**BLYTH** **TOWN** **COUNCIL**

**Minutes** **of** **the** **Environment** **Committee** **held** **via** **Zoom** **on** **Thursday** **26** **November** **2020** **at** **4.30** **pm**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** M Richardson (Chair), A Cartie, K Nisbet, A Parsons, J R Potts, S Stanger, J Reid, 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** **-** **2** **Invited** **Guest(s)** **0**

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| **Minute** **No** |  |
| **1** | **Apologies** **for** **Absence**  Councillors: E Anderson-Smith |
| **2** | **Disclosure** **of** **Interests** **and** **Grant** **of** **Dispensations**  There were no disclosures of interest. |
| **3**  **3.1**  **3.2** | **Previous** **Minutes**  **Minutes** **of** **the** **Environment** **Committee** **held** **on** **Tuesday** **1** **September** **2020** **(Part** **I)**  **Minutes** **of** **the** **Environment** **Committee** **held** **on** **Tuesday** **1** **September** **2020** |

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| **3.3** | **Minutes** **of** **the** **Partnership** **Working** **Group** **held** **on** **Thursday** **15** **October** **2020**  Members noted all of the above minutes as a true record. |
| **4**  **4.1** | **Actions** **arising** **from** **Previous** **Minutes**  **Minute** **No** **7.1** **-Ownership** **of** **South** **Beach** **Play** **Area** - no further update. GSO still investigating. **(Ongoing)** |
| **5** | **Environment** **committee** **Budget** **Monitoring** **Report**  Members discussed the report and the following was noted:  **Allotments**  **Code** **696** **Planning** **and** **Maintenance** **Programme** **-£25,000**  It was confirmed that the GSO/GSA carry out regular checks on the allotment lanes, fences etc and there is nothing that requires attention at present.  **Litter** **Bins**  Some residents have raised concerns that the bins have been removed from the football field at Newsham. The GSO clarified that on advice from the NEET team the post mounted bins on the field were removed and replaced with ground mounted ones at the entrance to the field. There are 5, 90 litre bins in the vicinity of Newsham. Councillor Taylor added that he reported that the lock had been changed on the entrance gate and there were concerns emergency services would not be able to gain access. |
| **6.** | **Decision** **Report** **(1)**  **Committee** **RESOLVED** **to** **agree** **the** **following**  1. Play area equipment specifically for wheelchair and disabled users – to continue to install carousels in play areas as and when appropriate.  2. To agree the report and the estimated costs that will be incurred when the sculptures are floodlighted.  A suitable agreement will be discussed with NCC to cover the land and future maintenance. |

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|  | 3. Reduce the level of monitoring being carried out with the Newsham & New Delaval Allotment Society.  4. To move the deployable CCTV system from South Beach to the rear of the shops on Broadway Circle.  5. **CCTV** **Policy**  Following a detailed discussion where officers clarified the existing arrangements for using CCTV cameras it was agreed to continue with the current policy. Members also agreed that the number of cameras BTC have in use for anti-social behaviour and other purposes are sufficient and no more will be purchased. The cameras can be redeployed by Officers following consultation with Chairs and Ward Councillors.  6. To use the 2019/20 underspend from the Partnership Agreement to clean up the market place at a cost of **£5,640.**  7. Extend the tree planting a Meggie’s Burn from the existing 2020/21 Northumbria and Blyth in Bloom budget **(code** **773** **-** **£5,000).** |
| **7** | **Budget** **2021/2022**  Budget information for the Environment Committee was shared with members. It was approved to go to Governance Committee and then Full Council for ratification with the following change:  **Code** **7107** **–** **additional** **costs** **for** **Ridley** **Park** **water** **park** **–** due to Covid-19 restrictions it is felt unlikely that the water feature will be switched on for Easter weekend in 2021 therefore members agreed to take this out of the budget.  A discussion also took place on **Code** **9008** **–** **Income** **from** **S106/278** **and** **other** **funding** **–** the Town Clerk advised that the GSO applies to NCC for S106 whenever he identifies an opportunity to secure additional funding. |
| **8** | **Delegated** **Actions** **Report**  There were no delegated actions to report. |

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| **9** | **Information** **Report**  Members noted the contents of the information report with regard to:  1. Allotments 2. Play Areas 3. Bins  4. Bus Shelters  5. Automatic Number Plate Recognition Scheme (ANPR) |
| **10** | **Specific** **Allotment** **Issues**  There were no specific allotment issues to discuss. |
| **11** | **Environment** **Enforcement** **Officer** **Report**  Members noted the information contained in the reports for:  1. September 2020 2. October 2020 |
| **12** | **Any** **Other** **Business**  There was no other business. |
| **13** | **Date** **and** **time** **of** **Next** **Meeting**  The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Thursday 25 February 2021. If the current arrangements continue this will be a virtual meeting. |

**Members** **of** **the** **Environment** **Committee**

Councillors:

M Richardson (Chair)

E Anderson-Smith (Vice-Chair) D Carr

A Cartie K Nisbet

A Parsons J R Potts J Reid

S Stanger

G Thompson

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