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**MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL of STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL held at Stanley Civic Hall on Tuesday 22nd November 2022 at 6.30pm**

**O Milburn\*** G Binney H Clark **A Clegg§** L Ferry A Hanson  
S McMahon J Nicholson M Thompson J Kane C Hampson A Jones  
C Marshall J McMahon D Tully J Stephenson

\*Chairman § Vice-Chairman

**OFFICERS:** Helen Richardson (Town Clerk)  
Ann Barry (Finance Officer)  
Michelle Robertson (Events & Admin Support Officer)  
Peter Burns (Facilities & Events Officer)  
Vanessa Wilson (Events & Admin Support Officer)

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the meeting will be live streamed via the Stanley Town Council YouTube channel.

**127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members **RECEIVED** apologies from Cllr K Coulson, Cllr. C Bell, Cllr. D Fall and Cllr M Martin.

**128. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**129. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor updated members on the engagements he has attend in the last month.

The Town Clerk, council has received a Freedom Of Information request in relation to the procurement process for our events contract.

A question has been received from a local resident in relation to Berties Bar on Front Street Stanley, and The Smiths Arms in Catchgate. Town Clerk is waiting for a response from Building Control in relation to Berties Bar Stanley. And from the Brewery to confirm who owns the The Smiths Arms so this can be resolved.

A resident has asked about a War Memorial installation in Stanley.

A reminder that our Christmas Panto has tickets still available and to please encourage those in their communities to come along, starting on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, and Town Clerk will be on Annual Leave for two weeks, returning 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

**130. LEADERS STATEMENT**

No statement from the Leader.

**131. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present, and no questions had been received in advance.

**132. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr J Kane, seconded by Cllr J Stephenson and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 be **APPROVED** and signed by the Town Mayor as a true record.

**133. RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that Council **RECEIVE** the minutes from the Finance & General Purposes Committee held of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

**134. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT & BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was **APPROVED** the payments for October 2022 and **NOTED** the bank reconciliation for October 2022.

**135. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAY AWARD 2022/2023**

Members **NOTED** the Local Government, Pay Award for 2022/2023.

**136. BUILDING CONDITION AND BUDGET UPDATE**

The Town Clerk presented the Building Report to members to **CONSIDER** and **AGREE** a proposal by recorded vote.

Update from Town Clerk in relation to grant funding the Stanley Advice Service receives, if payments are brought in line with Stanley Town Council's financial year there would be a saving of £5000k in the 2022/23 financial year which has already been budgeted for.

Town Clerk advises to be clear what members are voting for:

- **Proposal 1** - to hand back the Civic Hall to Durham County Council, which includes a £5000k savings on funding and an increase in the precept by 1%
- **Proposal 2** - Retain the operation of the Civic Hall which would include no further funding to worthy outside organizations and increase precept by 1% to meet required maintenance on Civic Hall building.

Proposal 1 was AGREED and RESOLVED by majority recorded vote.  
The Civic Hall will be returned to be operated by Durham County Council.

**Recorded Vote**

For: Cllrs. J McMahon, C Marshall, A Jones, J Stephenson, S McMahon, A Hanson, C Hampson, G Binney and J Kane.

Against: Cllrs. A Clegg, H Clark, J Nicholson, D Tully, L Ferry, M Thompson.

Abstentions: None

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**137. FORTHCOMING ELECTORAL REVIEW OF DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

Members **NOTED** the verbal update from the Town Clerk for the up-and-coming briefing of the forthcoming Electoral Review of Durham County Council.

**138. CHRISTMAS OPENING/CLOSURE 2022/23**

Members **NOTED** the verbal update for opening hours over the Christmas period, which is from 24<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and reopening on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.

The Civic Hall will be used by PACT House on Christmas Day to support the community by providing Christmas dinner.

**139. DATE, TIME, AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 6.30pm, Stanley Civic Hall.