

**BILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024 AT 7PM**  
**HELD IN THE MAIN HALL, BILLINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

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

**Apologies:**                      Councilor 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.

*A. D. H. C. S. M.*  
*24/9/24*

**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 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> July has been cancelled due to elections and has be reschedule for 25<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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.