

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 26 October 2020 at 6.00 pm via video conferencing.

PRESENT:

Councillors:	A Forbes (Town Mayor)	M Greener
	K Beresford	B Parkin
	H Bettison	C Raybould
	A Bowlas	G Roughead
	C Bruce	L Stephenson
	A Gibson	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gareth Davies, Town Clerk

Steve Cozens, Assistant to the Clerk

Joyce Benton, Sergeant-at-Mace

The meeting was available live via YouTube.

C411/19 1. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A question had been received prior to the meeting enquiring why it was permissible for visitors from Scotland to visit pubs and watch football matches on TV when they are restricted from doing the same thing in Scotland.

Council **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to write to Northumberland County Council (NCC) and Northumbria Police highlighting that this issue is of a sensitive nature locally.

C412/19 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Forrester, C Lewis and G Smith.

C413/19 3. MINUTES

On the motion of Cllr K Beresford, seconded by Cllr A Bowlas, the minutes of the meeting of Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council held on 28 September 2020 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

C414/19

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

C415/19

5. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensation.

C416/19

6. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported on a number of engagements, including the announcement by Downing Street of the new Bishop of Berwick and of a small service to commemorate the centenary of the Tweedmouth War Memorial.

C417/19

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Members **RESOLVED** to note the Correspondence Log.
- ii. Following a request from a resident to discuss the implementation of a 20mph speed limit, Members **RESOLVED** that a report be brought to a future meeting of Council.
- iii. The Town Clerk updated the meeting on correspondence from a County Councillor enquiring if the Town Council would administer a free school meals scheme, funded by NCC's 'Members Small Grant Scheme'. On the motion of Cllr B Parkin, seconded by Cllr H Bettison, Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to instruct the Town Clerk to write to NCC and request that they administer the scheme with an offer that the Town Council work in partnership with them.

C418/19

8. BUDGET PLANNING AND TIMETABLE

On the motion of Cllr H Bettison, seconded by Cllr A Bowlas, Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

C419/19

9. MOVEMENT DATA WITHIN BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TOWN CENTRE

Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations contained within the report.

C420/19

10. HERITAGE LAMP STANDS

Cllr A Gibson introduced the item after which Council **RESOLVED** that costings be brought to a future meeting of Council.

C421/19

11. CO-OPTION OF A MEMBER

The candidates had previously supplied statements explaining their Vision for Berwick.

Having achieved an absolute majority of votes cast on the first ballot Mr H Lindsay was duly co-opted to be a member of the Council for the St Boisil Ward.

C422/19

12. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Councillors **RESOLVED** to note the update of the Town Clerk on arrangements for Remembrance Sunday.

C423/19

13. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr C Raybould to the Local Services Committee, Planning Committee and the People and Communities Committee and further **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr K Beresford as the Chair of the People and Communities Committee.

C424/19

14. CIVIC CALENDAR

The Town Clerk updated Members on an informal meeting to discuss the budget on 7 December 2020 via video conferencing after which it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to note the calendar of meetings.

C425/19

15. FORWARD PLAN

The Town Clerk provided an update on an item to be brought to a future meeting of Council after which it was **RESOLVED** to note the Forward Plan.

C426/19

16. BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr G Roughead, seconded by Cllr A Forbes to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee held on 18 February 2020 (noted at the meeting of 03 March 2020).
- ii. The minutes of the meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee held on 20 October 2020 were held over until the next meeting.

C427/19

17. LOCAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr A Gibson, seconded by Cllr L Stephenson to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 02 March 2020 (noted at the meeting of 28 September 2020).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr A Gibson, seconded by Cllr L Stephenson to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Local Services Committee held on 12 October 2020.

C428/19

18. PLANNING COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr G Roughead, seconded by Cllr A Forbes to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 31 July 2020 (noted at the meeting of 28 September 2020).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr G Roughead, seconded by Cllr A Bowlas to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19 October 2020.

C429/19

19. STAFFING AND CORPORATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- i. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr A Gibson, seconded by Cllr G Roughead to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Staffing and Corporate Resources Committee held on 27 January 2020 (noted at the meeting of 03 March 2020).
- ii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr A Gibson, seconded by Cllr G Roughead to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Staffing and Corporate Resources Committee held on 08 July 2020.
- iii. It was **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cllr A Bowlas, seconded by Cllr G Roughead to note the draft minutes of the meeting of the Staffing and Corporate Resources Committee held on 06 October 2020.

C430/19

23. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday, 14 December 2020 at 6 pm in the Town Hall.

Council RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was appropriate to exclude the media and public from the discussion of the following items of business on the basis that public discussion might prejudice the Council's position and staffing or personal issues might be discussed.

At this point the live link to YouTube was switched off.

C431/19

21. CORRESPONDENCE FROM A THIRD PARTY

The Town Clerk updated Councillors on correspondence considered as an item of urgent business by the Budget and Administration Committee at its meeting of 20 October 2020.