

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 5TH MARCH, 2019

Present: K Shaw (Chair) and R Arthur
E Bell, Mrs G Bleasdale,
Mrs K Brace, S P Colborn, S Cudllip,
D Cummings, Mrs V Cummings,
Mrs S Forster, Ms R M Gratton,
D McKenna, Mrs S Pratt, T Shepherd,
B Taylor, R Whitehead, Miss L Willis.

Apologies: Mrs B E Allen, Mrs J A Bell,
G N Hepworth, Mrs L Kennedy.

Officers: Mrs D Rickaby (Town Clerk),
P Fletcher (Deputy Town Clerk)
A Rountree (Minute Taker)

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.

The Chair requested that everyone present at the meeting stand to give a minutes silence for the sad passing of former Councillor Bruce Burn Senior.

PE13/19 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. Such interests must be submitted to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

PE14/19 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 5th FEBRUARY, 2019

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.

PE15/19 PARKS AND EVENTS SERVICES

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

1. **IDEAS FOR EVENTS FROM THE NEWLY PROPOSED YOUTH COUNCIL**

The Deputy Town Clerk introduced the members of the newly proposed Youth Council and Ms Michelle Harland to Councillors.

Members were informed that a meeting had taken place a week prior with two Town Councillors present as well as Officers. The young people had put forward various ideas they had in relation to the Town Council events. One suggestion put forward was for a family only no alcohol area on the Terrace Green as at the previous Carnival families with young children had to leave due to other people's alcohol consumption. Members agreed they thought that this was a good idea. Other ideas included using the Town Hall more in the colder months for community events, extending the Armed Forces Day to a two day event the second day being used for youth events. Having more fire eaters at the Fireworks Display to cover Terrace Green and in front of Asda as well as possibly having bands before and after the fireworks. The group also suggested holding a fashion show at the Carnival as well as wanting to be involved in the organising of the Pirates and Princesses event. Ms Harland stated that the Youth Council were also keen to hold their own coastal festival/art festival to which the Heritage Coast are very supportive of and will provide funding for. The Youth Council were informed that they would need non-financial support for this to take place from Durham County Council and Seaham Town Council so they are able to attract funding. Members agreed in principle to offer support to the Youth Council for them to return to a further meeting to inform the Town Council of their ideas.

RECOMMENDED that the Youth Council return to a future meeting with their ideas for events.

2. **SEAHAM BICENTENARY EVENT 2028**

It was discussed that the Town Council should be responsible for this event, however felt that it was too early to open discussions regarding this event. Members agreed that the Deputy Town Clerk should meet with the person who wrote in suggesting the event takes place and take note of any ideas this person may have. Members agreed that this event should be revisited in approximately four years' time.

RECOMMENDED that:

- (i) The Deputy Town Clerk to arrange a meeting to discuss this with the person who wrote into the Council suggesting an event takes place.

- (ii) This item to be brought back to Parks and Events Committee in 2023.

3. WAVE SCULPTURE

The Deputy Town Clerk stated that the sculpture is not practical in its current form and may take 1-2 years to complete. This may also need external funding. The Deputy Town Clerk will report back to this Committee when he has further updates.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

4. TRAIN STATION UNDERPASS LIGHTS

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that the lights were originally installed by Network Rail but the idea was that Durham County Council would adopt the lights but this wasn't followed through by Network Rail. Network Rail and Durham County Council are now in discussions regarding this matter. A Member stated that Seaham Town Council should not be involved in these discussions as it is not the responsibility of Seaham Town Council. The Deputy Town Clerk stated that the Town Council were only involved due to the amount of complaints received from local residents.

A Member also requested that Network Rail be asked to clean up the land next to the underpass.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

5. NEW DRIVE FENCING PROPOSAL

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that a site meeting with some Members had taken place on 26th February, 2019. Members on site agreed to secure the area to the perimeter of the site. A discussion took place around what type of fencing should be purchased. It was agreed by Members to use the prison style fencing as this would be more difficult to damage. It was proposed that the area which had been highlighted in red should be fenced as soon as possible to prevent any further dog fouling and the areas highlighted in yellow should be fenced in the next financial year.

