

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting held on Monday, 15 July 2013 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors: J Robertson (Chairman)
I Dixon
P Elliott
A Gibson
G Hill
I Hunter
G Jones
G Roughead
F Simpson
J Stephenson

IN ATTENDANCE:

S Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
R Leetham, Finance Officer
Mike King, Action for Market Towns
John England, England & Lyle
John Lord, Arch Project Director Berwick
3 members of the public

ER022/12 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been accepted from: Councillor I Dixon (personal).

ER023/13 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2013 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

[NOTE: Minute ER009/13: it was agreed that the Chairman of the Environment and Regeneration Committee would complete and return the pro-forma to NCC.
Minute ER011/13: it was agreed that the Chairman of the Environment and

Regeneration Committee and the Finance Officer would attend the Community Agreement Day on 31 July 2013.]

ER024/13

3. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no statements by members of the public present.

ER025/13

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor G Jones declared a personal interest in Item 10 (Local Parking Plan); Councillor J Robertson declared a personal interest in Item 10 (Local Parking Plan).

ER026/13

5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

ER027/13

6. AMENDMENT TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: Councillor A Turnbull to be a member of the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

ER028/13

7. TOWN CENTRE ISSUES AND BENCH-MARKING

Members noted the presentation by John England on the Post Impact Study for the Co-operative Group, and participated in a question and answer session.

Members noted the presentation by Mike King, Senior Consultant at Action for Market Towns on Town Centre Issues and Bench-Marking.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to take up Northumberland County Council's offer of a £2,500 grant to undertake AMT bench-marking of Berwick-upon-Tweed.

ER029/13

8. BERWICK'S FUTURE

John Lord, Arch Project Director Berwick, updated members on 3 key elements of Berwick's Future. These included plans for the Kwik Save Building and the Cowe Buildings; and the Tweed and Silk Public Realm Strategy. There would be a half-day community event in late October or early November where a more detailed update would be available.

ER030/13

9. SPITTAL SPLASH PARK

Members noted that negotiations were on-going to improve the delivery of the Service Level Agreement. The deteriorating condition of near-by play equipment was noted. Members noted the deteriorating state of railings and bollards on Spittal Promenade and this would be raised with Northumberland County Council.

ER031/13

10. LOCAL PARKING PLAN

Members noted the proposed schedule. It was agreed that Councillors A Gibson, J Lang and A Turnbull would join the working group set up to meet with Margaret Robinson, lead officer from the County Council. Members agreed an informal meeting at 6pm on 31 July 2013 in the Town Hall to discuss the Town Council's position.

ER032/13

11. HOPPA BUS

Officers were awaiting a detailed breakdown on usage/ income before the Clerk arranged a meeting with community representatives and the bus operator to discuss suggestions and requests for adjustments and modifications to the service. Councillors J Robertson, P Elliott, A Gibson and G Roughead would join this meeting.

ER033/13

12. BERWICK PARKS PROJECT

Members noted the appointment of Parks Development Officer Kate Morison and agreed to ask her to attend the September meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee to introduce herself and outline her plans to engage with the community.

ER034/13

13. NOTICE BOARD FOR HIGHCLIFFE

Members agreed to funding of up to £600 to provide two notice boards in Highcliffe/ Eastcliffe for use by the Town Council and Clifftops, the residents' association. Councillor P Elliott offered to obtain estimates for the boards additional to that already obtained.

ER035/13

14. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

There were no applications for financial assistance.

ER036/13

15. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

No invitations had been received.

ER037/13

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday 9 September 2013 at 6.00pm.