

## **MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016**

Present: Councillor C Snowball (Chair) and Councillors E Bell, Mrs J A Bell, B Burn (Jnr), B Burn Snr, S Cudlip, Mrs S Forster, R Meir, Miss S Morrison, R Whitehead, K Younger

Apologies: Councillors Mrs H J Cahill, S Cudlip, I Paul, K Shaw, B Taylor

Observer: Councillor Mrs G Bleasdale,

*Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chair advised members of this Committee and members of the public that in line with the amendment to 'the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960', which came into force in August, 2014, parts of this meeting may be recorded by photographic, video and audio means.*

### **1. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

### **2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2016**

RECOMMENDED the Minutes of these meetings, copies of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

### **3. TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

#### **3.1 Neighbourhood Services - Highways**

RECOMMENDED the Council accept the Neighbourhood Services Highways reports for October, 2016.

### **4. PLANNING ISSUES**

#### **4.1 Monthly List**

RECOMMENDED the list of planning applications referred to all Councillors since the last meeting, namely 5440 to 5445 as circulated be noted.

### **5. REVISED BUDGET FOR 2016/17 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2017/18**

RECOMMENDED that the Council note the information.

**6. CONSULTATION ON IMPLEMENTING A PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSOP) FOR DOG CONTROL**

The Town Clerk informed the Council that the Town Council were advertising the consultation on the public notice board.

A Member stated that they would like the Town Council to respond to the consultation although they were unsure as to whether it was within the Town Councils remit to be able to make changes. The Order primarily relates to parks which are owned and managed by Durham County Council so there is a whole list of where animals will be prohibited to use which are mainly children's play areas but the order does not cover the two major parks in Seaham. The Member stated that the Act should be extended to include areas that other Town Councils and Parishes manage or otherwise the Order will look very disjointed.

Another Member suggested that the Town Council could consider consulting with the public through Social Media so that the Town Council are clarifying their position that the Town Council are not responsible for this consultation.

A Member stated that bigger Town Councils actually manage more play areas than Durham County Council so it is important to respond to Durham to say that the Town Council wants the order extending to Seaham. It is important to note that this Order is only relating to children's playgrounds and not to public parks.

It was also discussed that this consultation could also be an opportunity for dogs to be banned from the beach. Dog fouling is one of the major concerns of members of the public in Seaham and it should be addressed. Once we have requested to have consultation we will request to have signage for Seaham parks play areas and that will be part of Seaham's response to the consultation. The Town Council will request universal signage so it doesn't just say Durham County Council or Seaham Town Council.

RECOMMENDED that the Council responds to the consultation requesting that the Town Council's parks and the beach are covered in the Order and that such areas provided by other Town and Parish Council's throughout County Durham should also be included under the Order to enable enforcement for dog fouling to be consistent across the whole County.

**7. REMOVAL OF STREET LIGHTS**

The Town Clerk brought to the attention of the Council a correspondence from Durham County Council with regards to the consultation on a proposal to remove street lights on the A182 East Cliff Road and A182 George Elmy Lifeboat Way. After reviewing the road safety risk assessments and considering feedback from the consultation process Durham County Council agreed it was safe to remove the street lighting.

RECOMMENDED that the Council note the information.

**8. MARINA NEWS**

The October copy of the Marina News was circulated to Members at the meeting for their perusal.

RECOMMENDED that the Council note the information.

**9. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES**

RECOMMENDED the Council note that no press opportunities existed from this meeting.