

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Town Council Local Services Committee Meeting held on Monday, 06
December 2021 at 6.00pm in the William Elder Building, Castlegate, Berwick-upon-Tweed**

PRESENT:

Councillors:	R Bruce (Chair)	A Gibson
	J Bowden	M Greener
	A Bowlas	J Robertson
	G Brown	G Smith
	C Bruce	L Stephenson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk
Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
Greg Gavin, Northumberland County Council
Bob Hodgson, Northumberland County Council
1 member of the public

LS092/21 1. LOCAL SERVICES

Representative of Northumberland County Council (NCC) gave a verbal presentation on local services and answered questions from councillors.

LS093/21 2. OPEN SESSION

Cllr G Smith updated the meeting that the ivy on the Town Walls at Castlegate had been cut-back and reported that the lock on the disabled toilet at Castlegate was not working.

LS094/21 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R Driver.

LS095/21 4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The committee unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 01 November 2021 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

LS096/21

5. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

LS097/21

6. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

LS098/21

7. ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS

An update was received by Cllr L Stephenson on damage after Storm Arwen and that it has been impressed on beach clean volunteers to be careful. There have been beach cleans at Pier Road, Greenses Haven and Spittal Beach. NCC vans have been out and about. Damage had been reported at sites including Five Arches whilst the trees at the latter have been removed. After which, the committee **RESOLVED** that a message be circulated via social media expressing thanks to the volunteers whilst encouraging participants to stay safe.

LS099/21

8. ISSUES REPORTED SINCE LAST MEETING

Updates were received from Officers regarding the street furniture and play equipment at Spittal Play Area, orders placed for the Splash Park and play equipment at Greenses Haven. Updates were received from Councillors regarding the re-instatement of swings at Grove Gardens South and Osborne Place.

After which Councillors unanimously **RESOLVED** to provide a way forward for the situation of molehills at Greens Haven.

LS100/21

9. ITEMS OF GROWTH OR SAVINGS

- i. On the motion of Cllr J Robertson, seconded by Cllr C Bruce, the Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to council that the budget for 2022-23 should include provision for a recurring cost of £10,500 to cover a 15 year loan on an equal payments of principal basis for the cost of replacing Spittal Play Park, and that reserves should be reconfigured to cover any costs above that amount.
- ii. On the motion of Cllr J Robertson, seconded by Cllr C Bruce, the Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to council that preparation to bring services in house on the basis previously described by the Town Clerk at council's request be instigated.

LS101/21

10. HANGING BASKETS

- i. On the motion of Cllr G Smith, seconded by Cllr J Bowden, the Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to council the replacement of all baskets with 41cm Cup and Saucer baskets in dark blue at a cost of approximately £2120.
- ii. On the motion of Cllr G Smith, seconded by Cllr J Bowden, the Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to council that 18 barrier baskets be purchased to replace and complement those already in situ at a cost of approximately £2322.

LS102/21

11. QUAYSIDE PLANTERS

The committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to note the report.

LS103/21

12. TOURIST TELESCOPE

The Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to recommend to council that no action be taken with regards to the Tourism Project Reserve to enable provision for a tourism facility on Spittal Promenade.

LS104/21

13. FORWARD PLAN

The Town Clerk updated the meeting that following on from the decision of the Committee at Item 9, an outline of the way forward will be included in the Forward Plan.

After which, it was **RESOLVED** to note the Forward Plan.

LS105/21

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Monday, 07 February 2022 at 6.00 pm.