

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28TH JANUARY, 2015

Present: Councillor B Burn Snr (Presiding)
R Arthur, Mrs M Baird, E Bell, Mrs J A Bell,
Mrs G Bleasdale, B Burn Jnr, S Cudlip,
Mrs S Forster, R Meir, I Paul, K Shaw,
C Snowball, B Taylor, R Whitehead
K Younger

Apologies: Councillor B Allen, Mrs B E Allen

Observers: Mrs W Berry

Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chair advised members of this Committee and members of the public that in line with the amendment to 'the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960', which came into force in August, 2014, parts of this meeting may be recorded by photographic, video and audio means.

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

2. OPEN SESSION

In accordance with established policy the Council provided a fifteen minute opportunity for any members of the public to raise questions. During this period no issues were raised.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEAHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2014

RESOLVED the Minutes of this meeting, a copy of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved, and they be signed as a correct record by the Mayor.

4. REPORTS OF SERVICE COMMITTEES

RESOLVED that the reports of the following Committees, copies of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved:

- a) Report of Arts and Information Committee held on 6th January, 2015;
- b) Parks and Events Committee held on 6th January, 2015. In respect of items 8 and 12, a Councillor asked if there was any further information with regard to these issues and the Council were informed that the Deputy Town Clerk would be providing an update on both issues at the next meeting of the Parks and Events Committee on Tuesday 3rd February 2015;

- c) Report of Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 13th January, 2015;
- d) Report of Planning and Environmental Committee held on 13th January, 2015 In respect of item 4a, the Council were informed by the Town Clerk that a response had been received from Mr Bob Latimer thanking them for their kind words of support for all of his hard work over the years;
- e) Report of the Clerk's Advisory Sub-Committee held on 13th January, 2015;
- f) Report of the Establishment Sub-Committee held on 13th January, 2015, subject to that it be noted Councillor B Burn Jnr was not present at this meeting and his attendance was recorded in error.

5. REVISED BUDGET FOR 2014/15 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015/16

RESOLVED the Council approve the budgets for 2014/2015 and the revised budgets for 2015/2016.

6. SETTING THE PRECEPT

RESOLVED that the Council hereby agree to precept upon Durham County Council for the sum of £973,018 in respect of their requirements for the next financial year, namely 2015/16 to levy an 8% increase to taxpayers and authority be granted for the precept notice to be signed by the Mayor and Town Clerk. Due to the potential imposition of a capping mechanism on Town and Parish Councils strict instruction was to be given to Durham County Council that the Town Council reserved the right to amend the precept request figure within the legal time frame.