

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting held on Monday, 2 July 2012 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors: J Robertson (Chair)
A Bowlas
I Dixon
I Hunter
C Routledge
F Simpson
J Smith

IN ATTENDANCE:

S Finch, Town Clerk
S Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
1 members of the public

ER014/12 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been accepted from: Councillor J Waterhouse (personal).

Absent: Councillors B Douglas and A Reid.

ER015/12 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2012 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

ER016/12 3. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Councillor Alan Bowlas, speaking as a member of the public, thanked the Mayor for contributing to the completion of the Portas Pilot Bid.

ER017/12 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There was no disclosure of interests.

ER018/12 5. SPITTAL SPLASH PARK

The Clerk advised that the bill for repairs carried out on the drainage system was expected to be £2,000. Half of this would be paid by Spittal Improvement Trust, £500 by Northumberland County Council and the remaining £500 by the Town Council. Whilst there was a view that the contractor might be liable for the problem, the Clerk advised that the cost of pursuing this would be disproportionate, would take the facility out of use, and there would be no guarantee of a conclusion. Problems with the timer had now been dealt with. Weekly water and electricity meter readings were now being taken to establish likely costs at an early stage. A supplementary sustainability grant of £3,500 had been awarded and Spittal Improvement Trust and the Town Council would liaise on its use for training, equipment and so on.

ER019/12

6. NURTURING NORTHUMBERLAND'S ENVIRONMENT

Members considered the request from County to suggest additional sites for wildflower planting. The sites already proposed were noted, but members had reservations about wildflower planting at Tweedmouth Cemetery. Sites which were suggested as additions included the Goody Patchy, the area below the Stanks and part of the Edwardian Walls.

ER020/12

7. BERWICK IN BLOOM

The judges would be visiting Berwick-upon-Tweed on 10 July 2012. The Town Council was providing a bus for their visit. West End Tweedmouth and the Greenses were to be judged separately under the Neighbourhood Award.

ER021/12

8. PROMOTING CASTLE VALE AND CORONATION PARKS

As part of the preparation of the HLF bid for Castle Vale and Coronation Parks, the application had to demonstrate which body would take overall responsibility for the ongoing promotion of the parks, including leaflets, a website and social media. These tasks could well be carried out by different bodies, but an overall responsibility needed to be identified.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council take overall responsibility for promoting Castle Vale and Coronation Parks.

ER022/12

9. PUBLIC SEATS ON SPITTAL PROMENADE

A local resident had been investigating the costs and work required to restore two seats on Spittal Promenade along with the placement of plaques and the restoration of two picnic benches.

RESOLVED: (i) The Clerk to establish costs for one new seat, which

Councillor Smith could fund from his small schemes budget. The redundant seat could then be used to restore the other bench; (ii) To request that one of the benches removed from Marygate be placed at the bus stop at Morrisons; (iii) To request that two of the benches removed from Marygate be placed at the taxi pick-up point at the Co-operative Store (subject to width); (iv) That a bench removed from Marygate be placed in the West End (subject to availability); and (v) That the Town Council pay for materials to restore the two picnic benches on Spittal Promenade.

ER023/12

10. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

RESOLVED: To recommend to Tees Active Ltd that they approach Northumberland County Council regarding money to purchase and install 3 x secure, sheltered bike bins outside of the centre as well as marketing materials to promote the scheme.

ER024/12

11. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

No invitations had been received.

ER025/12

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday 10 September 2012 at 6.00pm.