



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Thursday 9 December 2021 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, Blyth, NE24 2AS

Present:

Councillors: K Nisbet (Chair), M Richardson (Vice Chair), A Barrass, B Erskin, C Jones, J R Potts, J Reid, M Robson, S Stanger, W Taylor, A Watson

Also Present: Councillor D Carr

Officers:

Joseph Hughes, Town Clerk
M Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk
David Clough, General Services Officer
Maureen Hawthorne, Committee Clerk

Members of the Public - 0

Invited Guest(s) 0

Allotment Holder Questions

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence Councillors: A Cartie, C Humphrey
2	Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations There were no disclosures of interest.
3	Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 16 September 2021 The minutes were noted as a true record.

<p>3.1</p>	<p>Minutes of the Partnership Working Group held on 13 July 2021</p> <p>Amendment – Councillor Potts was present at the meeting.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>4.1</p>	<p>Actions arising from previous Minutes</p> <p>Defibrillators – the Town Clerk agreed to provide information on the usage of the existing defibrillators – please see Information Report, agenda item 9.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Environment Budget Monitoring Report</p> <p>Queries were raised on the following:</p> <p>Water Rates – Bolam – the GSO clarified the rates have increased as there have been some water leaks and it there is an issue with the location of the stopcock. This has been raised with Northumbria Water.</p> <p>297 Allotments Planned Maintenance Programme – noted that the Town Clerk will investigate this further. The amount queried related to a creditor from the previous financial year and this has been correctly accounted for.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Decision Report 1</p> <p>Committee considered the recommendations set out in the Decision Report and RESOLVED:</p> <p>To agree the costs to replace the boundary fences on plots where they are required in order to let an allotment. Responsibility would then revert to the allotment holder.</p> <p>To accept the Shipyard Flats Sculpture as a BTC asset following installation. Cllr Nisbet is funding this project from her MLIS.</p> <p>To accept the 8 bins at the Mermaid Car Park as BTC assets following installation. The GSO showed the designs for the wrap arounds being used on the bins.</p> <p>To agree to the refurbishment of ten seats using the same kind of hardwood materials that were used on the Quay side seats in the above locations at a cost of £3200.00 from Contractor 1. To investigate further the option of purchasing</p>

	<p>seats manufactured using recycled materials in future schemes.</p> <p>To carry out a consultation with residents to establish if they would support a new play area on land in Chestnut Avenue instead of refurbishing the current Millfield Gardens Play area in 2023/24.. Officers will explore with NCC whether this is a viable option. Residents will also be consulted on the planned refurbishment of Millfield Gardens.</p> <p>Noted that Chase Farm needs to be added to the refurbishment programme.</p> <p>To relocate the Skate Park due to the current problems with the existing one and this will be factored into the 2022/23 budget at a cost of £103,000 which includes £15,000 to reinstate the land on the original location. A consultation exercise will be carried out.</p> <p>To purchase four additional CCTV cameras requested by the police as and when they are needed.</p>
7	<p>Decision Report 2 – Budget 2022/23</p> <p>Committee agreed to the recommendation to take the budget to Governance with the following changes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the costs for the new skate park and reinstating the original land will be included in the 2022/23 budget. 2. Reconsider the figure for Laverock Place water rates. <p>The following was clarified:</p> <p>CCTV recovery of footage – explained how the costs are incurred.</p> <p>War memorials – costs are for cleaning of the war memorials and general maintenance.</p>
8	<p>Delegation Actions Report</p> <p>There are no delegated actions to report.</p>
9	<p>Information Report</p> <p>Members noted the information report with regard to:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allotments 2. Play Areas 3. Bins 4. Bus Shelters 5. Defibrillators 6. CCTV Cameras 7. Flag 8. Sculptures 9. Seats
10	<p>Special Allotment Issues</p> <p>There were no specific allotment issues.</p>
11	<p>Enforcement</p> <p>Members noted the information contained in the following reports. Councillor Watson declared an interest. The Chair will ask to John Robertson to provide core reports in the future.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. September 2021 2. October 2021 3. November 2021
12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
13	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next Environment Committee will take place on Thursday 24 February in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House. Allotment holders question session starts at 6.00pm and will be directly followed by the Committee meeting.</p>
14	<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 the Environment Committee

Councillors:

K Nisbet (Chair)
M Richardson (Vice Chair)
A Barrass
A Cartie
B Erskine
C Humphrey
C Jones
J R Potts
J Reid
M Robson
S Stanger
W Taylor
A Watson