



Barnard Castle Town Council

Town Clerk: Martin Clark
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FULL COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby **summoned** to attend the meeting of Barnard Castle Town Council to be held in the **Dawson Room, Woodleigh on Monday 16 September 2024 at 6.00 p.m.** The meeting will consider the items of business listed below.

***Public Participation 6.00 – 6.15pm**

Members of the public are invited to speak on any matters contained within the agenda*. Following this period members of the public can remain but cannot speak further on any agenda item unless invited by the Chair.

TOWN CLERK
6 September 2024

AGENDA

35. ACCEPTANCE OR OTHERWISE OF APOLOGIES
36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
37. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
38. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 15 JANUARY 2024
39. EN BLOC ITEMS
40. UPDATES & REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES
41. REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES
42. NEWGATE NOISE GROUP
43. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2023/24
44. AVIATION DAY AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
45. ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOG FOULING WORKING GROUP
46. TEESDALE CANCER RESEARCH/TURNING BARNEY PINK

* Questions must be submitted in writing to the Clerk prior to the meeting and must refer to items on the published agenda. The Public Participation policy can be found on the council website: <https://barnardcastletowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/BCTC-Public-Participation-Procedure.pdf>

¹ Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, recording of the meeting by any person is permitted. Those filming or otherwise recording the meeting should respect the rights of other members of the public attending and should not disrupt the meeting.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
16 SEPTEMBER 2024**

DAWSON ROOM, WOODLEIGH

6:00 P.M.

DETAILED AGENDA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD - 6.00pm to 6.15pm

A question has been submitted by Mr Ian Kirkbride:

What are the Town Council's thoughts on DCC's and the local Police's response to recently-reported fly-tipping incidents.

35. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE OF APOLOGIES

Cllr Thompson has submitted his apologies.

Recommendation – That the submitted apologies be approved.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal, pecuniary, or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

37. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

38. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (ENCLOSED)

(1) 17 June 2024

(2) 31 July 2024 (Extraordinary)

Recommendation – That the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

39. EN BLOC ITEMS

This is a report arising from the decision at Minute 72/Aug/04 to amalgamate a number of agenda items so that the accompanying recommendations can be moved 'en bloc'. Any Member has a right to speak on any of the listed items, but it is hoped that discussion can be kept to a minimum.

The items included in the report are as follows:

(1) Partnership Committee – 01 July 2024 – (Draft)

(2) Services Committee – 24 June (Special) & 15 July 2024 (draft)

(3) Resources Committee – 02 September (draft)

(4) Town Mayor Activities

Since the Council meeting on the 17 June 2024, the Town Mayor accompanied by Consort, Mr Chris Cain has attended the following:

23 June – Barnard Castle Classic Car Show (consort)
03 July – Fabulous Floral Exhibition (Witham)
08 July – Relaunch of Dog Foul Campaign
03 September – Merchant Navy Day (with Deputy Mayor)
12 September – Deerbolt (Medal presentation)

Recommendation – That the draft committee meeting minutes, and Mayoral activity be received and noted.

40. UPDATES AND REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES

From the meetings outlined above at item 39 the following updates are noted:

(1) Partnership Committee meeting

No referrals.

(2) Services Committee

No referrals

(3) Resources Committee

No referrals

41. REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES

The Councils representative on each relevant body can make a verbal update at the meeting.

- (1) Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum - (Cllr Turnbull)**
- (2) Larger Local Councils Forum – (Clerk & Cllr Foote-Wood)**
- (3) The Witham Hall Ltd (Cllr Ing as Town Mayor)**
- (4) Dawson Cottages Trust (Cllrs Ewart & McLean)**
- (5) St Mary's Barnard Castle Hall Association (Cllr Connelly)**
- (6) Cultura Trust/Raby (Cllr Drew)**

Recommendation – That the information be received.

42. NEWGATE NOISE GROUP

Submitted – Newgate Early Morning traffic survey (Residents).

