

## BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Town Council Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting held on Monday, 11 November 2013 at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: J Robertson (Chairman)  
I Dixon  
P Elliott  
G Hill (Present to Item 11)  
G Jones  
J Robertson  
F Simpson  
J Stephenson  
A Turnbull

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

S Finch, Town Clerk

R Leetham, Finance Officer

S Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk

8 members of the public including representatives of Mitie and Berwick in Bloom

### **ER055/13 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been accepted from: Councillors A Gibson (unwell), G Roughead (alternative meeting) and I Hunter (alternative meeting).

### **ER056/13 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2013 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

### **ER057/13 3. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC**

There were no statements by members of the public present.

### **ER058/13 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Councillor P Elliott declared a personal interest in Item 6 (Mitie Presentation);  
Councillor G Hill declared a personal interest in Item 12 (Applications for Financial

Assistance);

Councillor G Jones declared a personal interest in Item 6 (Mitie Presentation), Item 8 (Consultation on Street Naming And Numbering Request) and Item 10 (AONB Visitor Guide);

Councillor A Turnbull declared a personal interest in Item 9 (Play Areas).

**ER059/13**

#### **5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no requests for dispensation.

**ER060/13**

#### **6. MITIE PRESENTATION**

Ben Jenkinson reported to the meeting on the work of Mitie, the company which had been carrying out work on homes in Highcliffe and Newfields. Money for the project had been obtained through Eco Funding and due to the success so far Mitie would like to roll the project out further. The purpose of the project is to make homes warmer and cheaper to run whilst benefits included employment of local people to carry out the work. It was hoped that an advice centre would be opened in the William Elder Building. Ben Jenkinson said it would be helpful if the project could be seen to be associated with the Town Council through use of the Council's logo.

**Members agreed that the use of the Town Council logo should be considered further before confirming agreement.**

**ER061/13**

#### **7. NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM**

Bernard Shaw reported to the meeting on plans by Berwick in Bloom to host Northumbria in Bloom events in 2015. Berwick in Bloom is a member of Northumbria in Bloom which holds two meetings a year, in the same venue, to launch the annual event and present major and special awards. Mr Shaw said it was envisaged that the cost of hosting these events would be in the region of £2,500. Berwick in Bloom would hope to obtain funding from the Town Council towards the cost of hosting the event, with possible help being sought from other organisations including Northumberland County Council.

**RESOLVED: To recommend support of the proposal in principle, with further examination of the details and costings at the appropriate time.**

**ER062/13**

#### **8. CONSULTATION ON STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING REQUEST**

The Committee noted the request from Northumberland County Council for a view on street naming and numbering for Governors Gardens and raised No Objection to the proposals.

**ER063/13**

**9. PLAY AREAS**

The Environment and Regeneration Committee had agreed in principle to take responsibility from 1 April 2014 for play areas, subject to discussion by and approval of full Council. Further consideration of the findings of the Play Review was needed, which had identified gaps in provision for some age groups and in some locations. **RESOLVED: To agree a commitment to invest in new play facilities in the town, subject to obtaining a range of proposals and quotes, and consulting with user groups.**

**ER064/13**

**10. AONB VISITOR GUIDE**

**RESOLVED: To agree to purchase of a double-page spread in the 2014 AONB Visitor Guide.**

**ER065/13**

**11. BUDGET 2014-15**

[NOTE: Councillor G Hill left the meeting at the start of this item].

**RESOLVED: To agree the draft budget proposals for the Environment and Regeneration Committee for 2014-15.**

**ER066/13**

**12. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**RESOLVED: (i) To defer the application from Tweedmouth Residents Association until a more detailed application had been submitted, on the correct form; and (ii) To agree to pay half the installation costs of Christmas Lights owned and installed by Berwick Rotary Club and to ring fence money in future years.**

**ER067/13**

**13. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

No invitations had been received.

**ER051/13**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 6 January 2014 at 6.00pm.