

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 21ST NOVEMBER, 2017

Present: Councillor K Shaw (Chair) and
Councillors R Arthur, E Bell, Mrs J A Bell,
Mrs G Bleasdale, S P Colburn,
Mrs S Forster, Ms R M Gratton,
G N Hepworth, Mrs L Kennedy,
D McKenna, Mrs S Pratt, T Shepherd,
B Taylor, R Whitehead, Miss L Willis

Apologies: Councillors Mrs B E Allen, Mrs
K Brace, S Cudlip, D Cummings,
Mrs V Cummings,

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.

Councillor Mrs L Kennedy declared an interest as a member of Dawdon Park Cricket Club.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 24TH OCTOBER, 2017

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

3. PARKS AND EVENTS SERVICES

The Committee considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report which provided an update on the following items:

3.1 Fireworks Display 2017

The Deputy Town Clerk stated that there had been an issue with the wireless microphones on the night and in future years he will revert to using the cabled microphones. He also shared social media comments from members of the public with Members which showed the event was a success.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

3.2 Remembrance Events

The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that for the second year running Seaham has appeared in an American daily newspaper the Boston Herald showing a picture of 'Tommy'.

Mr D McKenna thanked Members for permission to display the poppy artwork and stated it shows people that Seaham cares about the past. A Member questioned whether there was a total of the amount raised for the poppy appeal. Mr McKenna stated that this is run from the Royal British Legion and Mrs Armes would hold that information. He stated it is usually in the region of £20-£25k raised.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

3.3 Allotments Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes & Recommendations

This item was deferred to the next meeting as the Appendices were not attached.

RECOMMENDED that this item be added to the next agenda.

3.4 Remaining large free public events in 2017

RECOMMENDED this item is for information purposes only.

3.5 Request for financial information following Partnership Events

Pursuant to a previous meeting a Member had requested that any outside events that the Town Council work in partnership with should report back to the Town Council with details of how much money was made at the event. The Deputy Town Clerk recommended that this is not pursued as the events are not for profit events and are solely for the benefit of the general public.

RECOMMENDED that this item is not pursued.

3.6 Risk Management Issues

RECOMMENDED Members note the information being provided.

3.7 Resolution to Exclude the press and Public

RECOMMENDED in view of the confidential nature of the item to be discussed, the formal resolution be hereby passed to exclude the press and public from the meeting pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act, 1961.

3.8 Improvements to Sports Facilities in Seaham

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that New Drive has recently been transferred over to Seaham Town Council. The Deputy Town Clerk stated

that Seaham Harbour Cricket Club are open to the idea of transferring their pavilion over to the Town Council so the use of the toilet and changing facilities can be extended to the football users. A report will be included on the Establishment Sub-Committee agenda showing the implications for the extra work which will be required to be carried out at Seaham Harbour Cricket Club such as the Town Council taking over the preparation of the cricket pitch and the possible requirement of a further member of staff to carry out these duties.

RECOMMENDED that a report from the Deputy Town Clerk is included on the Establishment Sub-Committee agenda.

4. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

RECOMMENDED the Council note that the Deputy Town Clerk will where possible encourage the press and media to promote the positive projects discussed at this meeting.