

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 18 June 2012 at 6 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors:	J Robertson (Town Mayor)	I Hunter
	J Beresford	A Reid
	H Bettison	C Routledge
	A Bowlas	F Simpson
	B Douglas	J Smith
	F Grant	J Waterhouse
	P Herdman MBE	

IN ATTENDANCE:

S Finch, Town Clerk

S Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk

R Leetham, Finance Officer

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

CO14/12 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been accepted from: Councillors I Dixon (personal), G Hill (work commitment) and V Pauline (personal).

CO15/12 2. MINUTES

Councillor Waterhouse advised that at the meeting held on 14 May 2012, the Clerk had stated that only one member had responded to an email from her requesting views on the suggestion that an alternative site for the Jubilee lamp could be in Love Lane. She wished it noted that this was not the case and it should not have been stated in public. The Clerk advised that she had subsequently apologised and was happy to offer a further full apology to this public meeting.

[NOTE: An addendum to these minutes sets out the facts in relation to this issue.]

The minutes of the Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council meeting held on 14 May 2012 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

CO16/12 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

CO17/12 4. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

CO18/12 5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2012

RESOLVED: In accordance with Accounts and Audit Regulations, to approve the accounting statement and annual governance statement for the year ending 31 March 2012.

CO19/12 6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Monday 9 July 2012 at 6 pm in the Town Hall.

ADDENDUM

At the Council meeting on 14 May, the question was raised by Cllr Smith about whether the location of the proposed Jubilee lamp would be in Marygate or in Love Lane (Notes made by the Assistant to the Town Clerk confirm this). The Clerk reminded members that subsequent to their agreeing to Marygate (12 of 16 members were in favour, and County were advised of this at the end of February), a second site had been suggested by Margaret Thomas, at the end of Love Lane, where a previous Jubilee lamp had once been sited.

On 19 March the Clerk therefore sent an email, marked 'high importance' to all members, so they should have the opportunity to consider this site as well, as it had not previously been suggested, and seemed to have a number of attractions. The final paragraph asked 'If any member has any comment on this I would be grateful if they could let me know as soon as possible'. The Clerk did not receive a comment from anyone except Cllr Smith. In the interests of total accuracy, the Clerk did also receive a later email from Cllr Routledge which was an acknowledgement of the email but not a comment on the alternative proposal.

The Clerk was therefore correct in averring that only Cllr Smith responded with a comment on the alternative site in Love Lane.

S Finch
20 June 2012