .....  
**Town Mayor**

Consultation on the Master Plan led by Brighter Bishop Auckland had concluded. Results were being analysed. Further consultation was being undertaken with young people as part of the process.

The procurement process for the Community WiFi had concluded. Documentation had to be finalised prior to announcing the winning bidder. The project was on track to go live in December 2018.

It was clarified that Durham County Council was the lead organisation on the wifi project, i.e. undertaken procurement, financing capital spend, acting as data controller and processor, the Town Team and Town Council was funding revenue expenditure for the first 3 years and would participate in the management of the system, perhaps via the establishment of a working group.

The Town Team's annual Car Show had been held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Feedback from the day was positive. Further feedback had been requested from participating dealers.

Bishop Celebrates together would take place on 29<sup>th</sup> September and would coincide with the Town Council's Horticultural Show and a preview of Auckland Tower.

Monster Saturday would take place in October. An application for funding to support the Advent Window project had been made to Durham County Council via Bishop Auckland and Shildon AAP.

In terms of the events sponsored by the Town Council it was noted that the 1940's event had been a great success. It had been particularly encouraging that a number of town centre businesses had joined in the event. Attendance for the street entertainment arranged for four Saturdays had not been as great as anticipated. The events had been provided within budget. A report was being prepared for future consideration by the Town Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the information be noted

#### **TC.74/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Town Council	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2018
Planning Committee	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2018
Events Committee	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
Finance Committee	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
Allotments & Environment Committee	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018

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

There were no further matters arising

#### **TC.75/18 REPORT OF MAYOR**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the information be noted.

**Signed:** .....  
**Town Mayor**

## **REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

### **TC.76/18 VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES**

Consideration was given to a report setting out vacancies on a number of committees. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Due to the number of Members absent from the meeting this item was deferred to the next meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the item be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

### **TC.77/18 NALC LARGER COUNCILS COMMITTEE - NOMINATION**

Consideration was given to a report regarding the nomination of Councillor D.A. Fleming for re-election to the NALC Larger Council's Committee. (For copy see file of Minutes).

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Fleming's nomination to the NALC Larger Council's Committee be endorsed.

### **TC.78/18 CHRISTMAS EVENT 2018**

Consideration was given to a report regarding the provision of fairground rides at the Town Council's Christmas event to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018. (For copy see file of Minutes)

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Showman's Guild's offer to charge users £1.50 per ride be accepted.
2. That no pitch fee be requested of the fairground ride provider.

### **TC.79/18 TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

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

- Jill Wood, Feedback on Food Festival (30<sup>th</sup> October 2018)
- Debbie Connell, Feedback on Summertime Activities
- WiFi Demonstration

### **TC.80/18 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.

## **REPORT OF TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)**

### **TC.81/18 OFFICE ACCOMMODATION**

The Town Clerk gave an update with regard to the purchase of office accommodation.

**RESOLVED:** That a special meeting of Council be arranged to consider options to fund the purchase of the premises.

Signed: .....  
Town Mayor