



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, on Thursday 17 January 2019 at 6.00 pm

Present:

Councillors: A Cartie (Chair), K Nisbet (Vice-Chair), E Anderson-Smith, D Carr, R Parker, J R Potts, O Potts, J Reid, M Richardson, S Stanger, W Taylor, D Walls

Officers:

J Hughes, Town Clerk
M Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk
M Hawthorne, Committee Clerk
A McCabe, Officer Manager

Members of the Public: 5

Invited Guests: 2

1	Apologies For Absence Councillors: K Ellis, L Rickerby, G Thompson G Webb
2	Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations Councillors K Nisbet and J Reid declared an interest as NCC Councillors and stated that any involvement they have had in partnership agreement discussions has been as BTC Councillors.

3	<p>Minutes of The Meeting of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Council held on Thursday 11 October 2018 including notes from Public Question time. • Special Full Council held on Tuesday 27 November 2018. • Special Full Council (Part II) held on Thursday 13 December 2018. <p>It was noted that the spelling of Davie was incorrect and should read Davey.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true record.</p>
3.1	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>
4	<p>Mayors Announcements</p> <p>The Mayor has attend 21 engagements since the last Full Council in October 2018. Full details can be found by following this link to the BTC website https://www.blythtowncouncil.org.uk/mayors-update.php.</p> <p>A Special Planning and Development Sub-Committee has been arranged for Thursday 28 February 2019 at 5.30 pm to discuss the Northumberland Local Plan and proposed heritage trail for blue plaques.</p>
5	<p>Decision Report – Partnership Agreement</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Mr P Jones and Mr R Wealleans and thanked them for their attendance at Full Council where they responded to a number of questions from members with regard to the four options for the new Partnership Agreement, including the enhanced weekend street cleansing. It was noted that the partnership provides an enhancement to the core services NCC deliver in Blyth.</p> <p>Following a lengthy discussion regarding the options for the Partnership Agreement and Enhanced Weekend Street Cleansing, it was agreed to implement Option 4 and Option C respectively.</p>

Agreeing the above options has increased the budget by £30,845 and is reflected in the information provided in Minute No 6 below.

6 Decision Report - Precept 2019/2020

Summary

The Town Clerk referred to the report provided to Full Council, explaining that Governance Committee assembled the budgets of various Committees and recommended a budget for Full Council to agree.

Following a discussion regarding the options for the Partnership Agreement and Enhanced Weekend Street Cleansing, it was agreed to implement Option 4 and Option C respectively.

These options have costs of £252,546 and £18,299, total of £270,845 against a budget of £240,000.

The increase in budget of £30,845, in line with keeping the proposed Precept has the following affect:

Original net budget submitted to the Governance Committee	£1,337,160
Governance Committee Amendments	0
Council Decision re Partnership Agreement and Enhanced Street Cleansing	£30,845
Revised net budget	£1,368,005
Less Precept on NCC @ 125.16 band D x 9801.01 tax base. (2018/19 band D 124.34 x 1.0066)*	-£1,226,695
Use of Reserves	-£141,310
Total income	-£1,368,005

The Precept calculation was based on the tax base information given in October 2018 by Northumberland County Council. Revised information has only recently been received which increases the tax base from an indicative base of 9673.49 to 9801.01.

With keeping the Precept amount the same this results in a revised **Council Tax for Band D properties of £125.16 for 2019/20** instead of the previously supplied figure of £126.81.

	<p>This represents, for 2019/20, an increase in Council Tax of 0.066%.</p> <p>For information, shown in the table below are the estimated reserves when considering the probable spending for 2018/19 and the proposed budget and precept for 2019/20:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="292 465 1369 667"> <tr> <td>Projected Reserves 31/03/19</td> <td>£661,916</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Use of Reserves 2019/20</td> <td>-£141,310</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Projected Reserves 31/03/2020</td> <td>£520,606</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Council agreed unanimously to the 2019/2020 precept.</p>	Projected Reserves 31/03/19	£661,916	Use of Reserves 2019/20	-£141,310	Projected Reserves 31/03/2020	£520,606
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Projected Reserves 31/03/2020	£520,606						
<p>7</p>	<p>Decision Report – Community Grants</p> <p>Council considered and agreed to the recommendations outlined in the decision report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To accept the proposed changes to the Policy and Application Procedure for Community Funding 2019/20. 2. The revised governance arrangements by introduction a Community Funding Sub-Committee with delegated powers regarding funding decisions. <p>The Sub Committee will comprise of the following Councillors: K Nisbet, A Cartie, J R Potts, O Potts, M Richardson, W Taylor, and three members of the opposition.</p>						
<p>8</p>	<p>Report on Delegated Actions</p> <p>There are no delegated actions to report on.</p>						
<p>9</p>	<p>Nominations for Town Forum</p> <p>The first meeting of the Town Forum is scheduled for 1 February 2019 at 9.30 am. BTC have been invited to nominate 4 Councillors to participate. Councillors K Nisbet J Reid, L Rickerby and G Webb will be included as NCC Councillors. Members were asked to vote on the nominated Councillors who received the following votes:</p> <p>Councillor W Taylor – 10 Councillor J R Potts - 9</p>						

	<p>Councillor E Anderson-Smith - 8 Councillor S Stanger – 7 Councillor D Walls – 1</p> <p>Therefore, Councillors W Taylor, J R Potts, E Anderson-Smith and S Stanger are the nominated Councillors for the Town Forum.</p>
10	<p>Officer’s Information Report (not for discussion at Council)</p> <p>There are no information items to report.</p>
11	<p>Council noted the following Committee Minutes which will go to the next Committee for approval as a true record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Thursday 15 November 2018 including questions from Allotment holders. • Minutes of the Partnership Working Group held on Tuesday 6 November 2018. • Minutes of the Special Community Development Committee (Part II) on Thursday 11 October 2018 and Community Development Committee (Part I and II) held on Tuesday 27 November 2018. • Minutes of the Governance Committee held on Thursday 10 January 2019.
12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
13	<p>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of the Full Council and Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 9 May 2019 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p>

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

A Cartie (Mayor)	J Reid
K Nisbet (Deputy Mayor)	M Richardson
E Anderson-Smith	L Rickerby
D Carr	S Stanger
K Ellis	W Taylor
R Parker	G Thompson
J R Potts	D Walls
O Potts	G Webb