

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Local Services Committee Meeting held on Monday, 07 February 2022 at 6.00pm in the Northern View, Highcliffe, Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk
Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
Cty Cllr G Hill
Cty Cllr I Hunter
1 member of the public

LS106/21

1. OPEN SESSION

There were no contributions by members of the public present.

LS107/21

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Bowlas and J Robertson.

LS108/21

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

On the motion of Cllr G Smith, seconded by Cllr C Bruce, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 06 December 2021 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

LS109/21

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

LS110/21

5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

LS111/21

6. ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS

Updates were received by Cllr L Stephenson including that the Spittal group has a new leader, the walk through from Ladywell is dealt with by Northumberland County Council (NCC).

The U3A are collecting on the dual carriageway north of Morrisons and following on from Storm Arwen parts of roofs from the Ramparts Business Park have been blown into the surrounding hedges.

10, 000 leaflets have been distributed through Berwick regarding the Nature Trail.

After which, the Committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to liaise with Haven Holiday Park regarding litter left at the Play Area and, whilst the boat left in the bay is not the responsibility of the Town Council, to explore a solution.

The installation of a speed sign funded via Cty Cllr I Hunter was then discussed and Standing Orders were suspended sufficiently to allow Cty Cllr I Hunter to speak. After which, the Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council the adoption of the sign in principal and further **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to explore maintenance costs.

LS112/21

7. ISSUES REPORTED SINCE LAST MEETING

An update was provided by the Town Clerk which included ramifications of Storm Arwen and that there should be a clearer indication by the end of the week regarding which contractors are bidding to redevelop Spittal Play Area. After which, it was **RESOLVED** to note the report.

LS113/21

8. LOCAL SERVICES

Vehicle types were discussed during which it was agreed that the Climate Emergency Policy should be considered as overriding guidelines. After which the Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to acquire and distribute information on vehicle types and signage.

There followed a discussion on the Phase 1 tasks, distributed as a background paper, after which it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to add the pressure washing of streets to the list.

Concerns were then raised regarding the commercial bins located outside the Leaping Salmon, after which it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to liaise with NCC.

Issues with pavements were than mentioned and, during the discussion, Standing Orders were suspended sufficiently to allow Cty Cllr G Hill to speak.

LS114/21

9. PLATINUM JUBILEE

The Town Clerk introduced the item and explained that the cost of a tree including a guard was approximately £500 for installation. During the discussion, suggestions included that Christmas Trees be sited permanently at Prior Park and Spittal, and 7 trees to be sited thorough-out the town centre, 1 for every decade of the Queen's reign. After which, it was **RESOLVED** that this item be brought back to the next meeting of this committee.

Platinum Jubilee bunting was also discussed, after which it was **RESOLVED** that costs be brought to a future meeting of Council.

Furthermore, the Committee **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to liaise with the Chamber of Trade to discuss the idea of sponsoring a prize for a best dressed window competition.

LS115/21

10. FIVE ARCHES

The Assistant to the Town Clerk introduced the item, after which the Committee **RESOLVED** to request that the current 'old style' litter bin be removed from Five Arches and that 3 new litter bins be installed at the agreed locations.

LS116/21

11. PUBLIC TOILETS

The Town Clerk introduced the item and explained that NCC have money set aside for the maintenance of toilets and in Berwick the prioritised locations are Castlegate and Spittal. However, maintenance work may not commence in the near future. Standing Orders were suspended sufficiently to allow Cty Cllr G Hill to speak. After which, the Committee **RESOLVED** that this item be considered at a meeting of full Council.

LS117/21

12. BENCHES

On the motion of Cllr G Brown, seconded by Cllr R Bruce, the Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the quote with the condition that an estimate be sought for the relocation of 2 serpent benches to the Tweedmouth end of the Royal Tweed Bridge.

LS118/21

13. FORWARD PLAN

It was **RESOLVED** to note the Forward Plan.

LS119/21

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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