



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL held at 6.20 pm on Thursday 12 May 2022 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Blyth, NE24 2AS.

Present:

Councillors: M Richardson (Mayor), J R Potts (Deputy Mayor), D Carr, A Cartie, G Davey, S Davey, B Erskine, C Humphrey, C Jones, K Nisbet, J Reid, M Robson, S Stanger, W Taylor and A Watson

Officers:

Joseph Hughes Town Clerk
Malcolm Wilkinson Deputy Town Clerk

Members of the Public: 2

Min No	
1	<p>Election of the Mayor</p> <p>Councillor Richardson, the current Mayor, said that it has been an honour and a privilege to hold the position of Mayor of Blyth over the past year and outlined some of her duties and attendance at various events. Councillor Richardson also mentioned the 60th anniversary of the charter with our Twin Town in Germany and the need to update it. The duties and events included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decommissioning ceremony of HMS Blyth at Rosyth.• Opening of the Man Shed.• Library book reading.• Bishop's garden party.• Various church events including All Churches together.• Iftar Dinner Ramadan.• Barnard Castle – Festival of Colour.• Various Mayor's Charity Balls.• Briardale Centre unveiling of plaque.• BME women's event.

	<p>Councillor Nisbet nominated Councillor Taylor for the position of Mayor of Blyth Town Council. This was seconded by Councillor J Reid.</p> <p>Councillor Taylor thanked members for electing him as Mayor. He then presented Councillor Richardson with her Past Mayor's medal and thanked her on behalf of the members and residents for all her hard work for the town during the last year.</p>														
2	<p>Receive the Mayor's Declaration of Acceptance of Office</p> <p>Councillor Taylor signed the declaration of acceptance office.</p>														
3	<p>Election of Deputy Mayor</p> <p>Councillor Taylor nominated Councillor Nisbet as Deputy Mayor. This was seconded by Councillor M Richardson and the motion was carried.</p> <p>Councillor Nisbet thanked the Council for the opportunity to be Deputy Mayor.</p>														
4	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Councillors: A Barrass</p>														
5	<p>Disclosure of Interests and the Grant of any Dispensations</p> <p>None.</p>														
6 a	<p>To appoint representatives of Outside Bodies</p> <table> <tr> <td>NALC</td> <td>Councillor J R Potts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disabled Forum</td> <td>Councillor A Watson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friends of Ridley Park</td> <td>Councillor S Davey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Young People</td> <td>Councillor A Cartie</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BRIC</td> <td>Councillor K Nisbet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Strategy</td> <td>Councillors K Nisbet/W Taylor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Heart of Blyth</td> <td>Councillor A Watson</td> </tr> </table> <p>To appoint 4 Blyth Town Councillors to the Blyth Town Forum</p> <p>Councillors: A Cartie, G Davey, J R Potts, W Taylor</p>	NALC	Councillor J R Potts	Disabled Forum	Councillor A Watson	Friends of Ridley Park	Councillor S Davey	Young People	Councillor A Cartie	BRIC	Councillor K Nisbet	Cultural Strategy	Councillors K Nisbet/W Taylor	Heart of Blyth	Councillor A Watson
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<p>6 b</p>	<p>Town Deal</p> <p>Councillor Taylor is the BTC representative.</p>
<p>6c</p>	<p>7</p> <p>To appoint members to the Committees for the next Municipal Year</p> <p>Councillor Reid moved an amendment to the recommendation outlined in the decision report so “that all Committees of the Council have all members on the Committee”. Councillor Jones seconded this motion.</p> <p>A voted was taken and the proposed motion was not carried.</p> <p>Councillor Taylor reminded Councillors that the Council had a commitment to review Governance arrangements, and this would be considered when the review takes place.</p>

7.1 Committee Membership					
Standing Committee	Total	Lab.	Con.	Lib Dem	
Environment (includes Allotments/Partnership etc)	13				
Community Development (includes Planning/Community Grants/Community Events etc)	13				
Governance (includes Strategic Priorities/Budgets/Staff/Complaints etc)	13				
Total	39	24	10	5	
Proportion %	100 %	62.5 %	25 %	12.5 %	
Labour need to allocate to Committees – 24 members Conservatives need to allocate to Committees - 10 Lib/Dem need to allocate to Committees – 5					
Sub Committees					
Complaints & Grievance (Governance)	10				
Planning (Community Development)	10				
Staff (Governance)	10				
Community Funding (Community Development)	10				
Total	40	25	10	5	
Proportion %	100	62.5	25	12.5	
Labour need to allocate – 24 members Conservatives need to allocate – 10 members Lib/Dem need to allocate – 5 members					
Working Groups e.g. Events/Partnership					
All members can attend working groups (any recommendations of a working group need appropriate Standing Committee Approval).					