Roz Evans from the group will be in attendance to discuss the survey findings.

43. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2023/24

Pursuant to Minute 28/June/24 (b)(c) and the Council's approval of Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement) and Section 2 (Accounting Statements), the Annual Return, together with all additional supporting documentation, were duly submitted to the Council's External Auditor, Mazars LLP, Durham, by the agreed date.

As the Council's income and/or expenditure for 2023/24 was over the £200,000 threshold, an 'Intermediate Audit' was required in support of the External Audit.

There were no material matters affecting the opinion.

Recommendation – That the information is received and noted.

44. TEESDALE AVIATION DAY AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

(i) Aviation Day

The 29th Teesdale Aviation Day Service will take place on Tuesday 24th September 2024 in the Galgate Gardens of Remembrance at 11.00am to be followed with refreshments in the Dawson Room at Woodleigh. All members are welcome to attend.

(ii) Remembrance Sunday

Preparations for the Remembrance Sunday Service and parade on Sunday 10 November are well underway. Members will receive an email with the detailed arrangements nearer the time but are encouraged to advise the office in advance of their attendance.

The Town Mayor will lay a wreath and observe a two minute silence at the Garden of Remembrance (Galgate) on Monday 11th November to mark Armistice Day.

Recommendation - (a) That the information be noted; and (b) That members advise the office in advance of their attendance.

45. ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOG FOULING WORKING GROUP

To establish a working group that will look to organise a Dog Day and to continue to look at ways to promote anti dog fouling in the town. That the working group report to the Services Committee.

Terms Of Reference

Membership: This working group shall consist of any members of the council, external advisers as required, and members of the public.

Responsibilities: To explore the potential of holding a 'dog day' in Barnard Castle, and make recommendations on policy and service delivery options relating to the prevention of dog fouling matters.

Reporting: The working group will report to the Services Committee.

Delegated Authority: None – recommendations from working group to be reported to Services Committee.

Financial Authority: None – reporting any potential spend from within designated budget to relevant Services Committee meeting for approval.

Recommendation – (a) To approve the establishment of a Dog Fouling Working Group; (b) That the terms of reference are agreed; and (c) That the working group report to the Services Committee.

46. TEESDALE CANCER RESEARCH/TURNING BARNEY PINK

A request has been received from Teesdale Cancer Research for permission to put pink bunting around the memorial garden perimeter (Galgate) from 28 September to 12 October.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

31 JULY 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Ing (Town Mayor), Turnbull, Blake, Chatterjee, Ewart, McLean & Connelly

Officers: Mr Clark (Town Clerk) & Miss Atkinson (RFO)

31. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE OF APOLOGIES

Cllr's Thompson, Foote-Wood and Drew submitted their apologies. No apologies were received from Cllr Bigge.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be approved.

32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members were asked whether they had any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members were reminded that a declaration could be given later in the meeting if a need arose during discussion. No declarations were made.

33. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (IN RESPECT OF ITEM 34)

Resolved – That, under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 §1(2), the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the matters referred to at item 34 below, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

34. WOODLEIGH OFFICES

Following a confidential approach by Barclays Bank the council were asked to consider allowing them to offer a cashless facility from its Woodleigh Office.

Resolved – (a) That the information be received and noted; (b) That approval be given for Barclays Bank PLC to operate from the ground floor of Woodleigh on Monday's between 09.45am to 16.15pm from 9th September; and (c) That the Barclays in the Community Agreement be signed by Cllr Paul Ing (Town Mayor) on behalf of the Town Council.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

17 JUNE 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Ing (Town Mayor), Turnbull, Foote-Wood, Blake, Drew, Chatterjee, & Connelly.

Officers: Mr Clark (Town Clerk) & Miss Atkinson (RFO)

Others: Teesdale Mercury

21. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE OF APOLOGIES

Cllr's Thompson, Ewart and McLean submitted their apologies. No apologies were received from Cllr Bigge.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be approved.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members were asked whether they had any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members were reminded that a declaration could be given later in the meeting if a need arose during discussion. No declarations were made.

23. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cllr Ing thanked members for nominated his as Mayor. He informed those present that as Mayor he intends to attend all committee meetings but would not stand as Chair, or Deputy Chair on any.
- Will be attending the Barnard Castle Classic Car show on 23rd June.
- Is involved in a personal capacity with a survey on lorries passing through Newgate.

24. council meeting minutes

(i) 13 May 2024

Resolved – That the minutes be accepted as being a true and accurate record.

25. EN BLOC ITEMS

This is a report arising from the decision at Minute 72/Aug/04 to amalgamate a number of agenda items so that the accompanying recommendations can be moved 'en bloc'. Any Member has a right to speak on any of the listed items, but it is hoped that discussion can be kept to a minimum.

The items included in the report were as follows:

(1) Resources Committee – 03 June 2024 – Draft minutes

(2) Town Mayor Activities

Since the Council meeting on the 13 May 2024, the Town Mayor accompanied by Consorts, Miss Ellie Walker Ing, and Miss Claudia Talbot has attended the following:

24 May Morritt Hotel Garage & Spa

29 May Barnard Castle Meet with Miss Walker Ing

06 June D-Day 80 Commemoration (international Tribute) with Miss Talbot

Resolved – That the draft committee meeting minutes, and Mayoral activity be received and noted.

26. UPDATES, AND REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES

From the meetings outlined above at item 79 the following updates are noted:

(1) Resources Committee meeting – 03 June 2024

Further to the meeting of the Resources Committee the draft Risk Register (submitted) be recommended to full council.

Resolved – That the information be received and noted.

27. REPRESENTATIONS WITH EXTERNAL BODIES

(1) Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum - (Cllr Turnbull)

Next meeting in July post Appleby migration. The two forums have now been amalgamated.

(2) Larger Local Councils Forum – (Clerk & Cllr Foote-Wood)

No meetings.

(3) The Witham Hall Ltd (Cllr Ing as Town Mayor)

No meetings.

(4) Dawson Cottages Trust (Cllrs Ewart & McLean)

In the absence of Cllr's Ewart and McLean, Cllr Ing updated members – full occupancy and upgrades to properties in Brough being carried out. Looking to raise funds to carry out further refurbishments.

(5) St Mary's Barnard Castle Hall Association (Cllr Connelly)

Continuing upgrades and looking at costs for the works.

(6) Cultura Trust/Raby (Cllr Drew)

No meeting but they are concluding contracts with Historic England that will release funding for works on the outer wall. A meeting is expected within the next couple of weeks.

28. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2023/24

Received – (i) Conclusion of 2023/24 Internal Audit & Internal auditor report

(ii) Members to approve of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2023/24.

Resolved – a) That the Internal Auditor report for 2023/24 is noted;

(b) Section 1 of the 2023/24 AGAR is approved; and

(c) Section 2 of the 2023/24 AGAR is approved.

29. FRANK HARRISON MEMORIAL BENCH

Cllr Turnbull informed members of the chosen location for the memorial bench – Lower Demesnes, overlooking the river.

The Clerk explained that the bench, plaque, ground fixings and delivery amounted to £532.50. The wording on the plaque would need to be discussed with Mrs Harrison.

Resolved – That the council purchase the memorial bench at a cost of £532.50 from the Grounds Maintenance Ear Marked Reserve.

30. STREET FOOD MARKET

Received – Vision for a Street Food Market in Barnard Castle proposed by Baccanalia & Bridge Creative.

Following a full and frank debate of having a street food market in Barnard Castle, the main concerns requiring clarification were - where it would be situated; how to deal with parking and increased footfall; what positive financial impact did Bishop Auckland see from having the market, and how local businesses would view this. It was resolved to explore things further before bring it back to the council to consider the options, including finance contributions.

