

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council People and Communities Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 08 February 2022 at 6.00pm in the Northern View, Highcliffe, Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors:	C Bruce (Chair)	P Jackson
	J Bowden	H Lindsay
	A Bowlas	A Williams
	R Bruce	G Smith
	R Driver	L Stephenson
	M Greener	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gareth Davies, Town Clerk

Julian Smith, Projects Officer

2 members of the public

PC081/21 1. SEA THE CHANGE

A presentation was made by Juliana Amaral of Sea the Change to outline the organisation's current activity of 'educating for change' in the use of single use plastic. They requested that the Town Council endorse and adopt the '3 small changes' challenge to remove single use plastic from day-to-day operation. They further requested that the Town Council raise the issue with Northumberland County Council (NCC) and Berwick Chamber of Trade as an issue to consider. On the motion of Cllr R Driver, seconded by Cllr H Lindsay, the committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to council to direct officers to endorse and adopt the 3 Small Changes challenge and further **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to raise the matter with NCC and Berwick Chamber of Trade.

PC082/21

2. OPEN SESSION

Members of Berwick Climate Action expressed approval for the committee's resolution on single plastic use and briefly outlined their own efforts in approaching local business to support the initiative.

PC083/21

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Raybould.

PC084/21

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

On the motion of Cllr R Bruce, seconded by Cllr H Lindsay, the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 January 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record with the following amendment. It was noted that minute PC073/21 was incorrect when it was stated that Cllr P Jackson be invited to the meeting with the Freeman Trust and instead the point should read 'All councillors be invited to attend the meeting'.

PC085/21

5. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

In reference to point 9, Cllr H Lindsay noted that they were on the steering group of Heritage Open Days and Cllr M Greener noted their interest in Spittal Seaside Festival.

PC086/21

6. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

PC087/21

7. FUTURE FESTIVALS / EVENTS

The Town Clerk introduced the item and outlined the existing events supported by the Council and potential outstanding new annual events. The specific events discussed by the committee as follows:

Poetry Festival: On the motion of Cllr R Bruce, seconded by Cllr J Bowden, the committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to explore the project, particularly to make contact with any local poetry groups and to consider accessibility issues.

Folk/World Music Festival: On the motion of Cllr R Bruce, seconded by Cllr M Greener, the committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to explore the project.

Cycling Events: On the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr G Smith, the committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to explore the project, with reference to the involvement of Active Northumberland and to consider the inclusion of bike amnesty and bike doctor elements.

Dinghy Racing: On the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr C Bruce, the committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to make contact with the potential organisers of the local event and to assess the economic impact of North Berwick's dinghy event.

Open Gardens Event: On the motion of Cllr C Bruce, seconded by Cllr G Smith, the committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to council that the organiser of Berwick Open Gardens be invited to present to Council.

Parkrun UK: It was agreed by committee that Berwick does not appear to contain a suitably sized park to further involvement with the Parkrun UK events calendar and that Parkrun UK were adequately resourced to pursue this matter.

PC088/21

8. COUNCIL SUPPORT OF LOCAL FESTIVALS

On the motion of Cllr P Jackson, seconded by Cllr H Lindsay, the committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Projects Officer to arrange meetings on behalf of a group of Councillors with the Autumn Festivals to gather information. The Councillors that agreed to meet with the Festivals were Cllr P Jackson, Cllr J Bowden and Cllr H Lindsay with Cllr C Raybould as reserve.

At this point, Committee **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders sufficiently to allow the meeting to continue beyond the 8:00pm deadline.

PC089/21

9. GRANT AWARDS

On the motion of Cllr R Driver, seconded by Cllr R Bruce, the committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Projects Officer:

- To expand the Council's grant criteria to include health, education, youth and social welfare applicants.
- To develop (In conjunction with the Town Clerk) the procedure for Council 'Microgrants' to allocate purchased equipment rather than offer direct financial support to small groups.

PC090/21 **10. JIMMY STRENGTH PROJECT**

The Committee noted a verbal update by the Projects Officer.

PC091/21 **11. FORWARD PLAN**

It was **RESOLVED** to note the forward plan and also to include on the plan:

- The Climate Emergency, as declared by Council,
- The grant award process, and
- The Autumn Festivals review.

PC092/21 **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 08 March 2022 at 6.00 pm.