

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE meeting held on MONDAY, 6th JUNE 2016 at 7.00pm in THE CASTLE CENTRE, 25 CASTLE STREET, BARNSTAPLE.

Present: Cllr A Windsor (Chairman)
Cllrs Mrs V Elkins, F Jefferies, M Kennaugh, I Williams and Miss M Lovering.

Also in attendance: Mrs K Graddock, Deputy Town Clerk and 1 member of the public, Mr B Macbeth.

EN01 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence, as recorded on the attendance sheet were received from Cllrs I Roome, Mrs J Hunt, Mrs E Davies and M Chamings.

EN02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS RECEIVED

None received.

EN03 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 18th April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(5.1abs)

*** Cllr Mrs V Elkins entered the meeting at 7.03pm. ***

EN04 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE TOWN

The following environmental issues were reported:

<u>Concern</u>	<u>Action</u>
Footpath overgrown and a dumped gas canister outside 16 & 17 Otter Way	Report to NDC and possible TC Lengthsman
Taxis parking on footpath in the High Street	Report to the Planning and Transportation committee
Tarka Trail footpath from Park School to Newport Tesco's overgrown	Report to Public Rights of Way - DCC
Tree growing from bench at Derby Road	TC Lengthsman

RESOLVED: That the concerns are actioned as stated above.

(NC)

RESOLVED: That Item 8 on the Agenda: Iron Bridge – Picnic Area be moved forward and the item be taken next.

(NC)

EN05 IRON BRIDGE

Members were submitted a request from Brian Macbeth, a local resident who asked for the committee to consider installing picnic benches and take on responsibility for the routine maintenance of a new picnic site next to the Iron Bridge at Severn Brethren/Rock Park. At the last meeting, EN80, members resolved to complete a site visit.

Some members raised concerns over vandalism, whether a litter bin could be sited and who would be responsible for collecting the rubbish if the litter bin was sited.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Town Council enter into a licence agreement with North Devon Council to install a picnic area next to the Iron Bridge.

(NC)

EN06 BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT

Members were circulated the Budget Monitoring Statement up until May 2016.

RESOLVED: That the statement is noted.

(NC)

EN07 PLANTED AREAS

Planted and shrubbed areas

Members were informed that a local company and contractor had contacted the Town Council to enquire about sponsoring the area by the Bus Station that was due for artificial grass. They are keen to continue with artificial grass and the Deputy Town Clerk will be pursuing this shortly.

The shrubbed and planted areas, especially by St John's Ambulance HQ was severely overgrown and needed to be attended too. Members were unsure whether a simple trim of all bushes would help the cause and felt a more permanent solution should be sought.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Town Clerk is given a budget up to £7,500 to improve and maintain the planted and shrubbed areas.

(NC)

Complaint from member of the public

Members were read an email received from a member of the public identifying concerns regarding the grass cutting of barn henge roundabout. The complainant felt that there were rare wild flowers

growing and that the Town Council's cutting schedules needed to be addressed to stop any wild flowers being destroyed.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks is written to the complainant for bringing the matter to the Council's attention and that they are invited to a future meeting to address the committee.

(5.1abs)

North Devon Against Domestic Abuse (NDADA) display

Members received a request for the NDADA charity to site a display on the Square for November, following on from their White Flower project in 2015. Members were in full support of this project and it was

RESOLVED: That the NDADA are authorised to install an installation on the Square for November.

(NC)

EN08 TIDY UP OUR TOWN (TUOT) 2016

Members reviewed the TUOT week and TUOT Community Day. Members felt that the time of year was good however, the TUOT Community Day could have had more food stalls and events.

After much discussion, it was

RESOLVED:

1. That there be no TUOT week in 2017.
2. That the Committee encourage litter picks and clearance events throughout the whole of the year.
3. That the TUOT initiative is incorporated within the Get Barum Blooming Campaign.
4. That there is a Get Barum Blooming Community Day and a date is decided at the next meeting.

(NC)

Meeting ended at 8.26pm.

Chairman

Signed

Dated