

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 19th
February 2020 at 7.00pm at Newbiggin Sports and Community Centre

PRESENT: Councillors: A Thompson (Chairman)

M Boon L Burns

E Hartley M Peden

Officers: D Earl – Town Clerk

E Brown – Deputy Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: 8 members of the public

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting noting the resignations of Cllrs S Harrison and A Bromwich-Alexandra. He expressed thanks for their time on the council and all they have done for the community.

A member of the public queried progress on the proposed housing development on the former Moorside School site, noting that more recent schemes by Advance Northumberland were progressing while there seemed to be no progress with this proposed development. A request was made for the Town Council to put pressure on Northumberland County Council for the development of this site. The Chair informed that while the site was the responsibility of Northumberland County Council and Ascent Homes, the Town Council could again make representations.

A member of the public expressed thanks to two former Councillors and requested information on co-opting. The Chair informed that co-option can not be considered at this stage as the vacancies were being advertised through the formal process pending requests for by-elections and should by-elections be called Northumberland County Council will set the deadline for the election process.

C091/19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor M Cholerton. The apologies were accepted

C092/19. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 JANUARY 2020

RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held 22nd January 2020 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

C093/19. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS – None.

C094/19 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Clerk informed that the tender document had gone out for the planning consultant and there was nothing further to report at this time.

C095/19 OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

No reports were received.

C096/19 CASUAL VACANCY – NORTH WARD

The Town Clerk informed that the casual vacancy was published for the North Ward vacancy and for more recent the East Ward vacancy.

C097/19 WATER FOUNTAIN PROJECT

The report from the Deputy Town Clerk was considered detailing the funding available from Sea Changers to groups and organisations who wish to install water refill bottle refill fountains on UK beaches and other coastal sites. The fund aims to tackle the increasing problem of plastic bottles being left as marine litter causing negative impact to the marine environment and marine species. It is anticipated that the provision of these water fountains will significantly reduce the use of no-reusable plastic drinks bottles in coastal locations, especially beaches.

Newbiggin Heritage Partnership were leading a funding bid in partnership with Newbiggin Litter Pickers for a grant of £2000 to add to the £1500 they already had available for this project. Both groups had submitted applications to the Grants Committee to achieve the remaining funding required for this project.

Sustainability of the project must be demonstrated within the funding application and it was recommended that the Town Council support the water refill station project as a partner, agreeing to adopt the fountain and being responsible for the future maintenance to ensure sustainability of the project. The Deputy Clerk noted her involvement as an organiser of Newbiggin Litter Pickers, in a personal capacity, in the interests of transparency.

RESOLVED that:

- i) the Town Council support the water refill station project as a partner, agreeing to adopt the fountain and being responsible for the future maintenance to ensure sustainability of the project,
- ii) the Town Council approve to £600 funding form the small grants budget to cover the pending grant requests for funding towards the project from Newbiggin Heritage Partnership (£300) and Newbiggin Litter Pickers (£300).

C098/19 NALC CONSULTATION – ANTI-SOCAIL BEHAVIOUR AND PETTY CRIME

RESOLVED unanimously that: Councillors submit their responses to the Clerk who would collate responses. A request for the police to attend the next meeting would be made with an update on crime statistics for Newbiggin.

Cllr Hartley verbally resigned as Councillor.

The meeting closed at 7.25

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