

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Local Services Committee Meeting held on Monday, 07 March 2022 at 6.00pm in the Northern View, Highcliffe, Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed

PRESENT:

Councillors:	R Bruce (Chair)	M Greener
	J Bowden	J Robertson
	A Bowlas	G Smith
	G Brown	L Stephenson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk
Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
1 member of the public

LS120/21

1. OPEN SESSION

Issues and concerns were raised regarding the steps down to Pudding Lane and the new bridge surgery.

LS121/21

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Bruce and A Gibson.

LS122/21

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

On the motion of Cllr G Smith, seconded by Cllr M Greener, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 07 February 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

LS123/21

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

LS124/21

5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

LS125/21

6. ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS

Cllr L Stephenson, who has been in touch with all of the litter picking groups, provided updates including for the Pier Road and Spittal Beach groups. Sea the Change are organising a cross-border clean up on the 19 March 2022. The Committee **RESOLVED** that new litter pickers may be ordered at the costs provided by Officers for the groups and clean up event.

The U3A are concerned that there is still property damage after recent storms. There is also a concern with litter being dropped in an area at the bus stops north of the Ramparts which is being used as a lorry park. The Town Clerk responded to say that Northumberland County Council are aware of the situations.

Litter is regularly being picked up at Halidon Hill.

LS126/21

7. ISSUES REPORTED SINCE LAST MEETING

The Town Clerk provided an update to the report. After which, the issues contained within the report were noted.

LS127/21

8. LOCAL SERVICES

An update was provided by the Town Clerk including that a meeting had taken place with the HR Consultant, job descriptions would be provided to the Committee and, due to timescales, Officers are working on a Plan B.

LS128/21

9. SPITTAL PLAY AREA

Following on from the recent meeting of Council, an informal meeting of Councillors was held to discuss concerns raised at Council and decided upon a small number of modifications. After which the Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree a variation in price of approximately £5k.

LS129/21

10. PLATINUM JUBILEE

Following on from a request of the Town Centre Working Group, Officers have been seeking prices for trees and will progress the plan to the next stage, that is seeking permission from Northumberland County Council for the placement of trees. Standing Orders were suspended sufficiently to allow a member of the public to speak.

The opportunity for the further planting of trees at different locations was also discussed and it was agreed that an email would be sent to all Councillors asking that they submit ideas for new sites.

LS130/21

11. REQUEST FOR LITTER BINS

A request for litter bins received from Cty Cllr G Hill was discussed. After which, the Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to relocate the litter bin already in situ at Riverside Walk in Tweedmouth and further **RESOLVED** to install a new bin next to the footpath at the Sandstell Road Car Park in Spittal. The Committee then discussed a request for a litter bin at the corner of Easter Wynd and West Street. After which, the Committee **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to make a site visit and further **RESOLVED** that the previous idea of contacting traders be explored.

LS131/21

12. BARRIER BASKETS

The Committee **RESOLVED** to defer the consideration of locations for additional barrier baskets to the Town Centre Working Group.

LS132/21

13. BENCH

Having considered the background paper circulated with the Agenda, the Committee **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to seek quotes and repair a bench on Askew Walk which is in need of attention.

The Committee further **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to explore options for a bench in need of attention at Robert's Lodge.

LS133/21

14. FORWARD PLAN

It was **RESOLVED** to note the Forward Plan.

LS134/21

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Monday, 04 April 2022 at 6.00 pm.