

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th JUNE, 2018

Present: The Mayor, Councillor Mrs B E Allen (Presiding) and Councillors R Arthur, E Bell, Mrs K Brace, S P Colborn, S Cudlip, D Cummings, Mrs V Cummings, 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 J A Bell, Mrs G Bleasdale, K Shaw.

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. OPEN SESSION

In accordance with established policy the Council provided the opportunity at the beginning of the meeting for a 15 minute session.

A member of the public raised an issue with regards to speeding within the Westlea estate and had written several letters of complaint naming people and addresses. It was noted that under GDPR those issues cannot be raised due to Data Protection, however the Acting Town Clerk could speak to the member of the public explaining that the Town Council cannot address issues regarding people's names and addresses in a public domain.

The Mayor informed Mr Cutting that the issues he has raised are currently being dealt with by Mr Ron Hogg, Police Crime Commissioner who is dealing with issues from Seaton Lodge to the top of Stockton Road as these issues had been raised at a previous meeting.

The member of the public stated that Westlea is a nightmare and people are parking on the footpaths and people walking have to go around cars and onto the roads to be able to pass. He suggested that speed ramps should be placed around the Westlea area before someone is seriously hurt.

RESOLVED that the member of the public was informed that these issues have already been raised with Mr Ron Hogg, Police Crime Commissioner who is carrying out various surveys in the area.

3. TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SEAHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 11TH MAY, 2018

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

4. REPORTS OF SERVICE COMMITTEES

RESOLVED that the reports of the following Committees, copies of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved:

- a) Report of the Arts and Information Committee held on 22nd May, 2018.
- b) Report of the Parks and Events Committee held on 22nd May, 2018 subject to a discussion taking place regarding item 5.7 on page 9603. A Member suggested that the funds raised from the proposed floor safe next to Tommy would be better circulated to local charities and voluntary organisations and should be strictly controlled by Seaham Town Council. Members discussed that the money is left next to Tommy by members of the public so should be given to military charities. A Member suggested inviting Mr Brian West from SSAFA to a future meeting as well as Mr Gary Richardson from the Royal British Legion to discuss this matter further. It was noted that SSAFA have been around longer than the RBL and they cover the welfare of ex-service personnel from all three forces. It was agreed that this item be referred back to the Parks and Events Committee for further discussion and Mr West and Mr Richardson be invited to attend.

A Member raised item 5.8 on page 9603 with regards to the Poppy Project and the Council offering financial support. It was agreed that this item should also be raised for further discussion at the next available Parks and Events Committee. A Member raised the issue with regards to the final works which need to be carried out on the war memorial in Seaham Town Park which the Town Council have a financial responsibility for. The memorial is approaching 100 years old and the top part of the memorial will need a specialist company to restore this which could amount to approximately £10k. It was noted that works have previously been carried out on the war memorial and this would be the final works which need to be carried out to safeguard the memorial for years to come. It was agreed that the war memorial restorers should be contacted.

- c) Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 29th May, 2018.
- d) Report of Planning and Environmental Committee held on 29th May, 2018.
- e) Report of the Clerks Advisory Sub-Committee held on 29th May, 2018.
- f) Report of the Establishment Sub-Committee held on 29th May, 2018.

5. **CREATIVE YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES**

The Acting Town Clerk informed Members that a request had been made from Creative Youth Opportunities in partnership with Inspire Children to hold a free family fun event at the Town Park on Wednesday 29th August, 2018. There will be no admission charge for the event but there will be a small charge for activities such as face painting.

RESOLVED that the free family fun event can go ahead in Seaham Town Park.