Resolved – That the Clerk explore in more detail the implications of having a street food market and refer back to the council in due course.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

1 JULY 2024

PRESENT: Councillor's Chatterjee, Foote-Wood, Ewart, Turnbull & Connelly, Ing (Town Mayor), Vicky Sturrs (Bowes Museum), Jonathan Wallis (BCCL), & Kelly Ewing (TCR).

Officers: Mr M. Clark (Town Clerk)

Others: Teesdale Mercury

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted by Cllr Thompson. No apologies were received from Cllr Bigge, the Witham representative or The Barnard Castle Meet.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024-25

Cllr Chatterjee was nominated for Chair. No other nominations were proposed.

Resolved – That Cllr Chatterjee be appointed the Partnership Committee Chair for the municipal year 2024/25.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024-25

Cllr Turnbull was nominated for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were proposed.

Resolved – That Cllr Turnbull be appointed the Partnership Committee Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2024/25.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

5. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 29 APRIL 2024 – MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

6. THE BOWES MUSEUM UPDATE

Award-winning

TBM Café won Café/Restaurant of the Year at the National Museum and Heritage Awards. This was a public vote and very hotly contested. We're thrilled for the team and have seen a further uplift in Café visitors which is great.

Visitor Figures

June visitor figures are 50% increased on previous year – positive as June is traditionally a quieter month for TBM. Annual visitor numbers are on track and encouraging thanks to regular membership and good tourist group visit performance.

Summer Market

The Summer Market ran 21-23 June. We're grateful to the 1400 visitors who came and enjoyed the market and all the traders and the musicians who performed, helping make it a fun and enjoyable weekend. We're aware of mixed feedback online, in particular regarding the price point for the event. Members will appreciate that planning and setting up an event of the scale of the Summer Market takes a considerable amount of time and

resources. As a charity, entry fees to events like the Summer Market help cover our costs for organising the event while also contributing to the broader work of The Bowes Museum, including caring for the collection and creating learning and engagement programmes. However, we will take this feedback on board and, along with internal evaluation processes, use it as a way to develop and improve this, and similar events.

Journey to Accessibility

Following successful funding of £974,673 from the Museum and Estate Development Fund, work is underway to improve car parking facilities and visitor access at The Bowes Museum.

The Meldrum Group are employed to improve levelling for access, increase parking capacity, resurface and install low level lighting for safety. EV chargers will also be installed as part of the Museum's commitment to environmental responsibility.

Multiple parking contingency plans utilise the organisation's own grounds to accommodate busy days. The works are scheduled to finish ahead of schedule next week.

Exhibitions

Stories in Stitch

18th May – 29th September 2024

Stories in Stitch our newest textiles show opened in our Fashion and Textile Gallery. An eclectic collection of rarely seen samplers and embroidered pictures dating from the 17th to the 20th centuries, this one-of-a-kind display shows different representative styles of stitching side by side for the first time and explores the development and popularity of domestic embroidery in Britain. It's a must-see display for lovers of textiles and history. Items from The Bowes Museum's collection have been brought out of storage after decades and some have never been on show before, making this an exclusive opportunity for sewing enthusiasts to see more of the Museum's textile collection up close. Loans from private collections complement the display and offer a moment for visitors to compare, discuss and appreciate the skills and techniques of amateur makers as young as 11, to the work of professionals, in this unique presentation. A highlight of the display includes the work of Mary Linwood, an artist with an international reputation. From the late 1770s, Linwood produced 'needle paintings', embroidered pictures copied from Old Masters and contemporary British artists such as Joshua Reynolds, Thomas Gainsborough and John Russell. Drawing inspiration from work she owned or saw on show at public exhibitions or in private collections, Linwood used crewel wool and silk highlights to produce images in long and short and satin stitches, imitating brush strokes.

Kith and Kinship: Norman Cornish and L S Lowry

20 July 2024 – 19 January 2025

Over 50 paintings, drawings and sketches by artists Norman Cornish and L S Lowry will be showcased at The Bowes Museum from 20 July 2024 – 19 January 2025. This major new exhibition includes 35 rarely or previously unseen artworks by the artists who shared a strong love of the north which was the focus of so much of their work, and who have a history of exhibiting together.

