

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 1st DECEMBER, 2020

Present: Councillors S Cudlip (Chair) and R Arthur, E Bell, Mrs J A Bell, Mrs K Brace, S P Colborn, Mrs S Forster, Ms R M Gratton, G N Hepworth, Mrs L Kennedy, D McKenna, T Shepherd, B Taylor, Miss L Willis.

Officers: P Fletcher (Deputy Town Clerk), Mrs J Knight (Finance Officer), Miss 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.

PL99/20 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.

PL100/20 ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED that Members accept the amendment to the standing orders to incorporate the new regulations from the Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, to conduct virtual Council meetings.

PL101/20 PLANNING ISSUES

a) Monthly List

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information provided.

b) Bypass on the Incline

The Deputy Town Clerk updated Members with the further correspondence that he had received from Durham County Council. There is an ongoing problem due to a cable break and the train line would have to be closed down to look at the problem.

It was noted that some bulbs may be able to be replaced if they worked on a different cable but this has not been clarified as yet and could not be guaranteed to work.

maintenance work starting in mid December and it was requested that the Deputy Town Clerk corresponds with Network Rail to see if this matter can be looked into as part of the maintenance work.

A Member also raised the issue around the tidying of vegetation around the train station area. The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that this item was mentioned in the correspondence received from Durham County Council and noted that Network Rail are looking to carry out a tidy up of the area.

RECOMMENDED that the Deputy Town Clerk contacts Network Rail to request that they look into the problem with the cable whilst they are carrying out track maintenance in Mid-December.

c) **Tree Planting – Norton Avenue, Northlea**

RECOMMENDED that Members note the information provided.

PL102/20 **CHURCH STREET, GREEN STREET AND SOUTH TERRACE, SEAHAM**
ORDER FOR THE PROHIBITION OF VEHICLES EXCEPT FOR PERMIT
HOLDERS

Members noted that in recent times there has been more and more vehicles in Church Street which is a pedestrian area. Members agreed that Seaham Town Council should offer their support to Durham County Council on this matter.

RECOMMENDED that the Deputy Town Clerk responds to Durham County Council to agree to their proposal and offer the Town Councils full support.

PL103/20 **PRESS OPPORTUNITIES**

RECOMMENDED that there were no press opportunities from this meeting.

The meeting was then closed by the Chair.