



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Community Development Committee held at 6.30 pm on Thursday 17 November 2022 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road. NE24 2AS

Present:

Councillors: A Cartie (Chair), W Taylor (Vice-Chair), A Barrass, G Davey, S Davey, B Erskine, C Jones, J R Potts, S Stanger

Also Present:

Officers:

J Hughes, Town Clerk, M Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk, M Hawthorne, Committee Clerk

Invited Guest(s) – 0

Members of the Public - 1

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence Councillors: D Carr, C Humphrey, K Nisbet, M Robson
2	Disclosure of Interest and Grants of Dispensation None
3	The following minutes were noted as a true record:
3.1	Minutes of the Community Development Committee held on Thursday 6 October 2022 (part I and II).
4	Actions arising from Previous Minutes Agenda Item 7 – Armed Forces Day (agenda item 7, Decision Report 2)

<p>5</p>	<p>Community Development Budget Monitoring Report</p> <p>The following queries were raised:</p> <p>1026 Festive Lighting – clarified some additional lights have been purchased as well as replacements to replace those damaged last year. The balance of the budget is payment to NCC for fitting of lights etc for which the bill has not been received yet.</p> <p>902 Heritage Issues – advised this budget is used for blue plaques, heritage trail leaflets and anything that would benefit the town in terms of history etc.</p> <p>1021 Fireworks Event - £27,000 is actual expenditure, £3,586 refers to invoices where payment has not been received.</p> <p>1062 Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – original budget was £3,000 this increased to £7,177 when members approved the scheme for commemorative medals.</p> <p>1061 Event Strategy/Delivery, Advertisement etc – this budget is used to advertise what the Council is doing generally. The advertising for Blyth Live is included in the net expenditure of £45,750.</p> <p>1032 Opera in the Park – change in budget reflects the increased costs from the previous year.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Decision Report 1 – Community Foundation</p> <p>Councillor Taylor declared an interest as a member of an awarding panel for grants.</p> <p>Members had an in depth discussion around the proposal to change the grant approval process. The Town Clerk stated that some members attended a Meeting with the Community Foundation and this meeting is summarised in the decision report. It was noted that should the Community Foundation administer grants on behalf of BTC there would be a 10% fee on each grant application. Members asked if this fee was negotiable.</p> <p>Councillor Potts moved that the grant process remain with - Blyth Town Council. This motion was seconded by Councillor Stanger.</p>

	<p>Councillor Erskine moved and amendment that the costs are revisited. Councillor Taylor seconded this motion.</p> <p>A vote on the amendment produced the following results:</p> <p>For = 4, Against = 4 Abstention – 1. The Chair had the casting vote, and he voted against.</p> <p>A vote on the original motion produced the following results:</p> <p>For = 5, Against 1 therefore the motion was carried to keep the process with BTC.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Decision Report 2 - Events</p> <p>Councillor G Davey asked if consideration has been given to the fact at some point in 2023 the market place will not be available for events. It was confirmed there is a contingency plan in place and discussion took place at the events working group.</p> <p>Members discussed the proposed programme of events and agreed the following proposals for Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter in the Park – approved • Music in the Park – approved, request that options for background music are explored. • Blyth Live – approved, suggestion that local talent/bands are used in the future. DTC clarified vendors are charged £250 plus a percentage donated from the fairground. • Carnival – approved. Clarified the increase in the budget is to allow the carnival to develop. • Circus School – approved. • Art in the Park – approved. • Sandcastles – approved. • Fireworks – approved. Suggestion that a local DJ is used, look at a lightshow with music instead of fireworks. Action – Events Co-ordinator to explore these options. • Christmas Events/Santa in Keelrow – approved. • Armed Forces – approved. Further research required. • Coronation Day – approved. Need to look at other events that are taking place and perhaps offer grants to organisations as per the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. • Media Day approved. Action – Events Co-ordinator to progress this and speak to schools/Silx regarding a suitable venue.

<p>8</p>	<p>Decision Report 3 - Budget 2023/24</p> <p>Members raised the following queries:</p> <p>Santa Tour, £6,000 – this budget has not been spent as the tour will not take place this year and has been allocated to other Christmas events.</p> <p>Community Grants – budget of £200,000. Some comments that this amount should be reviewed. Agreed to see what other Councils spend.</p> <p>The DTC reminded members that the budget proposals will go to Governance Committee in January 2023 where decisions will be made regarding the level of expenditure.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Clerk to contact other Parish Councils and collate information on how they operate their grants process. • Analysis of traders to be provided at the next Committee – service/where from. • Events Team to carry out further work re options for each event.
<p>9</p>	<p>Delegated Actions Report</p> <p>There were no delegated actions to report.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Development Committee will be held on Tuesday 14 February 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Part II</p> <p>Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.</p>

Members of Community Development Committee

A Cartie (Chair)

W Taylor (Vice Chair)

A Barrass

D Carr

G Davey

S Davey

B Erskine

C Humphrey

C Jones

K Nisbet

J R Potts

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