A powerful range of artworks will showcase the traditional and familiar industrial scenes often associated with the area. However, the exhibition also gives a unique insight into a wider, and different, story of the north: the everyday warmth, connection and community – often borne out of the adversity and challenges of harsh industrialisation – that was present in everyday life. It foregrounds the sparks of joy and light where people found a

deeper connection with others, from large gatherings to more intimate moments gossiping on street corners. It is this interplay between work and community, and finding beautiful stolen moments in daily life, which gives the exhibition its title 'Kith and Kinship'.

We're lead-hosts for national press at two separate events for this, including one that supports a wider piece of work connecting across the region to Redhills and Beamish. The exhibition is also supplemented by a talks programme running monthly and starting in August.

Events

Member's Event

6 July 2024

An exclusive opportunity for members to explore newly created, accessible storage spaces.

Join one of our Curators for an informal tour of the Museum's ceramic, furniture and textiles collection vaults to discover more about the rarely seen objects.

Tour times: 10:30 – 11:30, 12:45 – 13:45, 14:45 – 15:45

Spaces are limited, booking is essential.

Summer Holidays 2024

Summer holidays at TBM are set to be brilliant fun!

We're running a programme of Artist-led workshops, parkland bug hunts and making events Tuesdays – Saturdays throughout the summer break. With activities for families, young people and adults there's lots to get creative with.

No booking required and free past the point of entry.

Visit the website <https://thebowesmuseum.org.uk/whats-on/> and watch social media for more information.

Cllr Turnbull asked about the back gate being closed during the market event, and not opened until the following morning.

The park area is free to roam unless the museum is holding a paid entry event. It needs to be locked, and will continue to be locked for paid entry events. The museum can lock the gate as no public right of way. It is opened again once traders have packed away. The issue of timing of opening the gate post any clear up from an event will be passed on. The museum wants to be as supportive as possible, and issues referred will be taken back..

Cllr Ing asked if the car park will attract a charge?

Everything is on the table, and everything being looked at. Conversations continue and no decisions have been made.

Cllr Ewart asked if the museum will look at charges for families and groups for events such as the market.

As part of any review these things are looked at. The £6.50 entry for the Summer Market did include entry to the museum. All feedback is welcome.

Resolved – That the update be received, and the information noted.

7. THE WITHAM UPDATE

No update was available.

8. THE TCR HUB UPDATE

Sarah Gent spoke to her report.

The TCR team have a new employee, Rebecca. Her role focuses on marketing the commercial elements of the TCR Hub such as public events, outdoor activities and accommodation. Any profits made from these bookings will go straight back into The Hub's community projects.

Outdoor Activities and Projects

At least two schools or organisations camping or staying every week until end of July.

Autistic adult groups, youth offenders, school DofE groups, school residentials, 20+ cyclists and more!

Veterans - lunches always full to capacity (40 a month), funding to continue until March 2025, with the hope of more funding to continue.

Community Lunch continues to attract more and more people with on average 16 people coming regularly, 12 of whom are provided transport to and from the Hub.

Duke of Edinburgh Activities

48 young people supported in 2024

30 hours of training young people since March

12 days of expeditions since start of May (3 still to come)

13 volunteers across those days

Locations included: Lake District, Swaledale and Wensleydale (Hadrian's Wall to come).

Youth Update

All youth groups are busy and growing with our new Trashion Club on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, they are creating their garments for the Trashion Show on 20th July.

School sessions are going well, focusing on mindfulness and wellbeing.

Just Cook are cooking their way through the menu of street foods from around the world, their favourite so far has been sushi, they had never tried it before so it was a surprise that they gobbled it all up!

Social Action have started designing a zine for the program of the Trashion Show, they have been interviewing the designers for the content.

SAFE had their Big Queer BBQ at the Witham on the 8th June, they had a great time in the sun.

