

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 20 November 2017 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

Councillors:	G Roughead (Town Mayor)	K Graham
	H Bettison	C Lewis
	R Bruce	H Nichols
	I Dixon	B Parkin
	A Forbes	G Smith
	T Forrester	L Stephenson
	A Gibson	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk
Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
Joyce Benton, Sergeant-at-Mace
Tom Johnston, Glendale Gateway Trust
Laura Shearer, Great British Beach Clean
County Councillor G Hill
County Councillor C Seymour
9 members of the public, 1 member of the press

Tom Johnston of Glendale Gateway Trust gave a presentation on Community Led Housing.

Laura Shearer of Great British Beach Clean then gave a presentation on her organization's work in organizing volunteer litter collections, and the Town Clerk drew elected members attention to the item arising from the minutes of the Local Services Committee further down the agenda.

OPEN SESSION

There were no questions from the public during the open session.

C127/17 **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of: Cllrs A Bowlas, B Douglas and G Thomson.

C128/17 **2. MINUTES**

On the resolution of Cllr Graham, seconded by Cllr Lewis the minutes of the Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council meeting held on 17 October 2017 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

C129/17 **3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of interests.

C130/17 **4. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no requests for dispensation.

C131/17 **5. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The mayor announced that an Extraordinary Council meeting had been called for Tuesday 28 December at 18:30 at which he would give a full account of his activities, and that the Christmas Lights Switch and Christmas Fayre for cancer cars was on Saturday 25th November.

C132/17 **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- i. Members **RESOLVED** without division to note the correspondence log.
- ii. 'Big Conservation Conversation: Where are the outstanding conservation areas'. Members requested that the Town Clerk find out more about this organization.

C133/17 **7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

It was proposed by Cllr Bettison, seconded by the Mayor and **RESOLVED** without contention that council should write to Mr Eric Goodyer expressing their thanks for his work on the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was further **RESOLVED**, on the motion of Cllr Bettison, seconded by Cllr Graham that council invite the steering group to nominate one of their members to chair meetings, and that council appoint the Town Clerk to act as project manager for the Neighbourhood Plan from this point forward, and delegate to him the authority to take procedural decisions that are too urgent to be brought to council, after consultation with the Chair of the Planning

Committee, whilst reserving to council the sole authority to approve or reject documents, evidence or policy proposals.

C134/17 **8. TWINNING REQUEST**

It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Roughead, that a working group should be formed of interested members, which should report to the People and Communities committee on matters within its existing budget and terms of reference, and make recommendations to council on all other matters.

C135/17 **9. BUDGET 2018-19**

It was **RESOLVED** to adjourn this matter until after the Staffing Review had been considered.

C136/17 **10. FORWARD PLAN**

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

C137/17 **11. BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee held on 9 October 2017 (noted at the meeting of 17 October 2017).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** to note the list of payments received by the Budget and Administration Committee at its meeting of 13 November 2017.
- iii. It was **RESOLVED** to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee held on 13 November 2017.

C138/17 **12. LOCAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 25 September 2017.
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 23 October 2017.

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following recommendations detailed in draft minute LS038/17:

- a. Cllr Stephenson provided an update on the volunteer beach clean and a discussion took place on the wider issue of volunteer involvement in litter prevention and clear ups.

It was **RESOLVED**, without dissent, to invite a representative of the charity involved in beach clean-ups to attend council and to

recommend to council that funding be provided for volunteer litter picking, for notice boards for the anti-litter groups and consumable materials such as bags and gloves.

C139/17 **13. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the People and Communities Committee held on 2 October 2017 (noted at the meeting of 17 October 2017).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the People and Communities Committee held on 6 November 2017.

C140/17 **14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday, 18 December 2017 at 6 pm.

Council RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was appropriate to exclude the media and public from the discussion of the following business on the basis that public discussion might prejudice the Council's position and staffing issues might be discussed.

At this point the Public withdrew.

C141/17 **15. STAFFING REVIEW**

After the Town Clerk had introduced his report the matters contained within it were debated, and it was **RESOLVED** to adjourn the matter until the extraordinary meeting of council, and to invite the Town Clerk to provide further evidence for their conclusions.

C142/17 **BUDGET**

In the light of the failure to reach agreement on the Staffing Review it was **RESOLVED** to adjourn this matter until the extraordinary meeting of council.