



Blyth Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held in the Council Chamber at Arms Everytne House on Tuesday 6 December 2016

Present:

Councillors: J R Potts (Chair), R Parker (Vice-Chair), A Cartie, O Potts, L Rickerby

Officers:

Alison McCabe, Office Manager
Sean Robinson, Environmental Services Officer
Maureen Hawthorne, Committee Clerk

Members of Public: 1

No	
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Councillors: B Elliott, K Ellis, J Reid.
2	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS None.
3	MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2016 Committee agreed to ADOPT the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2016.

3.1	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>Councillor Rickerby asked if any progress has been made with regard to the advertising outside of the Spa Shop on Cowpen Road. It was agreed that this situation should be monitored.</p>
4	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES OFFICER'S REPORT</p> <p>The Environmental Services Officer advised that some of the items listed within his report are from this year's budget and some from 2017/18.</p> <p>4.1 Litter Bins</p> <p>Discussion took place around the purchasing and replacing of bins. Information pertaining to this is also including in the weekly brief from the Partnership Board. Current stock levels of ground mounted bins are low. There is £1,227.50 left in the budget which will be used to replenish stock.</p> <p>4.2 Play Areas (please see the report for detailed information)</p> <p>Newsham</p> <p>There will be an additional cost of £1,000 due to the need to extend the path. The ES Officer recommended meeting the cost from the emergency contingency fund. This money will be replaced as the Council will receive a discount of £1,200 on the High Street Play Area for paying the invoice within 14 days.</p> <p>Mulberry</p> <p>Issues with water logging are being investigated and KOMPAN will provide a report. If this is an installation problem then KOMPAN will meet the costs, however, if drainage is the issue then the Council will have to pay. Councillor Rickerby commented that this area is prone to flooding. Councillor O Potts said that when new parks are being installed there should be measures taken to make sure there will be no issues with flooding. Councillor Rickerby supported this view and said that any new housing developments should include drainage for play areas. The Chair added that he would like the Council to be more involved in S106. The ES Officer will monitor the situation.</p>

4.3	<p>Briardale</p> <p>The costs are being met by Councillors Grant and Susan Davey.</p> <p>Play Area Safety Gates</p> <p>The cost to replaces safety gates where they are required is £13,047 and there is £11,000 left in the budget for play area renewals.</p> <p>Councillor O Potts asked if the play area on Broadway has a safety gate. The ES Officer advised that the wrong part was delivered and we are now awaiting delivery of the correct one.</p> <p>Councillor R Parker expressed his disappointment that the gate on Ogle Drive is still broken and suggested that the gates should have been locked until repairs are carried out.</p> <p>Councillor Cartie asked if work had been carried out on the fencing surrounding the park where the children were bitten by the dog. It was clarified that Councillor Webb is dealing with this.</p> <p>Committee agreed to the work being carried out. £10.997 will come from the play area renewals budget and the shortfall to come from 889 (emergencies).</p> <p>Future Upgrade of Play Areas (2017/2018)</p> <p>The Committee considered the information contained in the report and the Chair asked for this to remain unchanged for the time being.</p> <p>Millfield</p> <p>A piece of broken equipment had to be removed from this play area. The ES Officer shared the three options to replace this and Committee agreed to replace this piece of equipment with swings at a cost of £5,299 from 889 (Future Development Fund).</p> <p>Bus Shelters</p> <p>All cleaning was completed for October and November. Work has not yet commenced on the cleaning of the bus shelter roofs. A cherry picker will be used to carry out this task.</p>
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6.2	<p>Litter Bins</p> <p>Committee recommended retaining the budget of £5,000.</p>
6.3	<p>Seats</p> <p>As previously discussed agreed to leave the budget at £2,500.</p>
6.4	<p>Play Areas</p> <p>It was agreed to leave the budget and discuss further at the budget meeting in January. £75,000</p>
6.5	<p>War Memorials</p> <p>The ES Officer met with a representative from the War Memorial Trust today who confirmed all the repairs and refurbishment of all three memorials are eligible for grants up to a maximum of 75% or £30,000 and decision will hopefully be made early in 2017.</p> <p>The replacement obelisk at Ridley Park will not qualify for a funding as the grant can only be used to refurbish existing memorials.</p> <p>A structural engineer and stonemason will need to be consulted to clarify what work is required and how much it will cost.</p> <p>If the steps are deemed access to the war memorial at Ridley Park then they could be included in the funding – the representative from the War Memorial Trust will clarify this.</p> <p>The ES Officer said the gun has already been replaced at Cowpen and the Soldier does not need replacing if essential repairs are carried out. This will reduce the final cost of refurbishment for Cowpen.</p> <p>Committee agreed the following:</p> <p>Ridley Park - £10,000. Cowpen - £3,000. Newsham & New Delaval £11,000.</p> <p>Total budget £24,000.</p>

<p>6.6</p> <p>6.7</p> <p>6.8</p> <p>6.9</p> <p>6.10</p>	<p>The Chair commented that the number of people attending Ridley Park services has increased over recent years and would like to see the work completed by 2018.</p> <p>ES Officer will also speak to Leon Savage to arrange to have some of the trees cut back close to the War memorials.</p> <p>Market Place</p> <p>£4,980 will be used from this year’s budget for salary costs to employ a project worker. £64,020 will be committed from 2017/2018 budget. It was previously agreed to support the Market Place revitalisation at Full Council on 17 November 2016 to the sum of £69,000.</p> <p>CCTV</p> <p>Increased costs due to the extra play areas. Agreed £6,600.</p> <p>Partnership Workforce</p> <p>£200,000</p> <p>Projects & Maintenance</p> <p>£50,000</p> <p>There is no money in this or next year’s budget if a request is submitted from NCC with regard to Ridley Park.</p> <p>Emergency Fund</p> <p>To remain at £20,000.</p> <p>Total Environmental Services Budget £462,120.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>ROAD SIGNS ON GATEWAY ENTRANCES</p> <p>Discussion took place around the type of signs Committee would prefer for the gateway entrances and also which logos will be included. Councillor Rickerby will provide some proposed images for the ES Officer. The ES Officer will source various designs and costs and feedback to Committee. It was agreed the signs should be placed in the following locations subject to approval from Highways:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top of Laverock Hall Road • Links Road • Horton Road & Bedlington Bank • The Roundabout on Cowpen Road (Blyth side) <p>The Blyth Crest will be included on the plaque together with the beach huts and a Tall Ships logo. The £6,874 left in the Tall Ships budget will be used for the signs.</p>
8	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR URGENT ATTENTION</p> <p>None.</p>
9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of the Environmental Services Committee will take place on Tuesday, 7 February 2017 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber.</p>

MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillors:

J R Potts (Chair)

B Elliott

K Ellis

J Reid

D Rutter

R Parker (Vice-Chair)

A Cartie

O Potts

L Rickerby