

BILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 25th JUNE 2024 AT 7PM

HELD IN THE MAIN HALL, BILLINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Councillors Atkinson
 Gamble
 Besford
 Leckonby
 Gilburt
 Hedley
 Lacey
 McCall
 Snead
 Scollen

Apologies: Councillor Bendelow (Personal)
 Councillor Stoker (Personal)
 Councillor McCoy (Business)
 Councillor Shotton (No apologies received)
 Councillor Forrest (No apologies received)

Officials: Miss Dee Smith - Town Clerk/RFO

Stockton on Tees Borough Council (SBC) Councillors Marcus Vickers, Katie Weston and Paul Weston, and 14 members of the public were also present.

Prior to this meeting, a public participation session was held for one hour. Sergeant Boon from Cleveland Police attended and answered questions from members of the public. It is noted that there was significant dissatisfaction among the majority of attendees at this session regarding the level of police service in Billingham.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm.

33/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and announced the following:

- Housekeeping;
- The Chairman's Charity for 2024/25 is the Billingham Legacy Foundation.

34/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations on this occasion.

35/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members were asked to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 15th May 2024 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 23rd May 2024 as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED

That the above minutes, a copy which has previously been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

36/24 STOCKON BOROUGH COUNCIL (SBC) WARD COUNCILLOR UPDATES

The following updates were given:

Billingham North

- Regular casework;
- Issues with off road bikes;
- No significant issues around High Grange shops. A security camera has been installed funded by North Ward Councillors;
- Waiting on a response for next date for walkabout with PCSO;
- Dates to be arranged for Community Speedwatch;
- Section of Marsh House Avenue to be closed for road repairs on 30th June;
- Dog fouling signage to be installed at the park at Haydon Green;
- Looking into installing another camera at High Grange playing field;
- Ward newsletter to go out at the end of July;
- Next ward surgery on 4th July has been cancelled due to elections and has be reschedule for 25th July at High Grange Community Centre.

Billingham East

No update.

Billingham Central

No update.

Billingham South

- Dealing with vermin problems in Port Clarence;
- Have met with Stagecoach and looking at providing an intermittent bus service;
- Looking into creating a pedestrian area in the middle of the road at Mill lane to enhance safety and reduce vehicle speeds ;
- Talking to Enforcement and local shops on Belasis Avenue regarding cars stopping in the bus stop and on the zig zag lines;
- Ongoing issues with HGV's on Cowpen Lane;
- Looking at Speed Indicator Devices on Greenwood Road;
- Monthly surgeries are continuing;
- Involvement with the Friends of St Cuthbert's re: the possible closure of St Cuthbert's Church;
- Invitation to the 50th anniversary of the Billingham Players to see 'Brassed Off'.

Billingham West

- Investigating a design concept for traffic calming measures in the ward;
- Dealing with issues with parking;
- Looking to install a new bench;
- Dealing with grass maintenance issues;
- Looking at funding for active travel routes;
- Wolviston Village Fair is taking place on Saturday 6th July.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

37/24

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Members were asked to consider the transfer of £82181.47 from the Lloyds Business Bank Instant account to CCLA (Churches, Charities & Local Authorities), that offers a more competitive interest rate and higher security.

RESOLVED

To approve the transfer of £82181.47 to CCLA.

37/24

GENERAL RESERVES & EARMARKED RESERVES

Members were provided with the current Earmarked Reserves up to 31st May 2024 and are asked to allocate funds from General Reserves.

RESOLVED

- a. To approve the spend of £1000 from General Reserves for new folding tables in the Ray McCall room at the Annexe.
- b. To advise the Town Clerk or bring to a future meeting ideas for new projects/activities.

38/24

REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Updates were given from representatives on outside bodies:

| ORGANISATION | UPDATE |
|--|---|
| Cleveland Local Council Association – Cllr Gamble | Minutes of the last minute to be circulated to all members. |
| Billingham Environmental Link Programme – Cllr Scollen | No meeting |
| Low Grange & Cowpen Residents Association – Cllr Bendelow | No update |
| Billingham Legacy Foundation – Cllr McCall | No meeting |
| Billingham Community Partnership – Cllr Gamble | No meeting |
| Billingham International Festival of World Dance – Cllr Snead | No meeting |
| Catalyst Health & Wellbeing Committee – Cllr Shotton | No update |
| Port Clarence in Bloom – Cllr Lacey | No meeting |
| Clarences Community Partnership – Town Clerk | Next meeting 27 th June 2024 |
| Stockton Volunteers – Town Council Officer | No meeting |
| Stockton Housing, Neighbourhoods & Affordable Warmth Partnership – Cllr Bendelow | No update |
| The Voice Forum – Cllr Scollen | No meeting |
| Catalyst Funders Forum – Town Clerk | No meeting. These meetings take place every 6 months. |
| CCIN – Cllr Gamble | Meeting in July 2024 |
| Stockton & District Citizens Advice & Information Service – Cllr Besford | No update |
| Infinity Partnership – Cllr Scollen | No meeting |
| Youth Providers Forum – Cllr Snead | This meeting was moved to another date which Cllr Snead was unable to attend. |

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

- (ii) Members were asked to consider outside body representation for the Friends of St Cuthbert's.

RESOLVED

Cllr Gilbert to become the outside body representative for the Friends of St Cuthbert's.

39/24**BILLINGHAM SPORTS HUB CONSULTATION**

Members were asked consider a response to the above consultation.

RESOLVED

To submit the following response:

Billingham Town Council welcome this additional investment.

We would prefer a 400m track if there is scope for it to attract more athletes.

How will the traffic be managed and the traffic flows controlled? Will modelling be carried out around demand?

40/24**EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

Members were asked to pass the following resolution:

"That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the disclosure of the following item on the agenda as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of schedule 12A in the 1972 Act as indicated below"

Staffing Matters – A confidential report will be given at the meeting.

RESOLVED

- a. The above resolution was passed.
- b. To approve a one off pay increase of one scale point to members of staff that have recently completed professional training.
- c. To offer the temporary member of café staff a permanent Café Assistant contract on the same terms and conditions as existing employees at the cafe.

- d. To split the current 15 hour/week Caretaker role into two separate 7.5 hour/week roles.
- e. The Town Clerk given delegated authority to investigate and manage the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) process in relation to this change.

The meeting concluded at 8.10pm with Cllrs Atkinson, Besford, Gamble, Gilbert, Hedley, Lacey, Leckonby, McCall, Snead and Scollen present.