



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council held at 6.00 pm on Thursday 11 January 2024 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Blyth, NE24 2AS.

Present:

Councillors: W Taylor (Mayor), A Barrass (Deputy Mayor), D Carr, A Cartie, G Davey, S Davey, B Erskine, C Jones, J R Potts, J Reid, M Richardson, M Robson, S Stanger, A Watson.

Officers: J Hughes, Town Clerk, Malcolm Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk.

Also Present:

Members of the Public: 0

Invited Guest(s): 0

Min No	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Councillors: C Humphrey and K Nisbet.</p>
2	<p>Disclosure of Interests and the Grant of any Dispensations</p> <p>None.</p>
3	<p>Mayor’s Announcements</p> <p>The Mayor spoke about that this may well be an election year and the protocol expected within the Council meetings and views arising from them.</p> <p>The Mayor then concentrated on some of the work undertaken by the Council and its achievements. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opening of 2 new play areas, safety fencing agreed around the North Farm Play Area, as well as the construction of a new skate park.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction work will also be undertaken re the lanes at an allotment site next year. • The progress on the Neighbourhood Plan. • The popularity of the Councillor drop in sessions. • The launch of the new web site, Community Database, issue of 2 newsletters, and the introduction of recording Council meetings. • Working with Partners on the Energising Blyth initiatives. • Free family events attracting 52k attendees. • Tree planting initiatives. • Fly tipping reduction initiatives. • Worked alongside BVEL re a Community Asset transfer. • The Council awarded its first Freedom of the Town Award. • Working with neighbouring Councils to share best practice. <p>During this, the Council agreed to support the Planning Application made by BVEL for Pods at the South Beach retail development and that the Planning Portal be updated.</p>
4	<p>Minutes of Special Council 12 December 2023</p> <p>The minutes were noted as a true record.</p>
4.1	<p>Actions outstanding from Previous Minutes</p> <p>There were no outstanding actions to consider.</p>
5	<p>Minutes of the following Standing Committees</p> <p>5.1 Environment Committee 12 December 2023. Council considered these and agreed that the minutes be amended regarding agenda number 8, to include the record of votes cast.</p> <p>5.2 Governance Committee 9 January 2024</p>
6	<p>Decision Reports</p> <p>6.1 Precept 2024/2025</p> <p>The recommendations of the Governance Committee were accepted in that, the Council for 2024/25, set a budget of £1,610,811 with a precept levied on NCC of £1,448,766.</p> <p>During the discussion on the above the Town Clerk was asked to prepare 2 reports on, supporting the Food Bank, and investments with the Credit Union.</p>

	6.2 Review of CCTV Policy – this was agreed subject to a wording change to para 4.a, and legal opinion be sought to ensure that the Council were adequately protected within this overall section.
7	Delegated Decision Report There were no delegated decisions to report.
8	Any Other Business None
9	DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING The next meeting of the Full Council will be held on Thursday 9 May 2024 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House. Public Question Time starts at 6.00 pm and Council will commence directly afterwards.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor W Taylor (Mayor)
 Councillor A Barrass (Deputy Mayor)
 Councillor D Carr
 Councillor A Cartie
 Councillor G Davey
 Councillor S Davey
 Councillor B Erskine
 Councillor C Humphrey

Councillor C Jones
 Councillor K Nisbet
 Councillor J R Potts
 Councillor J Reid
 Councillor M Richardson
 Councillor M Robson
 Councillor S Stanger
 Councillor A Watson