Music Space are forming bands and meeting new friends with young people from Teesdale, Staindrop and some that are home schooled.

Gaming Club is still very popular with Jonny digging out his retro gaming consoles - they have enjoyed comparing them to the modern versions.

Training Update

Neurodiversity training

Advice in County Durham portal

Digital support and safeguarding

First Aid - staff training and duty management

Dates for Diary

Big Bang event - Saturday 29th June

Trashion Show: 20th July

Summer Gig: Saturday 17th August

Lights' Switch on and Lantern Parade: 29th November

Santa's Grotto: 14 & 15 December

Christmas Gig: 21st December

Resolved – That the information be received and noted.

9. BARNARD CASTLE CHRISTMAS LIGHT (BCCL)

Jonathan Wallis spoke to his report.

- June 23rd – Barnard Castle Classic and Retro Car Meet. A great success with approximately 175 cars in attendance. Thank you to the sponsors Harpers of Barnard Castle, McGarry & Co Solicitors and High force Scaffolding and also to Barnard Castle School for the use of the school free of charge. We are still waiting for final confirmation of how much money was raised but this is a great community event with contributions from the Clique, Teesdale Cancer Research, Barnard Castle Band
- Plans are in the process for other fundraising events including a race night, wine and cheese evening and of course Bonfire Night in November.

2024 Display

- Planning well underway with a committed budget the Committee have agreed to spend this calendar year on improvements for both the 2024 and future displays.
- There is a need for new agreements with property owners throughout the town to have the display mounted on their properties. BCCL will assist BCTC with this. Any help that can be given by Councillors in helping liaise with property owners will be appreciated.

Barnard Castle Town Council (BCTC) and Barnard Castle Christmas Lights Committee (BCCL)

- BCCL closely with BCTC to continue improving and investing in the annual display for the benefit of the town.
- It goes without saying that we are grateful to everyone that supports us, and the Christmas lights would not exist without this help and the generous financial donations given.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

10. BARNARD CASTLE MEET

No update was available.

11. D DAY 80 EVENT

(i) A short service of remembrance and wreath laying took place to mark D-day 80 at the Bowes Museum war memorial at 6.30am (H Hour) on 6 June. This marked the beginning of the day's events. The ceremony was attended by a small number of residents.

(ii) The Town Crier made proclamations at 8.00 and 10.30am (supported by Barnard Castle Combined Cadet Force. A WWII field kitchen was located on the grounds of Woodleigh. At 6.30pm the bells of St Mary's Church rang out, and at 9.15pm the International Tribute and lighting of the Lamps of Peace took place.

(ii) Particular thanks are extended to: Town Mayor (Cllr Paul Ing), Miss Claudia Talbot (Consort), Rev Canon Alec Harding, Rev Graham Cutler, Helen Scott (Bell Ringers), the Combined Cadet Force and staff of Barnard Castle School, Ian Kirkbride, Andrew Nicholson, Brian Gladstone, Pauline Clasper, Ruth Wright and the Bishop Auckland Pipe and Drum Band, Town Councillors, and all residents that attended.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and (b) That thanks be given to all businesses, organisations and individuals who played a part; and (c) Thanks to the council staff (Martin, Claire & Mark) for organising the events.

12. FORTHCOMING REMEMBRANCE EVENTS

(i) **Merchant Navy Day** – This will take place on Tuesday 3rd September.

(ii) **Teesdale Aviation Day** – This will take place on Tuesday 24th September.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

13. 200TH ANNIVERSARY STOCKTON & DARLINGTON RAILWAY

Cllr Foote-Wood informed the meeting of the idea to mark the celebration with a monument to the railway history of the town. A railway signal pole erected at the 'crossings' (opposite GSK) has been identified as the appropriate location. An information board will be located next to the monument.

To help with attracting funds the group will now be known as The Teesdale Railway History Group under the umbrella of The Friends of the Darlington & Stockton Railway group.

A request to relocate one of the four benches is being made to the town council.

