



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytyn House on Thursday 30 January 2020 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillors: O Potts (Chair), M Richardson (Vice-Chair), E Anderson-Smith, D Carr, A Cartie, K Nisbet, A Parsons, J R Potts, J Reid, S Stanger

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 - 0

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence Councillors: W Taylor
2	Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations Councillors K Nisbet and J Reid declared with regard to any discussions relating to NCC as they are County Councillors.
3	Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 29 October 2019 Telephone boxes on Church Street and Prince of Wales pub – it was agreed the GSO will make further enquiries with a view to having both telephone boxes removed.

	<p>High Street Car Park – it was clarified that both sides of the road are included in the improvement scheme.</p> <p>Gateway Signs – the signs will be used to advertise events, 3-4 weeks before the events are due to take place.</p>
4	<p>Minutes of the Partnership Working Group:</p> <p>Held on Thursday 14 November 2019 Held on Thursday 15 January 2020</p> <p>Members noted the minutes from the above working groups.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the planned tree planting The Town Clerk confirmed that contact has been made with various groups with a view to involving them with the tree planting and there is a piece in the newsletter about this. Councillor Nisbet asked that Aileen Barras is consulted as she has a group of Environmental Wardens she works with.</p>
5	<p>Environment Committee Budget Monitoring Report</p> <p>Members noted the contents of the budget monitoring report. It was clarified with regard to budget code 900 – allotments rents, not all of the rent has been collected due to a small number of plots not let.</p>
6	<p>Items for Information (not for discussion at Committee)</p> <p>Committee noted the information contained in the Information Report with regard to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allotments 2. Poly Tunnel 3. Play Areas 4. Bus Shelters 5. Seats 6. Bins 7. High Street Car Park & Bowes Street
7	<p>Report on Delegated Actions</p> <p>Members noted and accepted the report with regard to the carpet bedding and tree planting. A list has been circulated of the sites where the trees will be planted.</p>

8

Decision Report

Committee considered the recommendations in the Decision Report and **RESOLVED** the following:

Ransom Strip – to continue the maintenance programme at a cost of £1,070.00 from 2020/21 budget 710 – Partnership Projects & Maintenance. The Town Clerk agreed to write to NCC to seek advice regarding the legal process in establishing the ownership of the ransom strip.

Additional Planters & Planting – to purchase the following from budget code 710 NCC/BTC Partnership, Projects and Maintenance:

- 4 Promenade planters for the Quayside, indicative cost £2,500.
- Bedding for 16 planters, 6 of which will be put on the market place and the remainder at suitable locations. Indicative cost £1,000.
- Removal of the flower bed in Parsons Street and replace with flags. Indicative cost £860.
- Purchase of 2 tower planters for Parsons Street. Indicative cost £1,170.00.

Play Areas - members noted the up to date information.

Play Area Renewal Policy – members agreed with the revised policy in respect of play area refurbishment.

Ogle Drive Play Area Refurbishment Process - members agreed with the process regarding the appointment of a contractor. They further agreed to hold a special meeting of the Environment Committee on Tuesday, 18 February 2020 before the Community Development Committee.

Bowes Street - members agreed to the additional costs for this project which is being funded by NCC via the LTP. Costs will be met from 2020/21 budget (code 777).

- Replacement costs for 6 new light columns in conjunction with the LTP scheme at a cost £16,500.00.
- Purchase of 6 Precinct Planters to replace the brick planters at an indicative cost £3,100.00.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of 4 Tower Planters to be sited in Bowes Street at an indicative cost £2,400.00. • Purchase of light column baskets x 12 at an indicative cost of £1,000. • Seats x 2 decorative at an indicative cost of £2,000. • Plants and compost at an indicative cost of £1,100. <p>High Street Scheme – to meet the costs for the replacement light columns within the High Street refurbishment scheme at a cost of £24,750 from 2020/21 budget (code 776).</p>
9	<p>Environment Enforcement Officer Reports</p> <p>Members noted the information contained in the report relating to the work carried out by the core team and the enhanced service paid for by BTC.</p>
10	<p>Specific Allotment Issues</p> <p>There were no specific issues raised.</p>
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business</p>
12	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>A special meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Tuesday 18 February 2020 at 6.00 pm. before Community Development Committee.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Tuesday 26 May 2020 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms House.</p>
13	<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
E Anderson-Smith
D Carr
A Cartie
K Nisbet
A Parsons
J R Potts
J Reid
M Richardson
S Stanger
G Thompson
W Taylor