

## **BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Town Council Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting held on Monday, 5 January 2015 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: I Hunter (In the Chair for Item 1)  
I Dixon (In the Chair for Item 2 onwards)  
A Gibson  
G Hill  
G McLean  
G Roughead  
F Simpson

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

W Pattison, Acting Clerk  
S Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk  
8 members of the public

**ER059/14**

#### **1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor I Dixon be appointed Chairman of the Environment and Regeneration Committee for the remainder of the 2014-15 municipal year.

The Chairman took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Councillor I Dixon thanked all Councillors present and expressed his hope that everyone would work together in harmony for 2015.

**ER060/14**

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**ER061/14**

#### **3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Councillor G Roughead asked that his request at the last meeting for the lights to be fixed at the Golden Square Bus Shelter be inserted into the minutes and this was agreed. Assistant to the Clerk, Mr S Cozens advised this matter had been

reported to NCC and the Clerk advised that there may be a possibility that the bus shelter was the sole responsibility of Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council and Mr S Cozens agreed to look into the matter further. The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2014 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

**ER062/14**

#### **4. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC**

There were no statements by members of the public present.

**ER063/14**

#### **5. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Councillor I Hunter declared a personal interest in Item 9 (Portas Management Group);

Councillor G McLean declared a personal interest in Item 9 (Portas Management Group).

**ER064/14**

#### **6. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no requests for dispensation.

**ER065/14**

#### **7. BERWICK LOCAL SERVICES OFFICER**

Councillor F Simpson queried the amount stated of £3,500.00 for tools and Councillor G Hill queried high pension costs and wondered if employment on a contract basis would be a better option. Councillor G Mclean agreed there were still many things which needed further discussion. Councillors were in general agreement that the employment of a local services officer was a good idea and further discussion on this will take place.

**ER066/14**

#### **8. FLORAL DISPLAYS**

Costs for the floral displays (summer bedding and planting) which are to be provided by NCC for 2015 and are quoted as planting approx. £ 4,200 and £500 respectively were approved by Councillors due to time factors, however, as there were no breakdown of costs, no comparison could be made from last year's invoice. Councillors requested an email with all breakdown figures and also a copy of last year's invoice should be provided by Finance Officer, Mr R Leetham/Assistant Clerk, Mr S Cozens asap.

**RESOLVED: To order plants once the finance committee have approved the costs and breakdown detail figures have been supplied.**

**ER067/14**

#### **9. PORTAS MANAGEMENT GROUP**

There are currently 2 vacancies on the Portas Management Group and Mr Julian Lake, Berwick Community Trust, has expressed an interest in one of the vacancies. It was then proposed by Councillor I Dixon and seconded by

Councillor F Simpson that Mr J Lake be appointed. Councillor G McLean advised Councillors that he knew of someone else who had expressed an interest in the other vacancy and will advise in due course. Councillor G Hill felt it would be of benefit everyone if all Councillors were supplied with a current list of the Portas Management Group membership in time for the next meeting. Councillor G McLean advised that a website was currently in development and should be ready soon. Mr S Cozens advised there was a link on the Town Council website.

**RESOLVED: To appoint Mr J Lake to the Portas Mangement Group.**

**ER068/14**

**10. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

No applications had been received.

**ER069/14**

**11. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

No invitations had been received.

**ER070/14**

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 9 March 2015 at 6.00pm.