



The Clerk advised that the County Council had indicated that where borough and district councils had previously funded seasonal lights, they would continue to do this for 2009 only. She had raised this with the Director of Place, to ensure that any budget provided by the former Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council was made available for use within Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal.

It was noted that some new investment in lights would be required in the short-term to ensure their continued safety; it was also noted that the Rotary Club was committed to continuing support.

Members agreed a co-ordinated plan for seasonal lights, covering both investment in the infrastructure and arrangements for erection and dismantling of lights, was needed.

**RESOLVED: To hold a meeting on 28 September at 7 pm in the Guildall, open to all interested bodies and individuals, to consider future arrangements for seasonal lighting.**

The Town Clerk would ask the Town Centres Manager for full details of costs incurred in previous years.

**E020/09**

#### **7. REMEMBRANCE DAY**

The Town Clerk reported that officer support had been agreed by Northumberland County Council, and that plans were now being made for the Remembrance Day ceremony using the detailed planning information which the former Borough Secretary had provided.

It was agreed that enquiries about public announcement equipment should be made, since the facilities used previously had been ineffectual. The Council may, depending on costs, consider purchasing a system for its own use and to make available to other groups.

The Town Clerk was asked to write to the former Borough Secretary to express the Council's thanks for his detailed preparatory work in relation to this important event.

E021/09

## **8. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**RESOLVED:** That grants be made as follows:

### **Cittaslow Berwick**

£250 towards the costs of the first Cittaslow UK Conference, being held in Berwick on the weekend of 10 and 11 October 2009.

### **Berwick-upon-Tweed Film and Media Arts Festival**

£1000 towards the final costs involved in staging the fifth Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival.

E022/09

## **9. TOWN TWINNING**

Members considered the consultation paper on Town Twinning submitted by Northumberland County Council.

The Chairman reported on efforts which she and others had made to continue links with the five communities with which the former Borough Council had been twinned.

It was noted that the County Council had said it could not fund future twinning links.

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council should seek to maintain links with the Twin Towns with which the former Borough Council had links, and that Councillors Bettison, Robertson and Smith would form a small informal working group to discuss how this could be achieved.

E023/09

## **10. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

No invitations had been received.

E024/09

## **11. EVENTS IN 2009**

No issues were raised in relation to events scheduled for the remainder of the year. Members noted that the Food and Beer Festival was to take place on the forthcoming weekend.

E025/09

## **12. PROPOSALS FOR INCLUSION IN THE BUDGET FOR 2010/11**

Members considered which events the Council should be costing and planning for, for inclusion in the budget for 2010/11.

**RESOLVED: To consider costs of both Town Twinning and Seasonal Lights, with a view to developing both as key events in the community calendar, and providing appropriate assistance and management.**

Members also agreed that in the light of a year's experience it should now be possible to budget more closely for those groups likely to apply to the Council on a regular basis for assistance with projects.

**E026/09**

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on 9 November 2009 in the Ante Room of the Town Hall.