

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council People and Communities Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 08 November 2022 at 6.00pm in The Meeting Room, Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council Office, Unit 1, 82 – 88 Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk
Stephen Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
0 members of the public

PC050/22 1. OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

PC051/22 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

PC052/22 3. MINUTES

As two consecutive minutes had been given the same number, the minutes of the meeting held on the 04 October 2022 would be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.

PC053/22 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

- (i) Cllrs R Bruce, H Lindsay and G Smith declared a personal interest in Item 8 Community Database.
- (ii) There were no requests for dispensation.

PC054/22

5. BERWICK-UPON-TWEED CONSERVATION AREA ADVISORY GROUP

Cllr M Greener introduced the report and provided the minutes of the last meeting as a hand-out. Members asked a number of question regarding Spittal Gardening Group, Osborne Play Area and Berwick-in-Bloom. After which it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to note the minutes and that a shorter report should be brought to future meetings.

PC055/22

6. TOWN CRIER

The Committee considered the background paper, after which, Members unanimously **RESOLVED** that a report, adapted from the background paper, be brought to the next meeting of Council.

PC056/22

7. GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP

The Town Clerk introduced the report following the decisions of the previous meeting of this Committee. Proposals included within the discussion included that scrutiny is different for the suggested three tiers and that there are two rounds of dealing with grant applications in the spring and the autumn. After which, on the motion of Cllr H Lindsay, seconded by Cllr A Williams, the Committee **RESOLVED**:

1. That all papers used to consider this matter at the meeting of the committee on 4/10/2022 be published as background papers,
2. That committee adopt as its rationale for its recommendations 'In order to enable clarity as to the reasons for decisions, to provide greater opportunities to other bodies to seek funding, and to provide a more organised process for applications and decisions the committee recommends.'
3. That the proposed pots of money allocated for grants be published as a separate appendix to the budget report, and that the process for applications be published within six weeks of the adoption of the budget proposals,
4. That, subject to consultation with stakeholders there should be no rolling awards, that all awards should be applied for on a year-to-year basis and that each application will be considered on its own merit,
5. That Officers develop a new 3-tier system based on the current grant system within the existing budget envelope for grants of all types, and

6. Subject to the outcome of the consultation proposed at 4 above, council should transition to only providing support via the grants process for budget year 2023-24.

PC057/22

8. GRANT APPLICATION

The Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to defer this application until the Grant Application Form is completed correctly.

PC058/22

9. FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee noted the attendance of representatives of the Maltings, Berwick CCZ and Northumberland County Council at future informal and committee meetings

PC059/22

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 10 January 2023 at 6.00 pm.