

BILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2021 AT 6.30PM

**HELD IN MEETING ROOM C, BILLINGHAM LIBRARY & CUSTOMER
SERVICE CENTRE**

Present: Councillors Atkinson
 Bendelow
 Gamble
 Leckonby
 McCall
 McCoy
 Peebles
 Pollard
 Sandbach
 Scollen
 Stoker

Apologies: Councillor Wallace (Personal)
 Councillor Shotton (No apologies received)

Officials: Miss Dee Smith - Town Clerk/RFO
 Mrs Kate Minza – Administration Officer

Three members of the public were also present.

The meeting commenced at 6.57pm.

219/21 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced the following:

- Housekeeping;
- There will be another session of Dementia Friendly training at the Café in the Park on Monday 29th November at 3pm.

220/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Leckonby declared a prejudicial interest in minute number 222/21– known to applicant.

221/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

There were no public questions on this occasion.

222/21 CO-OPTION FOR TWO VACANCIES OF COUNCILLOR IN BILLINGHAM SOUTH WARD

Two applications were received (Maria Lacey and Vicki Wrathmall) and candidates were allocated five minutes to present to members why they felt they would make a good representative of our Town.

A vote then took place.

RESOLVED

To co-opt Maria Lacey and Vicki Wrathmall to the vacancies of Councillor in Billingham South Ward. The Declaration of Office was duly signed.

Cllr Leckonby declared a prejudicial interest in this matter.

223/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members were asked to approve the draft minutes from the Full Council meeting held on 29th September 2021 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.

224/21 COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- (i) Members were asked to appoint a member of the Council on to the Community Wellbeing committee.
- (ii) Members were asked to appoint a member of the Council on to the Café Management sub committee.

RESOLVED

- a. To appoint Councillor Lacey on to the Community Wellbeing committee.
- b. To appoint Councillor Atkinson on to the Café Management sub committee.

225/21 TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE LEASE

Members were advised that the Town Council office lease should be finalised in the next few weeks. Retrospective rent payments will be made once the lease is signed.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

226/21 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY UPDATE

The Chairman of the Council advised members that the both events in Billingham and Port Clarence were a huge success and she was very proud of the Town Council being involved. Thanks were given to all the staff.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

227/21 CHRISTMAS UPDATE

The Town Clerk advised members that the Christmas event is taking place on Saturday 27th November in the town centre. Bookings have been received for Christmas dinners and afternoon teas at the Café in the Park throughout December.

Afternoon tea with Santa will take place on Saturday 18th December. This will be a free event and will be advertised in the next couple of weeks.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

228/21 HEATING AT THE CAFÉ IN THE PARK

Members were advised, for information, that since the flood in the café last year, there has been no heating in the café. Some of the wall electric heaters had already broken and some were damaged in the flood.

Various replacement options have been explored. Stockton Borough Council (SBC) attended the site and advised the best option would be to upgrade the current boiler in the Community Kitchen and run pipework through to the café and install new radiators. This would be at a cost of approximately £8500 plus a design fee of 15%.

At the Finance & General Purposes meeting in October, members agreed that the Town Council should contact SBC and request that, as they are the landlord, they pay for the new heating installation. At the time of this agenda, no reply has been received.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

UPDATE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FOLLOWING EXTERNAL BODIES:

Members received the following updates:

- **Cleveland Local Councils Association**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **Billingham Environment Link Programme**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **Billingham Legacy Foundation**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **Low Grange & Cowpen Residents Association**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **North Billingham Residents Association**
Councillor Leckonby advised members that approximately 10 people attended the last meeting. Discussions took place about 5G masts and the Dig in Daffodil Park.
- **Billingham Community Partnership**
The Town Clerk advised that preparations for Christmas are being made and a Christmas installation will be in John Whitehead Park around the tree outside the café. On the 16th December a carol service will take place there with approximately 100 local school children and hampers will be given out to Community Champions.
- **Billingham International Folklore Festival of World Dance**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **Catalyst Health & Wellbeing Committee**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **Port Clarence in Bloom**
Councillor Lacey advised members that meetings will commence again online very soon and daffodils have been planted in the area.
- **Stockton Volunteers**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **The Voice Forum**
There was no update on this occasion.
- **Stockton Housing, Neighbourhoods & Affordable Warmth Partnership**
There was no update on this occasion.

RESOLVED

Information duly noted.

230/21

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY – COVID 19

Members were asked to review the above policy.

RESOLVED

That staff will be encouraged to wear masks but this is not mandatory. However, government guidance will always take precedence.

The meeting concluded at 7.53pm with Cllrs, Atkinson, Bendelow, Gamble, Lacey, Leckonby, McCall, McCoy, Peebles, Pollard, Sandbach, Scollen, Stoker and Wrathmall present.