

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Local Services Committee Meeting held on Monday, 04 April 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
	C Bruce	L Stephenson

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

LS135/21

1. OPEN SESSION

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

LS136/21

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Brown.

LS137/21

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

On the motion of Cllr A Bowlas, seconded by Cllr J Robertson, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 07 March 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

LS138/21

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

LS139/21

5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

LS140/21

6. ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS

Cllr L Stephenson provided an update including a thank you to the Town Council for help with litter picking equipment. Sea the Change are intending to arrange more events.

Northumberland County Council (NCC) are encouraging more litter picking and now have a website. There is a new group in Tweedmouth.

The U3A have new leaflets about the nature trail.

Cllr M Greener mentioned that Coast Care are carrying out litter picks with school children. Cllr C Bruce stated that 5 Arches Park is very clean although one of the new bins has been installed in the wrong place.

The Town Clerk will liaise with the NCC litter picking representative for contact details to share with Cllr L Stephenson.

LS141/21

7. ISSUES REPORTED SINCE LAST MEETING

The Town Clerk updated the Committee on play equipment at Spittal Play Area and the Committee **RESOLVED** that signs be installed at the Play Area as soon as possible to advertise the forthcoming work.

The use of the Members section of the website was discussed as a vehicle for Councillors reporting issues and the Committee **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to move this idea forward. The Town Clerk updated the meeting that drop-in sessions would be held in May to demonstrate Teams and the Town Council Website to Councillors.

The Assistant to the Clerk updated the meeting on correspondence received regarding dog waste bins on the Town Walls and the Committee **RESOLVED** to instruct Officers to make a site visit and decide a way forward.

LS142/21

8. LOCAL SERVICES

Job descriptions had been distributed before the start of the meeting and at this point Councillors provided feedback. After which, the Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the job description with the updates mentioned.

LS143/21

9. TOWN CENTRE

Handouts were provided by Officers on funding opportunities and by the Chair on potential options for trees. During the discussion the Committee agreed that flowering trees was the preferred option and that the right mix of trees was imperative. Councillors provided a list of preferred locations during which it

was **RESOLVED** that a walk around of sites would take place involving both Councillors and Officers to agree a plan. It was noted that there may be additional costs if street furniture is moved.

Councillors also provided ideas for areas of land for the planting of trees, after which, it was **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to bring a report on this subject to a future meeting of this Committee.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the update of the Town Clerk that an approach had been received from a landlord requesting a meeting with other landlords to discuss issues affecting the Town Centre including litter, and that further updates would be provided to this Committee.

LS144/21

10. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee **RESOLVED** that, wild-flower planting on bus stops, tree planting, fitness trail and beach wheel chairs be added to the Forward Plan. After which, it was **RESOLVED** to note the Forward Plan.

LS145/21

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 03 May 2022 at 6.00 pm.