RECOMMENDED that:

- (i) The prison style fencing to be the preferred option.
- (ii) The area on the plan highlighted in red to be fenced as soon as possible to prevent further dog fouling.

6. **SEAHAM CARNIVAL 19TH, 20TH & 21ST JULY, 2019**

Members were issued with three quotes for the toilets for the Carnival. A Member raised an issue regarding the disabled toilet and the higher premium for hiring the disabled toilet. The Deputy Town Clerk was requested to go back to the company to query the price. Members agreed that I.P. Toilet Hire would be the preferred supplier.

Discussion took place around the siting of the portable toilets and Members suggested they should be moved away from the residential area. A Member suggested that the toilet hire company should be contacted to see if they could screen the toilets so this would not affect local residents.

RECOMMENDED that the Deputy Town Clerk contacts the toilet hire company to query the price for the disabled toilet and also to see if they could provide screening.

7. **PIRATES AND PRINCESSES FESTIVAL 25TH AUGUST 2019 – TERRACE GREEN**

A Member noted that the Youth Council could contribute ideas to the organising of this event along with the existing partners

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

8. **SEAHAM FOOD FESTIVAL 7TH, 8TH & 9TH JUNE 2019 – TERRACE GREEN**

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that the organisers of the Food Festival may be creating a park and ride service from Spectrum Park. He noted that if this is successful that Town Council could also look at this for their own events.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

9. **SEAHAM BRASS FESTIVAL 16TH JUNE 2019 1.00PM – 5.30PM – TERRACE GREEN & CHURCH STREET**

The bands which are taking part to date are Trimdon, Pittington and Houghton. The bands will be playing in Church Street as well as on the Terrace Green.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

10. **ARMED FORCES DAY 29TH JUNE 2019 11.00AM-7.00PM SEAHAM TOWN PARK**

Mr Dave McKenna gave Members a short update on the organisation to date. This will be the 8th Armed Forces event in Seaham and this year the event will be held back in the Town Park. Mr McKenna also noted that on the 6th June, 2019 it will be the 100th anniversary of D Day and this date will not go unnoticed.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

11. **CELEBRATION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE ROYAL ARMOURED CORP – TERRACE GREEN 4TH APRIL 2019**

The Royal Armoured Corp are seeking approval to use the Terrace Green on the 4th April, 2019 for a photo shoot as part of a country wide campaign.

RECOMMENDED that the use of the Terrace Green on the 4th April, 2019 be approved.

12. **WINTER EVENTS**

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that he was working on the winter events programme which includes Beating the Retreat, Fireworks Display and the Christmas Lights. Any further updates will be brought to this meeting.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

13. **LAND AGREEMENTS AND COSTS OF SITES**

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk had visited the sites previously mentioned and had been extracting data to show the costs of maintenance of these sites. The Deputy Town Clerk stated that he was hopeful to bring this information to the next meeting for Members perusal. He was also hopeful that this would aid the completion of the sports and allotment agreements.

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information.

14. **RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

RECOMMENDED Members note the information being provided.

PE16/19 **WESTLEA NURSERY**

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that Westlea Nursery children had visited the Town Hall and has wished to meet the Mayor but unfortunately she was unwell. The Nursery staff informed the Deputy Town Clerk that on the 24th April, it will be the 50th Anniversary of the school opening. The Deputy Town Clerk suggested that it would be a good gesture for the Town Council to provide some floral arrangements for the entrance of the school as part of their anniversary celebrations. Members discussed this and suggested that the Deputy Town Clerk should contact Durham County Council for their approval and to go ahead if they approve. It was also noted that this gesture should also be extended to other schools in Seaham in the event of them celebrating an anniversary.

RECOMMENDED that the Deputy Town Clerk seeks approval from Durham County Council to place a floral arrangement at the school entrance.

PE17/19 **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.