

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Town Council Events Committee Meeting held on Monday 9 November 2009
at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed**

PRESENT:

Councillors: H Bettison (In the Chair)
P Herdman
F Simpson
J Waterhouse

IN ATTENDANCE:

S Finch, Town Clerk
One member of the public

E027/09 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Councillors Beresford, McNeely and Smith.

E028/09 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2009 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

Councillor Waterhouse, referring to Item 7 (Remembrance Day 2009), thanked the Town Clerk and all those who had assisted in the organisation of the Civic Service of Remembrance.

E029/09 3. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no statements by the public present.

E030/09 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The Chairman declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 7 (application for financial assistance, Spittal Improvement Trust).

E031/09 5. BERWICK EVENTS GROUP

The Chairman reported that efforts were currently focused on the Dickensian Market on 6 December, and offers of help would be appreciated.

E032/09

6. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2009

Members noted the report which had been provided outlining the arrangements for Christmas lights in Berwick, Spittal and Tweedmouth.

Councillor Waterhouse said the Lighting Up Berwick Committee had worked very hard to ensure there would a display, and the Town Council was grateful to Berwick Chamber of Trade, the Freemen and the public for their support.

The lights were scheduled to be erected from 22 November and would be switched on as part of the Dickensian Christmas Market on 6 December

The Clerk advised that, as set out in Attachment A a number of decisions had been made under delegated powers because of the tight timescale. These needed to be formally agreed.

RESOLVED: (i) The Town Council to meet the cost of an assessment of the safety and standard of existing light fittings and light, estimated as £600; and (ii) The Town Council to arrange for the light fittings and lights to be made fit for purpose, and erected, by the electrical contractor Leslie Landels, three firms having been asked to quote, and the lowest of the two who responded having been accepted; and (iii) The Town Council to commit a sum of £2850 from unearmarked reserves to meet the cost of purchasing extra lights.

E033/09

7. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members considered the applications for assistance which had been submitted.

RESOLVED: (i) To make £250 available to the West End Residents Association for the purchase of lights for the Tweedmouth Christmas tree; and (ii) To make £200 available to Spittal Improvement Trust for the purchase of lights for the Spittal Christmas tree.

Councillor Herdman asked for clarification of which charities would benefit from the collections associated with the Tweedmouth tree; it was hoped these would be local charities.

E034/09

8.APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

No invitations had been received.

E035/09

9.EVENTS IN 2009/10

The Chairman advised that the Spittal Improvement Trust was holding a Christmas fair on 5 November, and would be involved with the Dickensian Christmas Market and lights switch-on on 6 December.

The Town Mayor said the Mayor's Charity Ball was planned to be held on 12 February 2010.

E036/09

10. PROPOSALS FOR INCLUSION IN THE BUDGET FOR 2010/11

A proposal relating to the renewing of dog waste bins was referred to the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

Councillor Herdman advised that the maroons marking 11 am on 11 November annually should be continued. The Chairman would enquire whether this was planned.

E037/09

11.DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday 11 January 2010 at 6 pm in the Ante-Room of the Town Hall.