

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2013 at 7 pm at the Newbiggin by-the-Sea Sailing Club.

PRESENT:

Councillors: R McCready (Mayor)
L Anderson M Boon M Cholerton
M Peden W Rogers A Thompson

Officer: D Earl – Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 members of the public

OPEN SESSION

There were no questions from members of the public. .

C100/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Kirkup.

C101/12 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2013 were agreed and signed as a correct record. A discussion took place regarding the recording of voting and named votes.

C102/12 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS –In relation to business to be considered later in the meeting Councillor McCready declared an interest as a member of the Portas Team.

C103/12 NORTHUMBERLAND CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Consideration of the Northumberland Core Strategy had been deferred from the previous meeting following the distribution of documentation and details of informal arrangements and workshop discussions by the County Council around the county.

Reference was made to the correspondence regarding the towns' planning status and it was explained that reference to the tier 2 community was included in the Core Strategy documentation and this would reinstate the status prior to the changes made by the former Wansbeck District Council.

RESOLVED: that no further representations be made regarding the Core Strategy.

C104/12 DIARY OF MEETINGS 2013-14

The Town Clerk had circulated suggested dates and venues for meetings of the Town Council for the following year and members considered that the first two meetings should be agreed and the others considered by the new Council. It was noted that alternative venues to the Church Centre and Sailing Club could be necessary.

RESOLVED: that the dates of the first two meetings be 10 April and 15 May 2013.

C105/12 RISK ASSESSMENT 2013

The Risk Assessment for 2013 had been circulated by the Town Clerk and was considered by Members. The Chairperson led a general discussion suggesting some additional comments.

RESOLVED: that the assessment be agreed with the following additions:

**Transfer of services and assets – including penalties for non-performance;
School Crossing Patrol – Local Transport Plan now includes improvements to routes;
Environmental schemes – Partnerships with other agencies.**

C106/12 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The school holiday programme would be starting at the Easter holidays prior to the next meeting so Members were invited to endorse the programme of youth development schemes to operate from the Sports Centre by Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure. Provision had again been made in the budget and the report on activities to date was expected shortly.

RESOLVED: that the Youth Development Scheme be undertaken by Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure for 2013–14.

C107/12 PORTAS YOUTH ARTS PROJECT

The Portas Youth Arts Project was being developed with the assistance of the Arts Development Officer from Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure and the YMCA. Some initial sessions for children and young people had been arranged to commence that week in the main building at the Woodhorn Villa Community Arts Centre.

It was thought that the longer-term sustainability of the project could be helped by involving the young people in the location of the various arts projects in this building and authority was sought for the Town Clerk to undertake discussions with the Portas Team and representatives of the projects.

RESOLVED that: the long-term use of Woodhorn Villa to host the Portas Project is agreed and the Town Clerk authorized to conduct negotiations and report back on developments.

C108/12 LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAGOONS

Following on from previous positive meetings and discussions with the land owners Members had met with representatives of local environmental interest groups and residents and there was a consensus to seek the environmental enhancement of the areas surrounding the RTA and Lynemouth Power plant.

In order to inform and assist the local authorities and the Environment Agency working with the environmental groups in developing a policy for the environmental enhancement and suitable use for the local community once coal burning had ceased a study and report on the land was required.

RESOLVED that: the Town Council invites RTA and Lynemouth Power to jointly commission a study and report on the land surrounding the plants including the lagoons to inform a policy and plan for environmental enhancements.

C109/12 BAND CONCERTS

Councillor Rogers reported on bookings for band concerts in the coming summer season and advised that the budget would need to be increased to achieve a similar number of concerts to last year.

RESOLVED: that the budget be increased to £1,300.

C110/12 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the Agenda as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act relating to financial and business affairs.

C111/12 NEWBIGGIN PORTAS PROJECT

Members were updated on developments concerning the contributions expected from the Wind Turbine construction within the parish and discussions between the Town Clerk and Arch which would now channel the financial receipts from CRE Scottish Power for regeneration purposes.

The Town Council was invited to endorse the agreement that it would forward the annual receipts to the Portas Project to help ensure the long-term delivery of the Youth Arts Project at Woodhorn Villa and also be directed towards town centre environmental schemes that would help regenerate the town.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be authorised agree the use of these resources for the benefit of the regeneration of the town as outlined above.

Signed by the Chairman:

Date:.....