



**BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 12 December 2023 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, NE24 2AS.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** K Nisbet (Chair), A Barrass (Vice-Chair), A Cartie, B Erskine, C Humphrey, J R Potts, J Reid, M Richardson, M Robson, S Stanger, W Taylor, and A Watson

**Also Present:** D Carr

**Officers:** J Hughes, Town Clerk, M Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk, D Clough, General Services Officer

**Invited Guests: 0                      Members of the Public: 0**

| <b>Minute No</b> |   |
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| <b>1</b>         | <b>Apologies for Absence</b><br><br>Councillors: C Jones  |
| <b>2</b>         | <b>Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations</b><br><br>None   |
| <b>3</b>         | <b>Minutes of the previous Environment Committee</b><br><br>The minutes of this Committee held on the 21 September were agreed as a true record at Council on the 12 October 2023, with the following amendment.<br><br>Item 6 should add that the proposal was agreed. |

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| <p><b>4</b></p> | <p><b>Actions arising from previous Minutes.</b></p> <p>The comments re NCC were noted re the future use of the Skate Park at the Isabella and Officers will look at potential other uses for this site once the new facility is opened.</p>   |
| <p><b>5</b></p> | <p><b>Environment Budget Monitoring Report</b></p> <p>Members noted the content of the report.</p>   |
| <p><b>6</b></p> | <p><b>Memorial Bench</b></p> <p>Members resolved to agree that former Councillor R Parker purchase a bench, from the Council, to commemorate his late wife Margaret Parker who was a Town Councillor and past Mayor.</p> <p>Officers were asked also to ensure that two benches including the memorial bench were available for the use of the public as it is a popular place to sit.</p>   |
| <p><b>7</b></p> | <p><b>Axwell Drive Play Area</b></p> <p>It was agreed that a consultation be carried out as to re locating the new play area planned for construction during 2024/25. Officers were asked to start the consultation process with immediate effect and that the scheme could commence as soon as possible given the Budget underspend for 2023/24. It is hoped the tendering arrangements can be started in January with a view to appointing a contractor in March. A start date will be agreed after the appointment when equipment is available.</p> |
| <p><b>8</b></p> | <p><b>Partnership Agreement</b></p> <p>After a lengthy discussion, where Members expressed their concerns, it was agreed to extend the present agreement for 1 year and to work closely with NCC for efficiencies and improvement.</p>   |
| <p><b>9</b></p> | <p><b>Budget</b></p> <p>The proposed Budget was agreed for onward submission to the Governance Committee.</p>  |

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| <b>10</b> | <p><b>Delegated Actions Report</b></p> <p>None to report.</p>  |
| <b>11</b> | <p><b>Enforcement</b></p> <p>Members noted the previously circulated information.</p>  |
| <b>12</b> | <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>There was no other business.</p>   |
| <b>13</b> | <p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House on Thursday 22 February 2024. Allotment holder question time starts at 6.00pm and the Committee will commence directly following.</p>                                |
| <b>14</b> | <p><b>Part II</b></p> <p>Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.</p> <p>No items discussed.</p> |

**Members of the Environment Committee**

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| K Nisbet (Chair)       | J Reid       |
| A Barrass (Vice-Chair) | M Richardson |
| A Cartie               | M Robson     |
| B Erskine              | S Stanger    |
| C Humphrey             | W Taylor     |
| C Jones                | A Watson     |
| J R Potts              |              |