



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House on Tuesday 10 September 2019 at 5.30 pm

Present:

Councillors: O Potts (Chair), M Richardson (Vice-Chair), A Cartie (arrived at 5.45 pm), K Nisbet, R Parker, J R Potts, W Taylor

Officers:

Joseph Hughes, Town Clerk
Malcolm Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk
David Clough, General Services Officer
Maureen Hawthorne, Committee Clerk

Members of the Public: 0

Invited Guest - 2

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence Councillors: E Anderson-Smith, J Reid
2	Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations None
3	Bowes Street Development Anne Lawson attended as a representative of NCC. Ms Lawson explained that although not able to provide technical advice she would listen to the views of members and feedback any recommendations/decisions to NCC. Ms Lawson gave an overview of the work that is taking place with the Town

Forum; the future High Street Fund has been awarded and a master plan will be created for Blyth. This will include an investment strategy and business case. The first part of the funding will be used to write a plan, with the focus being on the market place. She added that the LTP money for this financial year has been allocated and if there are any delays to the start of this scheme NCC will ensure that the money remains in the budget for the project. Any additional works that BTC have identified may not be included in the budget, for example additional street lighting with more decorative columns similar to those on the Quayside, with a view to extending them throughout the town centre when looking at plans to regenerate Blyth.

Three businesses responded to the consultation and members raised concerns that they have not received any feedback.

Ms Lawson will feedback on this.

A discussion took place regarding the two options for car parking. Councillor Richardson moved that Committee agree to Option 1. This motion was seconded by Councillor Nisbet. Councillor Parker commented that he has concerns about whether the street would be wide enough to accommodate HGV vehicles. **Ms Lawson will seek clarification on this.**

A vote was taken. The result of the vote was:

For = 4, against = 2, abstention = 1 therefore the motion was carried.

Addition works for this project BTC would like to include are:

- Removal of the pergola and seats to the left hand side of Wilkinsons
- New seats installed
- Tower Planters

These were included in the minutes of the Committee held on 28 February 2019.

Ms Lawson will ask NCC for an indication of the timeline for this project and also check that notifications for road closures etc are publicised.

There is also the matter of removing the Christmas lights from the existing trees before they are removed.

	<p>Church Street</p> <p>The Town Clerk outlined the thoughts of members with regard to improvements they would like to see in Church Street. Ms Lawson said that as this the funding for this year’s LTP is now closed therefore it is unlikely any funding would be awarded. The Town Clerk said the first step is to identify how much BTC will have to contribute then decide how to move forward.</p> <p>Ms Lawson will take all of the above back to NCC and it is hoped and update will be available for the next meeting of the Environment Committee which will take place on Tuesday 29 October 2019.</p>
4	<p>Minutes of the previous Environment Committee (Part I & II) held on 30 July 2019</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record.</p>
5	<p>Any Other Business or matters for Urgent Attention</p> <p>There was no other business</p>
6	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Tuesday 29 October 2019 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House</p>
7	<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> <p>Enforcement Officer Provision</p>

Members of the Environment Committee

Councillors:

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