



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber at Arms Everytyn House on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 6.30 pm

Present:

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

Officers:

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

Other Attendees:

Colin Hall, Community Engagement Officer, Environment Agency

Members of the Public - 1

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence Councillors: J R Potts, O Potts, G Thompson
2	Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations The General Services Officer declared an interest in Item No 3 of the Decision Report.
3	Presentation re Flood Resilience Colin Hall, Community Engagement Officer Environment Agency gave a short presentation around the work he does throughout Northumberland, raising awareness of flood risks.

	<p>He hopes to establish a flood warden group, working as volunteers, in the Blyth area to work alongside the Environment Agency (see attached information sheet and map identifying potential flood risk areas). Mr Hall asked if he could attend events to share information. Councillors can contact Mr Hall to request further information or raise concerns by emailing: colin.hall@environment-agency.gov.uk. All of the information will be placed on the BTC website.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Minutes of Environment Committee held on 31 May 2018</p> <p>The Committee noted and agreed the minutes.</p> <p>Minutes of the Partnership Working Group held on Thursday 26 July 2018</p> <p><u>Future Planting</u></p> <p>The Town Clerk referred to the item on Page 4, Future Planting and asked the Committee agree to the proposed expenditure of £6,000 which will come out of the £50,000 budget 710 projects and maintenance. This was agreed.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Items for Information (not for discussion at Committee)</p> <p>Committee noted the contents of the information report in respect of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allotments 2. Bins 3. Seats 4. Speed Sensors 5. Play Areas 6. War Memorials 7. Environmental Enforcement Officer Update 8. War Memorials Donation <p>and the Draft Service Plan.</p> <p>The Town Clerk said the purpose of the information report is to keep Councillors up to date. He referred to the draft service plan, noting that this still being developed and gives an indication of the work which is being carried out.</p>

<p>6</p>	<p>Report on Delegated Actions</p> <p>Committee noted and accepted the delegated actions in respect of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cowpen Gateway Entrance 2. Container at Cowley Road 3. War Memorial – Ridley Park 4. Environmental Enforcement Officer
<p>7</p>	<p>Decision Report</p> <p>Committee discussed at length the information contained in the decision report and agreed to RESOLVE the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Councillor Taylor will represent the Council on the Coastal Community Team. Clarification will be sought as to whether other Councillors could attend in an informal capacity as Councillor Walls expressed an interest to do so. • Wensleydale site – reinstate and seed area damaged by parking vehicles at a cost of £595.00. • Blyth Smallholdings – contribution towards replacing fencing following fire damage at a cost of £1,000. • Increasing the expenditure to include bulb planting on the gateway entrances from £6,000 (agreed in minute 4 above), to £10,000 from the £50,000 budget 710 projects and maintenance budget. • Newsham play area – install access paths to the west and north entrances (contractor C) at a cost of £3984.66. • Croft – convert panel into a gate to allow mechanical sweeper access at a cost of £194.00+vat. • Chase Farm – carry out drainage work. Costings to be brought back to November meeting. • Refurbishment of Ogle Drive, Broadway and South Beach play areas will be part of the capital programme discussion for next year’s budget. • Purchase 12 x 90 litre bins at a cost of £1715.40. • Removal of the boat seats from the Quayside. • To purchase 4 x witten benches at a cost of £1245.00. GSO to check they are fire proof.

	<p>Partnership Agreement 2019</p> <p>The Town Clerk explained that a partnership agreement is being developed and will go before the Partnership Working Group, Environment Committee and Full Council. All Councillors will be invited to the three meetings where they will have the opportunity to ask questions. Committee agreed to this process.</p>
8	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Ridley Park War Memorial</p> <p>There is an uncommitted sum of £1975 from the £10,000 donation received from the Elswick (Blyth) All Arms Association. The Town Clerk asked Committee to agree to use this plus £2225 from balances to meet the cost of the All Arms Association plaque which has been installed as a centrepiece in the granite paving.</p> <p>Committee approved this request.</p>
9	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Thursday 15 November 2018 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p>
10	<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

Councillors:

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