

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Events Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 March 2010 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors: J Waterhouse (In the Chair)
J Beresford
M McNeely
F Simpson

IN ATTENDANCE:

S Finch, Town Clerk
Councillors Bowlas, Dixon and Robertson
Four members of the public

E038/09 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Councillors Bettison and Herdman.

E039/09 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2009 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

E040/09 3. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no statements by the public present, but the Chairman welcomed those who had attended and both they and councillors introduced themselves.

E041/09 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor McNeely declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 7 (application for financial assistance, Spittal Improvement Trust), and a personal interest in Item 7 (application for financial assistance, Slow Food Berwick); Councillor Beresford declared a personal interest in Item 7 (application for financial assistance, Spittal Improvement Trust).

E042/09

5. BERWICK EVENTS GROUP

Councillor Mc Neely reported that efforts were currently focused on the Dickensian Market which would be held on the later date of 12 December. The Group did not plan to get involved in any other activities and would not be making any arrangements for May Day or Walking the May Fair.

Members agreed that events should be posted on the Town Council website.

E043/09

6. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2009

Councillor Waterhouse said she had attended the follow-up meeting on festive lighting which had been held on 24 February.

Key points from the meeting included:

1. The need for additional brackets and lights in Hide Hill
2. Replacing older sets of lights in Upper Marygate and Hide Hill
3. Including Castlegate, Bridge Street, West Street and Lower Tweedmouth in any extended scheme

Miles Gregory had stood down as Chair of the Festive Lighting Committee and it had been proposed that the Town Council should take the lead in future.

Members agreed a public meeting should be arranged shortly.

The Clerk was asked to write to Lord Joicey to express the committee's thanks for the Christmas trees which he had provided; and to the Rotary Club for all their hard work in getting the lights erected.

RESOLVED: Subject to the agreement of the Finance and Resources Committee to allocate money from the non earmarked reserves for the purchase of new festive lights.

E044/09

7. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members considered the applications for assistance which had been submitted.

RESOLVED: (i) To make £250 available to purchase insurance to cover the

annual bonfire night at Dock Road, Town Green; (ii) To make £1000 available to Slow Food Berwick Food Festival; (iii) To make £750 available to assist with costs of the Spittal Seaside Festival; (iv) To contribute £250 towards the Spittal Gala.

NOTE: Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application for the annual bonfire night, Councillor Mc Neely left the room during the discussion on this item.

Members asked that Councillor McNeely confirm the details of the charges which were to be made for the use of the Barracks, this information to be made available to the Finance and Resources Committee which would consider those recommendations for grants in excess of £500.

E045/09 8.APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

No invitations had been received.

E046/09 9.EVENTS IN 2009/10

There was nothing to report.

E047/09 10. EVENTS IN 2010/11

There was nothing to report.

E048/09 11.TOWN TWINNING

Councillor Robertson reported that two very positive open meetings had been held to which all those interested in maintaining and developing links with twin towns and international links generally had been invited. It was hoped to start building up a list of contacts, and to start looking at a range of small gifts which could be used on visits overseas. Councillor Robertson had been appointed chair of the group which was now emerging as a committee for developing international links.

E049/09 12. BERWICK FILM AND MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL

The Clerk advised that a letter of support had been provided to the Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, to assist in its applications for grant.

E050/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday 14 June 2010 at 6 pm in the Ante Room of the Town Hall.