



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held at the Buffalo Community Centre on Thursday 28 February 2019 at 6.30 pm

Present:

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

Officers:

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

Other Attendees:

Mr R McKenzie, Northumberland County Council
Mr P Atkinson, Enforcement Officer

Members of the Public: There were no Allotment holders present for the question time session and no questions were received in advance of the meeting.

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence J Hughes, Town Clerk
2	Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations None.
3	Bowes Street Development

	<p>Mr McKenzie shared details of the two options available with regard to the proposed improvements for Bowes Street, commenting that the main difference between the plans is that one option gives slightly less parking space. He confirmed that NCC have included this work in the LTP for the new financial year and budget has been allocated. The next step is for the plans to be shared with businesses in the area. Some of the points clarified by Mr McKenzie include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street lighting will be moved if necessary. • There will be a speed restriction of 20 mph. • Parking spaces will have time restrictions on them. • The pergola and planters will be removed. • Final decision to be made in March as the plan has to be in place for April 2019. <p>It was agreed that Mr McKenzie will meet with BTC once he has spoken to traders and made any revisions required to the plans. At this point a decision will be taken regarding the preferred option.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mr McKenzie for his attendance at the meeting.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Update from the Enforcement Officer</p> <p>Mr Atkinson attend the Committee to give an overview of the timelines he has to work to (this information was circulated to all Councillors)with regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abandoned Vehicles • Accumulations • Fly Tips <p>A detailed discussion took place where members shared their concerns. It was clarified that Officers do not provide names and addresses of individuals in their reports as this has to be considered under GDPR. Mr Atkinson invited Councillors to raise any concerns directly with him. The current arrangement is that all issues are directed to the Town Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mr Atkinson for his attendance and the meeting.</p>

<p>5</p>	<p>Minutes of Environment Committee held on Thursday 15 November 2018 for approval as a true record</p> <p>The minutes were noted as a true record.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Items for Information (not for discussion at Committee)</p> <p>The information report was noted by members.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Report on Delegated Actions</p> <p>There are no delegated actions to report.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p> <p>8.4</p> <p>8.5</p> <p>8.6</p>	<p>Decision Report</p> <p>Committee considered the recommendations outlined in the Decision Report and RESOLVED the following:</p> <p>Twenty Third Avenue – installation of new water supply. The new costs were noted and agreed to: £7,367.00.</p> <p>Bolam Avenue Lanes – grading of lanes, Contractor A, at a cost of £14,767.20 from 2019/2020 budget.</p> <p>The Town Clerk may determine a period of rent free allowance on an individual plot basis on plots where some attention is required.</p> <p>Removal and replacement of 4 x brick bus shelters. Agreed to purchase two for Cowpen Road from this year’s budget which is bus shelter replacement code 711. Installation of these will be out of next year’s budget.</p> <p>To refurbish Chase Farm Play Area at a cost of £79,476.95 (including a specific piece of equipment for those with special needs) from 2019/2020 budget.</p> <p>To carry out drainage work and equipment removal by Contractor A at a cost of £20,040.00 (out of this year’s budget code 770).</p> <p>Ogle Drive will be refurbished secondly at a cost of, currently, £74,093.83 in 2019/2020 followed by Broadway at a cost of £79,940.87,-, in 2020/2021.</p>

	GSO will continue to pursue opportunities to apply for S106 money.
8.7	To purchase bark for the play areas, from the remainder of the play area budget to bring levels back up to standard. Total cost £9,778.50 (£7,031 out of play area budget code 770 and the balance of £2,747 from play area maintenance within the Partnership budget 2018/2019 Code 710/7103).
8.8	Purchase 90 diabond BTC name plaques for seats. Cost £225 from the Partnership Projects & Maintenance budget 2018/2019 (code 710/7105).
8.9	Refurbishment of 21 seats on Quayside using hard wood and paint the seat ends at a cost of £3,717.00 from the Partnership Projects & Maintenance budget 2018/2019 (code 710/7105).
8.10	Refurbish a further 20 seats by replacing seats and painting metal ends at a cost of £3,200.00 from the Emergencies/Future Development Projects 2018/2019 (code 889).
8.11	Refurbish bus shelter seats at a cost of £1058.00 from the Emergencies/Future development Projects budget 2018/2019 (code 899).
8.12	Purchase of three seats (one of each design) for the quayside with a maritime theme at a cost of £2977 including delivery, from the 2019/2020 budget code 712.
8.13	Not to allocate a budget to meet the cost of the planning application and maintenance costs for the two clocks which County Councillors Grant and Susan Davey wish to purchase. A vote was taken on this item with the result 4 voted against 0 voted for the project and the remaining Councillors abstained.
8.14	To meet potential maintenance cost for the sculpture which is to be commissioned out of Councillor Webb's NCC allowance to commemorate the ship, The William Smith.
8.15	The purchase of a new container which would be stored at Stakeford Depot at a cost of £3,820.00 from the 2019/2020 Emergencies/Future Development Projects (code 899).

<p>8.16</p> <p>8.17</p> <p>8.18</p>	<p>Replace five bins on Waterloo Road at a cost of £1,525.00 (from litter bins code 713).</p> <p>Not to purchase any more speed sensors at present following discussions with the police. The situation will be reviewed in six month's time.</p> <p>To purchase an additional three defibrillators at a cost of £1,700 with minimal ongoing costs from 2019/2020 budget code 899 unless Committee savings are achieved in this financial year. GSO to check whether RNLI and Dave Stephens Centre have existing defibrillators in an outside location.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Deputy Town Clerk said that although the market improvement scheme which has ran for the past two year has now ended there is a desire that BTC keep the market working group going with meetings being held four times a year to look at how it is doing and share ideas. Councillors Nisbet and Councillor Walls expressed an interest in being part of the group. Anyone else who is interested should let the Committee Clerk know. 2. The Deputy Town Clerk advised members discussions will be taking place with NCC over the next few weeks with a view to increasing the Enforcement Officer role to full time with immediate effect.
<p>10</p>	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p>
<p>11</p>	<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</p>

	that the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.
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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