

ASHINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
AGREED Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, held at 6:00pm
on Tuesday 27th September 2022
at Ashington Town Hall, Council Chamber, 65 Station Road, Ashington, NE63 8RX

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Mark Purvis (Chair), Cllrs Louis Brown, Vicky Brown, Michelle Brannigan, Marjorie Chambers, Glyn Davies, Lynne Grimshaw, Jim Lang, Pauline Thompson, and Bob Walkinshaw.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE

Sarah Eden – Town Clerk & RFO, Stephen Humphrey – Assets and Facilities Manager, Sharon Parmley – Administration (minute taking)

FC22/1053 WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

Welcome by Cllr Mark Purvis.

FC22/1054 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Eleanor Armstrong, Caroline Ball, Victor Bridges, Matthew Cuthbert, Lawrence Henderson, Liam Lavery, Sophie Robinson, and John Tully

FC22/1055 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

FC22/1056 DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for Dispensations.

FC22/1057 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no items for public participation.

FC22/1058 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was **AGREED to RECEIVE and SIGN** the minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 28th June 2022 as a true record.

FC22/1059 REPORT FROM THE CIVIC HEAD OF ASHINGTON CLLR BOB WALKINSHAW

It was **AGREED to RECEIVE** a verbal report from the Civic Head.

Thursday 11th August - Ashington RVS Social Centre Summer Outing to Newbiggin Maritime Centre. The trip was partially funded by ATC's Queen Jubilee Fund.

Tuesday 30th August - At Home with The Parente Family.

Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st September – Visiting Garden Competition Winners to present their prizes.

FC22/1060 REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Leader sent his apologies for the meeting.

FC22/1061 FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT RISK ASSESSMENT, SEPTEMBER 2022

It was **AGREED to RECEIVE** the Financial Risk Assessment, September 2022.

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Councillors the red areas of the assessment, these pose the highest risks and due care needs to be taken to ensure any risks are minimised. Reference was made to contact by Northumberland County Council for Ashington Town Council

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to take responsibility for the recently re-installed Jackie Milburn Statue at Ashington Leisure Centre. The Clerk confirmed that communication was ongoing in regards landownership, liabilities and professional indemnity for the structural work undertaken.

The Clerk also drew members attention to those risks that had been lowered due to actions taken.

FC 22/1062 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Following approval of the Chair, an urgent item was brought forward. **It was AGREED** to suspend standing orders to receive the following motion without notice in line with “9b - No motion may be moved at a meeting unless it is on the agenda and the mover has given written notice of its wording to the Proper Officer at least seven clear days before the meeting. Clear days do not include the day of the notice, or the day of the meeting.”

FC22/1063 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR), YEAR ENDING MARCH 2022

a) External Auditor Report/Certificate

It was AGREED to RECEIVE the External Auditor Report/Certificate, with the note that the AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review, and amendments are required prior to completing the 2022/23 return.

The Clerk/RFO confirmed that the errors were recording errors rather than arithmetic or numerical accuracy errors, therefore no irregularities were noted.

The Clerk confirmed that the information was available on the Town Council website as required.

b) Notice of Conclusion of Audit

It was AGREED to ENDORSE the publication of the Notice of Conclusion of Audit (with dates for inspection), on the Town Council’s website, alongside Annual Governance and Accountability Return, year ending March 2022

FC22/1064 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 29th November 2022, 6pm, Ashington Town Hall, 65 Station Road, Ashington, NE63 8RX.

The meeting ended at 7:40pm