Resolved – That the information be received and noted.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

24 JUNE 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Turnbull, Ewart, Blake, Connelly & Foote-Wood

Also in attendance: Cllr Paul Ing (Town Mayor ex officio).

Officers: Mr Clark (Town Clerk)

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted by Cllr's Chatterjee. No apologies were received from Cllr Bigge.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be approved.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024/25

Cllr Turnbull was nominated for Chair. No other nominations were proposed.

Resolved – That Cllr Turnbull be appointed the Services Committee Chair for the municipal year 2024/25.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024/25

Cllr Ewart was nominated for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were proposed.

Resolved – That Cllr Ewart be appointed the Vice-Chair of the Services Committee for the municipal year 2024/25.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

5. PLAY AREA REPAIRS

Received – Report on the required repairs

Members discussed the options within the report. It was agreed that health and safety requirements when maintaining the play areas remains a priority always.

Resolved – (i) That the Dawson Road play area quote from Park Lane Playgrounds for £2,495 be approved with the finance coming from the Play Area Future Provision and Repair EMR.

(ii) That the Green Lane play area quote from Park Lane Playgrounds for £2,800 be approved with the finance coming from the Play Area Future Provision and Repair EMR.

(iii) That the Bouch Way play area quote from Park Lane Playgrounds for £5,115 be approved with the finance coming from the Bouch Way Play Area EMR.

(iv) That additional funding is sourced to carry out future repairs and improvements.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

15 JULY 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Ewart, Blake, & Chatterjee

Also in attendance: Cllr Paul Ing (Town Mayor ex officio), Teesdale Mercury

Officers: Mr Clark (Town Clerk) & Miss Atkinson (RFO)

6. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted by Cllr's Turnbull, Connelley & Foote-Wood. No apologies were received from Cllr Bigge.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be approved.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

8. SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – 15 APRIL & 24 JUNE (SPECIAL) 2024

Resolved – That the minutes be approved as a true record.

9. ALLOTMENTS

(i) General Update

Since the Services Committee meeting in April 2024 three residents have been placed on the Parishioner waiting list. The waiting list stands at 21 Parishioners and the non-parishioner list stands at 9.

(ii) Harmire Road Allotment site

There are 4 vacant gardens on this site – 2 did not have their rents paid by the 1 June, and 2 were given up. All 4 gardens require significant work to clear them as they had been neglected for some time. Two of the vacant allotments are infested with 'Marestail' - a highly invasive, and difficult to remove deep rooted weed. With the agreement of the Chair, Brushwood Weed killer, a safety kit, and heavy duty polythene sheeting was purchased to cover. Spraying and covering areas has begun.

It is unlikely that these 4 gardens will be tenanted for a number of weeks.

One further garden on Harmire received a warning letter due to the untidy state of their garden, but have now begun clearing and cultivating the garden.

(iii) Raby Avenue

One vacant plot recently vacated. Like those referred to above, it requires a lot of work to clear before it is offered to someone on the waiting list.

(iv) Demesnes

One tenant received a first warning letter due to the state of their allotment, but has since carried out the required work. No vacant gardens

(v) Crook Lane & Town Head

No issues.

(vi) Allotment Land

Enquiries are ongoing with William Smith with regards the waste land behind their factory for potential allotment plots. A response is awaited.

Resolved – (a) That the information is received and noted; and (b) That retrospective approval is given for the purchase of Brush Wood Weed killer, safety kit & polythene sheeting at £167.35 (net) with the funding from the self-financing allotment budget.

10. PLAY AREAS

The Services Extraordinary meeting on 24 June refers to the repairs required. Minute 5 (i), (ii), (iii)/June/24 refers.

(i) During the works on Dawson Road it was found the ariel slide (zip wire) required additional works to completely replace the wire, and seat at a cost of £820.00 (net). With the agreement of the Chair this was authorised from the 2023/24 underspend of the Play Ground budget.

