

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 24 April 2017 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

Councillors:	I Dixon (Town Mayor)	G Hill
	H Bettison	P Hodgson
	A Forbes	J Lang
	T Forrester	G McLean
	A Gibson	G Roughead
	E Goodyer	C Seymour
	K Graham	G Smith

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Interim Town Clerk

Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk

Mr Brian Douglas, Sherriff

Joyce Benton, Sergeant-at-Mace

6 members of the public, 1 member of the press.

OPEN SESSION

There were no statements by members of the public present.

C343/16 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Cllrs D Blackburn and B Parkin.

C344/16 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council meeting held on 10 April 2017 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

C345/16 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr G Roughead declared a personal interest in Item 10.

C346/16 4. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

C347/16 5. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor expressed his thanks to those Councillors who were not standing for re-

election: Cllrs G Hill, J Lang, C Seymour, D Blackburn, G McLean and E Goodyer for all their work for the Council. The Mayor also thanked the Interim Town Clerk, who was coming to the end of his contract with the Council.

The Mayor reported that on 16th April he attended Tweedmouth War Memorial as part of a national event; Tweedmouth was chosen to commemorate the Battle of Arras in which the KOSB suffered heavy casualties. The Mayor also expressed his thanks to Mr Cockburn who organized the event. The Mayor then reported, light heartedly, on his attendance at the annual Sheriff's Dinner, at which, as Mayor, he was expected to be seen and not heard. In terms of future engagements, the Mayor reported that he would be attending a hobby horse event along the Town Walls on Thursday 27 April, and the Riding of the Bounds on Saturday 29 April.

C348/16

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Members **RESOLVED** without division to note the correspondence log, after Cllr G McLean had provided an update regarding Flagstaff Park.

C349/16

7. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The council **RESOLVED** without division to note the Interim Town Clerk's report of the proposed terms of reference for committees in 2017-18.

C350/16

8. NOTIFICATION OF PAYMENTS MADE BY BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

It was **RESOLVED** to note the schedule of payments.

C351/16

9. OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE

The Council received a verbal update from the Interim Town Clerk.

C352/16

10. TENDERING PROCESS FOR HOPPA BUS

The Interim Town Clerk explained the proposal that NCC should conduct the tendering exercise via their framework of transport companies, and Council **RESOLVED** to adopt that proposal as being congruent with the Financial Regulations.

C353/16

11. PURDAH AND THE GENERAL ELECTION

Council **RESOLVED** to note the Town Clerk's update, that purdah would extend until the day after the General Election on June 8th, and that that fitted with the proposed Council calendar of meetings starting on Monday June 12th.

C354/16

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Council noted the update from Cllr E Goodyer, and the Interim Town Clerk's explanation that the Annual Meeting of Council would resolve the issues surrounding the membership of the Steering Group and the appointment of its chair / vice chair.

C355/16

13. FORWARD PLAN

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

C356/16

14. PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 21 March 2017.

C357/16

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 15 May 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.

C358/16

16. UPDATE ON TOWN CLERK

The Interim Town Clerk provided an update to elected members on the advertising and recruitment process, before withdrawing from the meeting. Council then **RESOLVED** to invite NALC to provide support to the recruitment process.