

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 28 March 2022 at 6.00 pm in the Northern View, Highcliffe, Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors:	A Bowlas (Chair)	M Greener
	J Bowden	H Lindsay
	C Bruce	C Raybould
	R Bruce	J Robertson
	R Driver	G Smith

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk
Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
Cty Cllr I Hunter
Jackie Kaines Lang, Open Gardens
Peter Bistram, Open Gardens
John Bell, Berwick Youth Project
Rev Christopher Smith, Berwick Youth Project
Michael Richardson, Rotary Club of Berwick upon Tweed
4 members of the public

C250/21

1. OPEN GARDENS

Jackie Kaines Lang and Peter Bistram gave a presentation on the Open Gardens project. After which, they provided an explanation that all sites are north of the river due to the funding received.

C251/21

2. BERWICK YOUTH PROJECT

John Bell and the Rev Christopher Smith gave a presentation on the Berwick Youth Project and answered questions from councillors and members of the public.

C252/21

3. OPEN SESSION

Mr Brian Darling asked if the Town Council were consulted by the utilities company installing telegraph poles along Dock Road to which the Town Clerk responded including to comments from councillors.

C253/21

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs G Brown, A Forbes, A Gibson, P Jackson, L Stephenson and A Williams.

C254/21

5. MINUTES

On the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr C G Smith, the minutes of the meeting of Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council held on 28 February 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

C255/21

6. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr J Robertson declared an interest in Item 18(ii).

C256/21

7. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

C257/21

8. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided details of the Sashing of the Chief Marshal ahead of the Riding of the Bounds.

C258/21

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Members **RESOLVED** to delay paying the invoice for the Tourism Officer Subscription until further clarity is received, Cllr M Greener asked if correspondence had been received from the Tweed Estuary Protection Group and correspondence from the city of Trzcianka was discussed. After which, it was **RESOLVED** to note the Correspondence Log.
- ii. Members **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to seek further information from the Berwick Community Trust regarding their request for funding.
- iii. Members **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to seek further information from Berwick Rangers regarding their request for funding.
- iv. Members noted the correspondence regarding the website outage.

C259/21

10. JUBILEE PARTY ON THE PARADE

Standing Orders were suspended sufficiently to allow Michael Richardson of the Rotary Club of Berwick-upon-Tweed to speak. After which, on the motion of Cllr C Bruce, seconded by Cllr J Robertson, Council **RESOLVED** to sponsor the cost of

the marquee from the Publicity and Communications Budget on the proviso that the Town Council logo be displayed on the marquee.

C260/21

11. BUDGET

The Town Clerk introduced the item with an update on tourism within the budget and the Medium-Term Financial Plan which formed part of the report. After which, on the motion of Cllr J Robertson, seconded by Cllr H Lindsay, Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to:

1. Accept the updated version of the budget approved at the January meeting of Council, and
2. Accept the new format going forward whereby the budget would include the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

C261/21

12. LOCAL SERVICES

Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to note the update of the Town Clerk.

C262/21

13. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to liaise with partners regarding a plan going forward with updates being provided to a future meeting of Council.

C263/21

14. TOWN CENTRE WORKING GROUP

Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve:

1. The replacement of existing planters with planters and trees, and
2. Deferral of a final plan for locations to the Local Service Committee.

C264/21

15. MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

This item was considered under item 11.

C265/21

16. MUNICIPAL CALENDAR 2022-2023

Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to develop proposals to be brought to the next meeting of Council that would include:

1. The same number of Committees with delegated budgets,
2. 6 Council meetings per year, and
3. Standing Orders revised sufficiently to allow these changes to move forward.

At this point, Council **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders sufficiently to allow the meeting to continue beyond the 8pm deadline.

C266/21

17. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

On the motion of Cllr C Bruce, seconded by Cllr J Robertson, Council **RESOLVED** to nominate Cllr M Greener as a Town Council representative to the Berwick-upon-Tweed Corporation (Freemen) Trustees.

C267/21

18. FORWARD PLAN

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to note the Forward Plan.
- ii. Spring and street clutter. Cllr J Robertson left the meeting for the duration of this item.

During the discussion Standing Orders were suspended sufficiently to allow a member of the public to speak. After which, Council **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to liaise with Northumberland County Council and further **RESOLVED** to use social media to reach out to the public and report back to a future meeting of Council.

C268/21

19. STAFFING AND CORPORATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr M Greener to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Staffing and Corporate Resources Committee held on 07 September 2021.
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr C Raybould, seconded by Cllr H Lindsay to note the minutes of the meeting of the Staffing and Corporate Resources Committee held on Tuesday 15 March 2022.

C269/21

20. LOCAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr J Robertson, seconded by Cllr C Bruce to adopt the amended minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 06 December 2021.
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr M Greener, seconded by Cllr C Bruce to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 07 February 2022 (noted at the meeting of 28 February 2022).
- iii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr J Robertson, seconded by Cllr M Greener to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 07 March 2022.

C270/21

21. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr G Smith, seconded by Cllr R Driver to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the People and Communities Committee held on 08 February 2022 (noted at the meeting of 28 February 2022).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr C Raybould, seconded by Cllr H Lindsay to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the People and Communities Committee held on 08 March 2022.

C271/21

22. PLANNING COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr R Driver, seconded by Cllr A Bowlas to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 14 February 2022 (noted at the meeting of 28 February 2022).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr G Smith, seconded by Cllr R Driver to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 14 March 2022.

C272/21

23. BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr C Bruce to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee held on 15 February 2022 (noted at the meeting of 28 February 2022).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr C Raybould to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee held on 15 March 2022.

C273/21

24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday, 25 April 2022 at 6 pm.