

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE meeting held on MONDAY, 15th JUNE 2015 at 7.00pm in the GUILDHALL, BARNSTAPLE.

Present: Councillors A Windsor (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs L Davies (Vice Chairman), Mrs V Elkins (Mayor Ex-Officio), I Roome, Mrs J Hunt (Deputy Mayor Ex-Officio), J Phillips, M Chamings, F Jefferies, I Williams, Ms M Lovering, Mrs A Dawson,

Also in attendance: Mrs K Graddock (Assistant Town Clerk), Cllr J Carter, Cllr A Rennles and 2 members of the public.

Prior to the start of the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 84, Mrs D Dymond, a representative of Blossom Ark Residents Group spoke to the committee regarding their sponsorship scheme and the request to site a bench along Forches Avenue. She informed members that they had recently set up the group to help tackle the overgrowing verges around Forches and the main roundabout through the Town Council's sponsorship scheme, however, they now wished to place a bench for the community along the avenue and wished to seek the support of the Town Council.

EN11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence, as recorded on the attendance sheet were received from Councillor L Dawson.

EN12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

EN13 MINUTES

RESOLVED: Subject to the inclusion of Cllr J Phillips added to the present list, the minutes of Tuesday, 26th May be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

(NC)

EN14 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE TOWN

a) To receive updated Environment Concerns list

RESOLVED: That the updated list be received and noted.

(NC)

b) To receive any possible Environmental Concerns

1. Litter picking at High Street end of Rolle Quay Bridge
2. Weeding on Rolle Quay Bridge
3. Loose pavements at Barnstaple High Street

4. Overgrown vegetation obscuring views at the corner of Oakleigh Road and Summerland Street

RESOLVED: That the concerns above be reported to the relevant authority or actioned in house.

(NC)

EN15 PLANTED AREAS

a) To receive update report from the Assistant Town Clerk and consider any actions therefrom.

Members were given a brief outline of the green and planted areas scheme including a request by two sponsors who wished to place benches on their maintained areas. The committee were informed that the placement of benches now rests with Town and Parish Councils including maintenance. Some members were concerned over how the level of safety and workmanship is sanctioned before being placed on public highway. The Assistant Town Clerk further reported that to date, 14 applications had been received to join the sponsorship scheme. Members discussed the number of applications including the purchase and installation of signage and consents that could be supported by the Town Council and considered the benefits of giving incentives, such as signage to local businesses, organisations and groups to look after specific areas. After some discussion it was

RESOLVED:

1. That before any bench siting requests could be considered, the Assistant Town Clerk draft a bench policy to be considered at a future meeting.
2. That the sponsorship scheme is capped at 20, however, when the applications reach 20, the item is brought back for further consideration.

(NC)

b) To consider an amendment or disposal of the resolution contained within EN08(a) in accordance with Standing Order 42.

The Assistant Town Clerk reported to members that eight Town Councillors had expressed for the resolution EN08(a) to be reconsidered. She further reported that Devon County Council are undecided on whether a full or just visibility splays are cut. Members said that the grassed/planted areas needed to be cut, however, felt that if Devon County Council were planning to undertake a full cut, the TAP funding could be used for other green and planted areas. After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the item is deferred until the July meeting to determine whether Devon County Council were undertaking a full or partial cut and that if the decision is taken after the July meeting, the

Assistant Town Clerk is given authorisation to approved a full TAP funded cut.

(9.2abs)

EN16 WELLBEING DAY

a) To consider and approve date and location for the Wellbeing Day 2015

RESOLVED: That the Wellbeing Day 2015 be held in the Pannier Market on Sunday, 18th October 2015.

(NC)

b) To consider and approve arrangements for the 2015 Wellbeing Day

Members considered the title of the day. After last year's Wellbeing Day, there was discussion from members of the public and attendees that the name did not say what the event was and gave no indication as to what you would expect if attending the event. Members felt that the timings should remain at 11.00am until 3.00pm.

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk had a request from the Youth Council to organise the music for the event. Members supported this idea however, some were concerned as to what music would be played. After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

1. That an email is sent to all staff and councillors to ask for suggestions for a new name for the event
2. That the event is run from 11.00am until 3.00pm
3. That the Youth Council work with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to organise music for the day.

(NC)

*** Item 8: Tidy Up Our Town was moved forward on the agenda. ***

EN17 TIDY UP OUR TOWN

a) To receive and approve the TUOT Working Party Remit

RESOLVED: That the remit as appended to these minutes, be received and approved and the Working Party be given a limit of £500.00 to be spent on any one item.

(NC)

b) To appoint members to the Tidy Up Our Town Working Party

RESOLVED: That Councillors A Windsor, Mrs E Davies, M Chamings, Mrs A Dawson, I Williams, Mrs J Hunt and Mrs V Elkins be elected as members of the Working Party.

(NC)

c) To consider and approve dates for the 2016 Tidy Up Our Town

RESOLVED: That the 2016 Tidy Up Our Town event be held from Monday, 25th April until Saturday, 30th April 2016.

(NC)

d) To consider and approve location for the 2016 Tidy Up Our Town Community Day

RESOLVED: That the Community Day is held at Rock Park.

(NC)

*** Cllr Mrs E Davies left the meeting at 8.05pm and did not return. ***

EN18 ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING SCHOOL 2015

a) To consider and approve date for the 2015 Environment/Planning School

RESOLVED: That the Environment/Planning School be held on Saturday, 10th October 2015.

(NC)

Members considered the topics for the Environment/Planning School.

RESOLVED: That digesters, River Estuary cleaning, Insulation for domestic houses, cycling in town centres, pro argument for renewable energy and flooding be investigated for topics to be included on the agenda.

(NC)

EN19 WARD AUDITS

Members considered dates for the 2015 ward audits.

RESOLVED: That each ward member is tasked to contact their colleagues to agree a suitable date and inform the Clerk.

(NC)

EN20 LITTERBINS

Cllr M Chamings presented to members the idea of installing waste/recycling litterbins in the parish. Member agreed it was a good idea, however, needed some further investigations.

RESOLVED: That the Assistant Town Clerk investigate costings and suitability of recycling/waste bins and report back to a future meeting.

(NC)

EN21 ALLOTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

The Assistant Town Clerk gave a verbal report of the discussions and resolutions as appended to these minutes made at the Allotment Sub-committee meeting held at 6.00pm on Monday, 15th June 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Allotment Sub-committee minutes be received and approved including the resolutions contained therein.

The meeting ended at 8.46pm.

Chairman.

Signed.....

Dated.....