

## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Full Council

**Date of Meeting - Thursday 15 January 2026**

### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

#### **Recommendation**

##### **The Council RESOLVE to agree:**

The revised Committee and Sub Committee membership, the amendments to the Partnership Board and Town Forum membership.

#### Ward

All

#### Risk Management

To ensure a balanced representation of Councillors on committees. There are no financial impacts to this report.

#### Crime Prevention

None.

#### Objective

To promote good governance and ensure an effective and well-functioning democracy at all levels.

#### Report

A report was submitted to the Special Council meeting on 11 November 2025, which outlined the potential changes to Committee membership numbers pending the Bebside & Kitty Brewster ward election.

Reform UK won the election with Marcus Nicholson duly being elected on 18 December 2025.

The Committee seats available to the membership of the Council is now.

| Reform UK           | Conservative      | Labour            | Other | Total |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|
| 25 (10 Councillors) | 7 (3 Councillors) | 7 (3 Councillors) |       | 39    |

The change in membership results in Reform UK gaining three seats on Committees and three on sub-Committees. As the seat was previously held by a Conservative member, the Conservative party lose these seats.

Appendix 1 outlines the revised Committee membership following liaising with each Party to obtain any such revisions to Committee or Sub Committee as required.

Further to this Reform UK also gain one seat on the Partnership Board, with Conservative losing one seat.

Reform UK have indicated a wish to make a further amendment to the Partnership Board, and this is outlined in the table below.

| Partnership Board membership May 2025                              | Partnership Board membership Jan 2026   |
|--|---|
| <b>Reform UK</b><br>B Elliott<br>D Johnson<br>M Peart<br>D Swinhoe | <b>Reform UK</b><br>B Elliott<br>D Johnson<br>D Nicholson<br>N Rolls<br>D Swinhoe |
| <b>Conservative</b><br>C Jones<br>B Erskine                        | <b>Conservative</b><br>C Jones  |
| <b>Labour</b><br>K Nisbet MBE                                      | <b>Labour</b><br>K Nisbet MBE   |

Reform UK have in addition requested to replace J Woods with M Nicholson on the Town Forum.

Standing Orders are also being proposed for amendment, within a separate report, to include the ability to *substitute members of whose role is to replace the ordinary members at a meeting of a committee if the ordinary members of the committee confirm to the Proper Officer 2 days before the meeting that they are unable to attend.*

This is a practice that has been permitted only on Complaints and Grievance Sub Committee previously although was raised by a member several months ago.

The benefit of permitting substitutes on Committees will ensure all Parties have fair opportunity to be represented and ensure Committees are quorate.

**E Brown**  
**Deputy Town Clerk**

**8 January 2026**

## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2026

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (13)</b> |   |
| M Peart (Chair)                             | D Johnson                               |
| D Nicholson (Vice Chair)                    | C Jones                                 |
| R A Baker                                   | <b>M Nicholson</b>                      |
| D Campbell                                  | K Nisbet MBE                            |
| D Carr                                      | N Rolls                                 |
| B W Elliott                                 | D Swinhoe                               |
| B Erskine                                   |   |
| <b>ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (13)</b>           |   |
| D Johnson (Chair)                           | <del>B</del> Erskine <b>M Nicholson</b> |
| J Woods (Vice Chair)                        | C Jones                                 |
| R A Baker                                   | D Nicholson                             |
| D Campbell                                  | K Nisbet MBE                            |
| D Carr                                      | N Rolls                                 |
| A Cartie                                    | D Swinhoe                               |
| B W Elliott                                 |   |
| <b>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (13)</b>            |   |
| B W Elliott (Chair)                         | C Jones                                 |
| M Peart (Vice Chair)                        | D Nicholson                             |
| R A Baker                                   | <b>M Nicholson</b>                      |
| D Campbell                                  | K Nisbet MBE                            |
| D Carr                                      | N Rolls                                 |
| T E Elliott                                 | D Swinhoe                               |
| D Johnson                                   |   |

## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2026

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>COMMUNITY FUNDING SUB COMMITTEE (10)</b>          |                        |
| D Swinhoe (Chair)                                    | D Johnson              |
| N Rolls (Vice Chair)                                 | C Jones                |
| D Campbell   | D Nicholson            |
| <del>D Carr</del> M Nicholson                        | K Nisbet MBE           |
| B W Elliott  | M Peart                |
| <b>COMPLAINTS &amp; GRIEVANCE SUB COMMITTEE (10)</b> |                        |
| R A Baker (Chair)                                    | B W Elliott            |
| T E Elliott (Vice Chair)                             | M Peart                |
| <del>D Campbell</del> B Erskine                      | <del>M Nicholson</del> |
| D Carr   | N Rolls                |
| A Cartie   | D Swinhoe              |
| <b>P&amp;D SUB COMMITTEE (10)</b>                    |                        |
| D Swinhoe (Chair)                                    | D Johnson              |
| T E Elliott (Vice Chair)                             | C Jones                |
| R A Baker  | D Nicholson            |
| A Cartie   | M Peart                |
| <del>B Erskine</del> M Nicholson                     | N Rolls                |
| <b>STAFF SUB COMMITTEE (10)</b>                      |                        |
| N Rolls (Chair)                                      | B Erskine              |
| T E Elliott (Vice-Chair)                             | C Jones                |
| D Carr   | K Nisbet MBE           |
| A Cartie   | M Peart                |
| B W Elliott  | <del>D Campbell</del>  |