



# Stanley Town Council

## NOTICE OF MEETING

I hereby give notice that the Annual Town Meeting of Stanley Town Council will be held on Monday, the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 6.00pm in Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley.

**TO ALL ELECTORS and COUNCILLORS of the STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL AREA**

You are requested to attend the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of Stanley Town Council to be held in Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley, on Monday 13th June at 6.00pm in order to transact the following business:

Yours sincerely,

Alex Clegg  
Town Mayor, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022

Please turn off all mobile phones or set to silent mode  
Please refer to the Policy for recording proceedings

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## A G E N D A

**1 WELCOME ADDRESS FROM THE MAYOR OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

The Mayor of the Council for the Civic year 2022 - 23 will welcome all residents in attendance to the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES**

To RECEIVE any apologies for absence made in advance of the meeting.

**3 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (ATTACHMENT A)**

To NOTE and APPROVE the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

**4 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR**

The Town Mayor will report to the meeting highlighting any engagements undertaken during the preceding Civic year.

**5 REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

The Leader of the Council will report to the meeting highlighting the Council's work during the preceding Civic year.

**6 PRESENTATION FROM PARTNERS**

Guest speakers will report on their work with Stanley Town Council and their work within the community in 2021 - 2022

**7 REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR**

The Chair of Finance of General Purposes will report to the meeting highlighting business dealt with by the Finance & General Purposes Committee in the preceding Civic year.

**8 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

The Town Clerk will highlight initiatives planned for the coming Civic year.

**9 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

The Responsible Finance Officer will report to the meeting on the final financial position of the Council at the year end.

**10 OPEN FORUM**

To receive questions or comments from electors of Stanley relating to matters of interest specific to the town of Stanley. Answers to questions may be given by members or staff of the Town Council, or the invited representatives of the County Council and other partners. If we are unable to respond to any question at the meeting, we will follow the matter up with the resident in person after the meeting.

**11 CLOSE OF MEETING**

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**MINUTES of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL**  
Held at **Stanley Civic Hall on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 6.30pm**

**PRESENT:** C Bell                      H Clark                      A Clegg                      K Coulson  
L Ferry                      A Hanson                      A Jones                      J Kane  
J McMahon                      S McMahon                      O Milburn\*                      J Nicholson  
M Thompson                      D Tully                      M Wilkinson

\*Chairman

**OFFICERS:** James Black (Town Clerk)  
Alan Tubman (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Ann Barry (Finance Officer)  
James Harper (Environmental Service Team Leader)

**GUESTS:** Sam Scothbrook, Advice County Durham  
Sharon Gollan, County Durham Community Foundation  
Nickie Gott, Stand Out For Stanley

**1                      WELCOME ADDRESS FROM THE MAYOR OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

The Town Mayor Cllr O Milburn opened the meeting and welcomed members, guests and the public.

**2                      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members **ACCEPTED** apologies from Cllrs G Binney, D Fall, C Hampson, C Marshall, J Stephenson

**3                      MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

It was proposed by Cllr J Nicholson, seconded by Cllr J McMahon that the minutes of the Town Meeting on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 were **APPROVED** as a true record.

**4                      REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR**

Current Town Mayor Cllr O Milburn, read out a statement provided by outgoing Town Mayor Cllr C Hampson detailing the work that had been carried out over the previous two years, and specifically the work of the community and community groups in supporting the residents of the town through the Covid pandemic to date.

**5                      REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Leader of the Council Cllr J Kane thanked previous leader Cllr L Timbey for his work for the Town Council and thanked the voluntary sector within the Town for their contribution to supporting the Town through Covid, including the Covid Support Grants that were provided by the Town Council to local community groups and centres.

Cllr Kane also praised the work of the Environmental Team throughout the town, and the employment and training of an apprentice over the last two years.

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## 6 PRESENTATIONS FROM PARTNERS

### (i) MONEY ADVICE SERVICE

Sam Scotchbrook, Advice in County Durham gave presentation and update on the advice services, currently provided within the town at The Venue and supported by the Town Council, including:

- Foodbank
- County Durham Money Advice
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Universal credit help
- Energy Specialist

Sam also gave an update on present issues being experienced by customers, caseloads, and performance of the service.

### (ii) STANLEY FUND

Sharon Gollan gave a presentation and update on the performance of the Stanley Fund since its inception in 2019 to date. This included details of the additional funds that have been secured alongside and in association with the Stanley Fund and invested within the Stanley Community.

Nickie Gott gave a presentation and update on the Stand Out For Stanley, fundraising/place based giving scheme, element of the Stanley Fund, including the Launch Event and the expectation that it will become an annual Stand Out For Stanley Event. All money raised from the event and the community engagement will be included within the overall Stanley Fund for reinvestment within the community.

## 7 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

## 8 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Finance Officer Ann Barry gave a brief overview of the budget setting process and the financial performance of 2020/21 against budget. The main cost pressures the council faced at the start of the financial year, the support provided to the local community and the impact of Covid 19 initially led us to projections of a £27K deficit. Furlough of Civic Hall Staff, reduction in general running costs and Government lockdown grants helped bring our financial outturn position to a surplus of £24k.

## 9 OPEN FORUM

There was one member of the public present, no questions were forth coming.

No questions had been posted online during the meeting, though a comment was received:

Darren McMahon commented that Sam Scotchbrook has done excellent works in the community with the Advice service and partnership working.

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Two questions had been received in advance of the meeting.

Question one:

I'd like to ask STC, will they make a commitment to involving young people in the governance of Stanley by helping create, in partnership with the Stanley Area Youth Consortium and local youth activity providers, a youth council that can feed young people's views directly into the council, helping shape policy and delivery.

Darren McMahon

Answer:

Firstly, we want to congratulate the work that the Stanley Area Youth Consortium have undertaken recently around the challenge's children and young people from the Stanley Area have faced during the pandemic. The Council is absolutely behind the work of the consortium, and we would most welcome Young People's involvement in any future consultations and partnership workings.

Council Officers will make contact with representatives from the Consortium and its partners to look at ways the Council can enthuse and engage with the younger generation. This will hopefully set the scope for future workings.

On top of this, I think its relevant to note that the Council currently support the work of the Stars Youth Project by a financial commitment which has been in place for the past three years, with money allocated to the project from this year's budget also. We look forward to continuing to support our Youth projects in the town, and we look forward to hearing from them in due course.

Question two:

Question from Vincent and Darren McMahon: for the Annual Town Meeting, does STC have any funding allocated to a war memorial project, if not could this be a possibility, would STC be open to committing office time towards supporting an independent external group working towards achieving a dedicated memorial in central Stanley.

Answer:

STC have a budget of £5,000 allocated to Heritage for the year 2021/22. Members have previously agreed to support a number of heritage projects which have been rolled over from the previous year.

One of the projects, is working with the local Durham Light Infantry Association and Durham County Council, Area Action Partnership to create something for the DLI within the Town Centre.

Specifically, regarding a War Memorial project STC would be happy to work with the community on this or indeed any projects and moving ahead and will be happy to contact Mr McMahon to discuss this.

