

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Town Council Events Committee Meeting held on Monday, 4 March 2013
at 6.00 pm at The Town Hall, Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed**

PRESENT:

Councillors: J Waterhouse (Chair)
H Bettison
I Dixon
I Hunter
A Reid
J Robertson
J Smith

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sue Finch, Town Clerk
Stephen Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk
6 members of the public

E059/12 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been accepted from: Councillors J Beresford (personal) and W F Grant (did not agree with Item 14 being held as a confidential nature).

E060/12 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2013 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

E061/12 3. STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Local resident Joe Lang described the plans for the Berwick Autumn Festivals (for which a Financial Application had been made to this committee) which in the view of the organising committee would help increase visitors to Berwick-upon-Tweed and enhance the reputation of the town.

E062/12 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor H Bettison declared a personal interest in Item 12 (Berwick 900) and

Item 14 (applications for financial assistance, Berwick-upon-Tweed Riders Association Ltd);

Councillor I Dixon declared a personal interest in Item 12 (Berwick 900).

E063/12

5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

E064/12

6. BERWICK EVENTS GROUP

Members of the Berwick Events Group reported that following the AGM it had been decided to disband the group. If no-one could be found to take over the running of the group by the end of March then any monies still being held would be distributed among local organisations. Due to these circumstances it was the view of the committee that the 'Berwick Events Group' would no longer be a standing item on the Events Committee Agenda.

E065/12

7. EVENTS LEAFLET 2013

The Clerk reported that the Events Leaflet had been signed off and that a small run would be produced for the Leaflet Distribution day at Alnwick on 12 March 2013.

A pre-visit leaflet would also be produced, with help from Northumberland County Council, for visitors making general enquiries about Berwick. Proofs of both leaflets were available for viewing at the meeting. The Committee congratulated the Town Council officers on their efforts.

E066/12

8. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Clerk reported that a local landlord had requested a bracket be removed from a shop in Marygate.

E067/12

9. WALKING FESTIVAL APRIL 2014

Following discussions with the Northumberland Coast AONB Officer and Town Council officers, a proposal had been prepared by Jon Monks of Shepherds Walks for a Berwick Walking Festival, with the first event to be held over the Easter Weekend of 2014. The launch of a walking festival would coincide with Northumberland Tourism's marketing campaign for 2014 (Active Northumberland). It was expected that the event should be self-sustaining by the fourth year. In the first year, a shortfall of £2,200 would need to be met.

RESOLVED: To agree the recommendation that the Council introduce a Berwick Walking Festival in 2014, as set out in the proposal, and meet the

first year costs of £2,200.

E068/12 10. REPORT ON GRANTS OVER £500

The report contained feedback from local organisations who had received grants of over £500 on how the money they had received had been spent. The report was noted by members of the committee.

E069/12 11. MAY FAIR EVENTS 2013

This item was included to discuss any plans that may be underway to enhance the May Fair. Rotary Club of Berwick-upon-Tweed are arranging an event on the Parade whilst the Town Team are hoping to make an announcement regarding the market at about this time.

E070/12 12. BERWICK 900

Derek Sharman had been invited to arrange a sub-group to organise events for Berwick 900. Having made arrangements for several relevant people to join the sub-group, it was hoped to schedule the first meeting for the end of March.

E071/12 13. CAN-AM VISIT 2014

Donald Piper of Can-Am Pipes and Drums would be visiting the UK in May to discuss arrangements for their 2014 visit. As yet a time and date for this meeting had still to be decided and more information would be provided when known.

RESOLVED: To exclude the press and public during discussion of Item 8, which includes items of a personal and confidential nature.

E072/12 14. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

RESOLVED: (i) To make £175 available to Berwick Detachment Army Cadet Force; (ii) To make £250 available to 5th Berwick Scouts – Palace Green Music Festival; (iii) To make £3,000 available to Berwick Autumn Festivals; (iv) To pay for marquees, WCs and licenses/H&S on presentation of invoices for the May Fair Party on the Parade organised by Rotary Club of Berwick-upon-Tweed to a maximum value of £2460; and (v) To pay for public liability insurance and portaloos on presentation of invoices for the Riding of the Bounds organised by the Berwick-upon-Tweed Riders Association Ltd, to a maximum of £800.

RESOLVED: To re-open the meeting to the press and public for the remainder of the meeting.

E073/12

15. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

No invitations had been received.

E074/12

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday, 3 June 2013 at 6 pm in the Ante-Room, Town Hall.