



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber at Arms Everytyn House on Thursday 31 May 2018 at 6.30 pm

Present:

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

Also Present: Councillor G Webb

Officers:

J Hughes, Town Clerk
M Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk
D Clough, General Services Officer
M Hawthorne, Committee Clerk

Other Attendees:

Mr G Gavin, NCC

Members of the Public - 0

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence None.
2	Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations None.
3	Report on Delegated Actions Committee noted and agreed the contents of the report from the Town Clerk that he used delegated arrangements to agree the repairs to the fencing on Bolam Site at a cost of £1,457.

	<p>The Town Clerk advised that there are now three new reports which members will receive as part of the Committee process.</p> <p>Information Reports (not for discussion at Committee) Recommendation Reports where Committee resolve Delegated Powers (exercised by Officers)</p>
4	<p>Minutes of Environment Committee</p> <p>This is the first meeting of the Environment Committee under the new Governance arrangements.</p> <p>Partnership Working Group</p> <p>Committee agreed to ADOPT the Notes from Partnership Working Group held on 17 May 2018.</p> <p>Mr Greg Gavin, NCC, gave a presentation on the proposed improvements to the partnership reporting following the concerns raised by the Partnership Working Group that there was insufficient detail in the current reporting. Mr Gavin gave a detailed explanation of the changes (see slide 1). He advised that a new tool has been designed to record quality inspections - this has been made available to the General Services Officer which will enable BTC to carry out similar checks. In response to questions from members the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTC will be included in any external feedback. • Members will be provided with a PDF of the schedules together with descriptors The Teams are aiming to achieve "Group B" standards on all jobs. • The offer to arrange meeting between Mr Reith and individual councillors to help them understand the work schedules etc was reiterated. • Mr Reith will contact Councillor Nisbet regarding concerns that cut grass is left on the pathways. <p>The Town Clerk said it is important that the members are clear about what they are getting when the new partnership agreement starts in 2019.</p>
4.1	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>

<p>5</p>	<p>New Governance Documents</p> <p>Committee noted the attachment of the following documents. These will be circulated with agendas for a period of 6 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference for this Committee • Mission Statement • Role of Council
<p>6</p>	<p>General Services Officer's Recommendation Report</p> <p>Committee discussed the report provided by the General Services Officer in detail and RESOLVED to:</p> <p>Introduce a question session prior to the Environment Committee twice per year (September & February) from 6 pm for 20 minutes. This can be extended by the Chair for important issues.</p> <p><u>Wensleydale Site</u></p> <p>Implement better parking facilities at Wensleydale to alleviate the current problems. This was not wholly supported by members and a vote was taken.</p> <p>The outcome was 8 for and 2 against therefore the vote was carried. Cost: £2,661.00</p> <p><u>Beatrice Site</u> – incorporate eco-proactive on the lane in the new gardens. Cost £5,250.00.</p> <p><u>Bolam Site</u> – install new fittings/pipes/taps to conform to Water Authority Regulations. Cost £1,980.00.</p> <p><u>Bolam Site</u> – add sub base to correct subsidence in trench work carried out 5 years ago. Cost: £1,260.00.</p> <p><u>Bolam Site</u> – Foster Memorial Entrance rip, crush, grade and roll car park. Cost £1,745.00.</p> <p>Wensleydale Tenant – following a lengthy discussion Committee agreed that it was not appropriate to give a reduction as per request from the tenant.</p>

Proceed with the commissioning of the "Spartan Warrior" tree sculpture by Tom Newstead. It will be situated on the junction of Twelfth Avenue and Plessey Road. **Cost £1,700.**

Purchase Granite x 6 sections to accommodate additional names of service men who gave their lives in both World Wars and have fallen in conflict since. **Cost £8,700** (includes cost includes cost of engraving and artwork).

Market Place Bins

Purchase 13 larger capacity bins and accept the offer from Broxap to put cigarette stubs on the top of the bins at no extra cost. **Cost £3,965.**

Broadway Circle

Two 90 litre bins will be replaced with one, 180 litre bin from existing stock.

Speed Sensors

Purchase 3 x speed sensors to be used in various locations around Blyth. **Cost £6,151.**

Spector Surveillance (Item 6)

This item has been deferred to Full Council for discussion.

Bus Shelter Programme

Appoint contractor A to carry out the refurbishment of bus shelters. **Cost £13,351**

Monitoring Arrangements

To adopt the Information and data within Mr Gavin's presentation. This will be included in any new partnership agreement in 2019. The Deputy Town Clerk commented that Officers will be carrying out their own inspections as indicated in Mr Gavin's presentation.

Soldier Silhouette and Planting on Portland Wynd Roundabout

Permission has not been granted to put the Soldier Silhouette on Portland Wynd roundabout.

	<p>One will be placed at the beach (to be relocated prior to the ceremony in November).</p> <p>Councillor J R Potts suggested relocating the silhouette to the Submariners War Memorial in the Market Place and Committee agreed that this should be explored further. The second silhouette will go in Ridley Park next to the War Memorial. Cost of Silhouette x 2 £905. Cost of plants for roundabout £45.</p> <p>Refurbish and replant the market place planters x 4 with ever green shrubs and plants for Northumberland Hero. Cost £528.</p> <p><u>Market Place Planters and Northumberland Hero Sculpture</u></p> <p>Purchase additional bedding for gateway, cycling mural, barrier plants and additional plants for sensory garden. Cost £240.</p> <p>Purchase 8 seats to replenish stock. Cost £3,655.</p>
7	<p>Items for Information and Urgent Matters</p> <p>Cowpen Gateway Entrance Blyth</p> <p>The Chair noted the requests received to enhance the appearance of the above. It was agreed that this will be discussed at the next meeting of the Partnership Working Group on Thursday 26 July 2018.</p>
8	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p> <p>An informal session for allotment holders will take place prior to this meeting at 6.00 pm for 20 minutes.</p>
9	<p>Part II</p> <p>Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.</p>

Members of the Environment Committee

O Potts	M Richardson
A Cartie	D Carr
K Nisbet	R Parker
J R Potts	J Reid
S Stanger	G Thompson
W Taylor	D Walls