

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH JANUARY, 2017

Present: Councillor C Snowball (Chair) and Councillors Mrs M Baird, E Bell, Mrs J A Bell, B Burn (Jnr), Mrs H J Cahill, S Cudlip, Mrs S Forster, R Meir, Miss S Morrison, I Paul, K Shaw, B Taylor, R Whitehead

Apologies: Councillors B Allen, Mrs B E Allen, K Younger

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 29TH NOVEMBER, 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 December 2016 and January 2017.

4. PLANNING ISSUES

4.1 Monthly List

RECOMMENDED the list of planning applications referred to all Councillors since the last meeting, namely 5448 to 5452 as circulated be noted.

5. HERITAGE COAST CALENDAR 2017

RECOMMENDED that the Council note the information.

6. RISK ASSESSMENTS – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Council was reminded of the requirement as part of the corporate governance processes for risk assessments to be undertaken in relation to various activities. At regular intervals Members had been provided with reports on progress made in this area and the Committee was advised of the process involved in carrying out initial assessments made of risks in a range of planning and environmental activities. The Committee note the process followed in assessing the risks.

RECOMMENDED the Council formally agree to accept the risk assessments covering the various items now reported.

7. CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO REMOVE STREET LIGHTS

Pursuant to a previous Council meeting Councillors had requested further information be sought with regard to the rationale behind the removal of the street lights from the A182 East Cliff Road and A182 George Elmy Lifeboat Way. The Town Clerk had emailed Durham County Council to seek further information and correspondence was received from Kevin Robson, Durham County Council informing the Town Council that following the road safety risk assessments it was concluded that in accordance with the current street lighting policy it was deemed safe to remove the street lights.

It was suggested that Mr Robson be invited to a meeting with Seaham Town Council to discuss this matter further.

RECOMMENDED that this item be deferred to a future meeting.

8. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

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