<p>8</p>	<p>The following provision shall only apply to the Complaints and Grievance Panel</p> <p><i>"Where any member of the Committee is unable to attend a scheduled meeting of that body, for a reasonable reason, then a representative of that political group (if any), to which that member belongs, may, by written notice to the proper officer at any time before the day of the meeting in question, authorise the proper officer to make a change to the standing appointments of the committee to substitute an alternative member for the duration of that meeting."</i></p>
<p>9</p>	<p><i>NB Councillors appointed to Committees shall so act until the next Annual Meeting of the Council or until they cease to be a Town Councillor or they are removed by a resolution of the Council.</i></p> <p>The Council then stood adjourned for a short period to enable the Committees to elect their respective Chairs and Vice-Chairs.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Community Development Committee Meeting to be held after Agenda Item 9 to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>Councillor J R Potts nominated Councillor Cartie as Chair of the Community Development Committee and Councillor Taylor as Vice-Chair. This was seconded by numerous other Councillors.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Environment Committee Meeting to be held at the rising of the Community Development Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>Councillor J R Potts nominated Councillor Nisbet as Chair of the Environment Committee and Councillor Richardson as the Vice-Chair. This was seconded by numerous other Councillors.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Governance Committee Meeting to be held at the rising of the Environment Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>Councillor J R Potts nominated himself as Chair of the Governance Committee with Councillor Taylor as Vice-Chair. This was seconded by numerous other Councillors.</p>

<p>13</p>	<p>Community Funding Sub Committee to be held at rising of the Governance Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee (Community Development) will be the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Community Funding Sub Committee.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Complaints and Grievance Sub Committee Meeting to be held at rising of the Community Funding Sub Committee Meeting to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee (Governance) will be the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Complaints and Grievance Sub-Committee.</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Planning & Development Sub Committee Meeting to be held at rising of the Complaints and Grievance Sub Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>Councillor J R Potts nominated himself as Chair of Planning & Development Sub Committee and Councillor Cartie as Vice-Chair. This was seconded by numerous other Coucillors.</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>Staff Sub Committee Meeting to be held at rising of the Planning & Development Sub Committee to elect the Chair and Vice- Chair</p> <p>The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee (Governance) will be the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Staff Sub Committee.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Events Working Group to be held at rising of the Staff Sub Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair.</p> <p>Councillor Potts proposed that if a Committee sets up a working group the Chair and Vice-Chair of the parent Committee will be Chair and Vice Chair of the Working Group. This was seconded by numerous other Councillors.</p> <p>All Councillors can participate in Working Groups.</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Partnership Working Group to be held at rising of Events Working Group Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p> <p>Councillor Potts proposed that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee (Environment) will be Chair and Vice-Chair of</p>

	<p>the Partnership Working Group. This was seconded by numerous other Councillors.</p> <p>All Councillors can participate in Working Groups.</p>
19	<p>The Council Resumed</p> <p>Council agreed to adopt the minutes of:</p> <p>a) Full Council held on Thursday 13 January 2022 b) Special Full Council on Thursday 24 February 2022 c) Special Full Council Tuesday 15 March 2022</p>
20	<p>Council noted the following Minutes of the Community Development Committee as a true record:</p> <p>a) Community Development Committee held on Tuesday 8 February 2022 b) Special Community Development Committee held on Thursday 17 February 2022 c) Special Community Development Committee held on Tuesday 15 March 2022 d) Special Community Development Committee held on Thursday 21 April 2022</p> <p>Minutes of the Community Funding Sub Committee</p> <p>e) Minutes of the Community Funding Sub Committee held on Tuesday 1 February 2022 f) Minutes of the Special Community Funding Sub Committee held on Thursday 21 April 2022</p> <p>Minutes of the Planning & Development Sub Committee</p> <p>There have been no Planning & Development Sub Committee Meetings</p>
21	<p>Council noted the Environment Committee Minutes (Part I&II) held on 25 February 2021 as a true record</p> <p>a) Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Thursday 24 February 2022 b) Minutes of the Special Environment Committee held on Tuesday 3 May 2022</p>

	<p>Council noted the following minutes of the Partnership Working Group as a true record:</p> <p>c) PWG held on 17 February 2022 d) PWG held on 19 April 2022</p>
22	<p>Council note the following minutes of the Governance Committee as a true record:</p> <p>To consider the recommendations from the Special Governance Committee held on Thursday 12 May 2022.</p>
23	<p>Register of Interests</p> <p>To remind Councillors of the need to regularly review and revise their personal Declarations of Interest.</p>
24	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Members were asked to inform the Town Clerk which school they wished to be involved with in the presentation of medals.</p>
25	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Council on Thursday 21 July 2022, 6.00 pm at Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House.</p>
26	<p>PART II</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>

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor M Richardson (Mayor)
Councillor J R Potts (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor A Barrass
Councillor D Carr
Councillor A Cartie

Councillor G Davey
Councillor S Davey
Councillor B Erskine
Councillor C Humphrey
Councillor C Jones
Councillor K Nisbet
Councillor J Reid
Councillor M Robson
Councillor S Stanger
Councillor W Taylor
Councillor A Watson