NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Working Group held on Wednesday 30 March 2016 at 10:00 am at The Bungalow Newbiggin by-the-Sea.

PRESENT: Councillors:

M Cholerton M Peden W Rogers

Officer: D Earl – Town Clerk

County Neighbourhood Services Team (5)

EWG25/15 ENHANCED SERVICES 2016

The Area Manager introduced the new dedicated Neighbourhood Services Team for Newbiggin by-the-Sea to the Working Group which discussed the core provision and enhancement of the town and the visibility of the team. The Acting Team Leader; Environmental Specialist; Litter/Weedkilling Operative would be supplemented throughout the summer by the two Enhancement Operatives funded by the Town Council.

Initial focus would be on the problems of wind-blown sand and town centre assets and it was agreed that Councillor Rogers would meet with the Team on a weekly basis. The local logo was being used to re-emphasise the profile of the Team.

The public toilets near to the Cresswell Arms had re-opened for Easter weekend. There were still levelling works to complete at the Pit Wheel site and consideration of a wider scheme; promenade drainage issues; bin stickers for dog waste would be pursued; new locations/replacement waste bins to be reported.

The Members appreciated meeting with the new team members who had a keen interest in improving the town and looked forward to a good working relationship.

EWG26/15 ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Members of the Group considered the completion of current projects and looked ahead to possible new schemes to enhance the Pit Wheel location; paving improvements at the Horseshoe steps; possible gateway projects at both entrances to the town and a direction sign at the Woodhorn roundabout.

Current budgets were under-spent and it was considered that they could be carried forward to supplement the new budget.

Other issues to consider were the planting of town centre tubs if plants could be bought in and keeping tidy the previously improved areas like the Couple Park.

It was AGREED: that the Finance Committee be requested to consider under-spent budgets for environmental schemes being carried forward to the next financial year.