

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 20th
November 2019 at 7.00pm at the Grace Darling Academy Newbiggin by the Sea

PRESENT: Councillors: A Thompson (Chairman)
M Boon L Burns M Cholerton
E Hartley S Harrison M Peden

Officers: D Earl – Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: 12 members of the public

Questions were again raised about reporting back from the Development Trust including community benefits in relation to the grant. It was pointed out that the Trust had reported back and the Chairman referred to other large grants made to other organizations. On a point of order it was stated that matters relating to private organizations should not be brought into a public meeting.

A member of the public expressed an opinion that changes should not be made to the grant conditions. The matter would be considered later in the agenda.

Regarding the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group a member of the public referred to the list of members which did not appear to be up to date and whether there would be a review of membership. It was confirmed that the Town Council had invited key organizations to be represented on the Steering Group and that it was for them to appoint the individual members to represent them.

C067/19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor A Bromwich-Alexandra.

C068/19. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 16th October were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

C069/19. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED that: the minutes of the meeting held on 23 October were noted for information

C070/19. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

No new declarations were made.

C071/19. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A Member enquired when the financial application would be submitted and the Town Clerk advised that it was being prepared in accordance with the government provisions and hoped it would be submitted by the New Year.

C072/19. OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from appointed representatives.

C073/19. REVIEW OF LARGE GRANT CONDITIONS

The report referred to previous consideration of the conditions for large grants and suggested some minor amendments to provide some flexibility regarding initial set up costs for new projects.

The Chairman moved the recommendation which was seconded. An amendment was proposed that the conditions be agreed with the exception of revenue costs which was seconded.

On being put to the vote the amendment was agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that the minor changes to the grant conditions be approved with the exception of revenue costs.

C074/19 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The report highlighted the consideration and adoption of financial regulations for 2017/18 in light of the NALC 2016 model and the financial arrangements in place including increased publication of payments beyond national requirements; mandate for all payments by two councillors; monthly bank reconciliation; quarterly reporting to Finance Committee.

The Chairman moved the recommendation that Members endorse the continued use of the existing financial regulations which was seconded.

An amendment was proposed and seconded that the continued use of the existing financial regulations be endorsed provided a Working Group open to all councillors was established to consider in detail the provisions of the NALC model in relation to existing financial regulations and that the Working Group report back to the Town Council with recommendations before the Financial Regulations were next due for review.

As provided in Standing Orders a named vote was requested on the amendment.

For	Against	Abstention
M Boon	M Cholerton	M Peden
L Burns	A Thompson	
S Harrison		
E Hartley		

RESOLVED that:

- i) the existing Financial Regulations be endorsed;
- ii) the Town Council establish a Working Group as outlined in the amendment.

C075/19. TOWN CENTRE BANNER REPLACEMENT

Members considered the report for replacement banners in the town centre noting that the original artwork could not be obtained and new photographs would be required.

The quotations set out in the report were updated with a third one recently received and it was confirmed that they all had experience of working with local councils with two having worked with the Town Council previously.

A Member requested that in place of a new photo shoot that local talented photographers be requested to supply images for adaption in the designs. The timescales involved would not allow for wider involvement of local residents and it was confirmed to concentrate on the town centre replacement initially.

RESOLVED that:

- i) the lowest quotation from company 1 be accepted;
- ii) local photographers be invited to submit relevant local images for the design of the replacement town centre banners.

PART II

C076/19 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 items on the Agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act relating to contractual financial information.

C077/19. GRANT REQUEST; NEWBIGGIN GENEALOGY GROUP

Members considered the outstanding element of the grant request deferred from a previous meeting and some queried the financial detail available and the sustainability of the project particularly regarding the lease of the premises.

RESOLVED that: the further grant of £805.16 be approved subject to receipt of appropriate invoices; lease details; further financial information.

C078/19 GRANT REQUEST; LITTLE GEM ARTS & CRAFTS GALLERY

RESOLVED that: the application be approved and a grant of £854 awarded to Little Gem Arts & Crafts Gallery.

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Signed by Chairman..... Date.....