

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE
ON MONDAY 21st AUGUST 2023

PRESENT: COUN K HAWLEY (CHAIR)
K Liddell, A Stockport, R Moore & A E Laing

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor D Hawley, R Scott & D Howarth.

2. The Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 7th June 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting are attached for consideration and approval as a true and correct record. **RESOLVED the minutes be accepted and signed as a true and correct record.**

3. Durham County Council Consultation on reduction of LCTRS Grant Funding

Members of the Scrutiny Committee considered the proposals by Durham County Council (DCC) to reduce the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) grant funding to the Town Council by 50% over the next two financial years. The Town Clerk circulated his report to the Council and talked members through the impact of the options being proposed. In the report it was recommended PTC should make a formal response to Durham County Council and the Scrutiny Committee supported this. Members of the Committee also agreed that Options 2 would be the better of the two offered by DCC, however the preferred option was that any reductions be put on pause for another two years and be considered again by DCC after the 2025 local and national elections.

AGREED that the Scrutiny Committee support the Town Clerk's recommendations to the Council as set out in his report.