(ii) Following the meeting on the 24th June an application was made to Durham County Council for S106 monies for additional funding to carry out further identified repairs/renewals. The application has been acknowledged.

(iv) Outdoor gym equipment – Minute 50(iii)/April/24 refers

Received - outdoor gym equipment types and example costs for information.

At the present time there is no funding available to consider taking this forward but could be considered in the future.

Resolved – (a) That the update be received and noted; (b) That retrospective approval be given for £820.00 (net) for the additional repairs identified at Dawson Road; and (c) That the £820.00 be paid from the underspend on the Play Area budget for 2023/24.

11. MINI GOLF – 2024 SEASON

The 2024 Season opened on 29 March 2024 to date takings are approximately £4600 (Net), including one private hire. Takings are weather dependent.

The Market and Maintenance Supervisor has carried out further course improvements. He has replaced 36 wooden edgings around the various holes on the course and continues to make other improvements ahead of the summer holiday season.

There are three attendants on the rota for the Summer season.

Resolved – (a) That the information be received and noted; and (b) That Mark Vaughan is thanked for the work that he has carried out to improve the look of the course.

12. WEDNESDAY MARKET

In the weeks from 10 April to 03 July 2024 inclusive, total rental receipts have been £2,471, an average of £190.00 per week. 6 charity pitches have been utilised, and trading opportunities are being offered to those on the waiting list to cover regular trader absences. The waiting list currently stands at 5.

Vehicles parked on the cobbles when traders are wanting to set up has been an ongoing issue, and recently reported in the Teesdale Mercury. There are a total of **11** lamp post signs advising not to park during the market times. In addition, a further **5** large 'No

Parking' floor signs are put out on a Tuesday by our Market Supervisor. These are ignored by a small number of vehicle owners. Notes are being delivered to the Air BnB's locally.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

13. FLORAL AND OPEN SPACES

(i) The summer planting has been carried out by One3One, and regular watering is carried out by Mr Wearmouth. Replacement wooden planters have been located by the gateway, and one on Scar Top.

(ii) The residents of Mill Cottages (Lower Demesnes) raised concerns over potholes on the track to their properties. With the assistance of the 'workers' and our maintenance supervisor the area covered by the council lease was filled with 4 Tonne of cold planings.

A separate area raised by the residents is the responsibility of DCC Rights of Way. The Rights of Way Team have agreed, under their 'Rights of Way Improvement Plan' to relay that area. No timetable for this work as yet.

Resolved – (a) That the information be received and noted; and (b) That Roger Peat and the 'workers' be thanked for their hard work to repair the track.

14. REQUEST TO REPOSITION A PUBLIC BENCH

A request has been received from the Teesdale Railway Group to reposition a public bench on Harmire Road.

"This is a formal request to ask permission of the Town Council to move one of the four historic railway benches in Harmire Road. Three of the four benches are on the north side facing the sun. We propose to move the one bench on the south side (facing north) which I am sure is never used and, unlike the other three, is inconveniently placed beside a low wall close to a house entrance. We propose to relocate this bench some 100 yards or so to a new position beside the Railway Memorial (which will be in the form of an authentic railway signal pole with signal arm), close to the Crossing Keeper's Cottage at The Crossings and opposite the GSK offices. There will of course be an information board. The land on which the Memorial and the Railway Bench will be placed is owned by GSK who have indicated their support in principle for the project and for us to have use of the Cottage leading up to the Rail 200 Celebrations in 2025. We will deal with planning and other related issues. There will be no cost to the Town Council, and we will ensure secure placement of the bench in its new position and proper reinstatement of its present site on the pavement.

Resolved – That the request to reposition one historic railway bench on Harmire Road closer to the Crossing Keepers Cottage be approved.

15. DOG FOULING PROJECT

The campaign was re-launched/refreshed on Monday 8th July with a photo opportunity taking place at Woodleigh. The Town Crier, Town Mayor, councillors, local children and dogs took part.

Posters from the children that didn't win the competition are to be displayed in local shops. Next year it is hoped to run a 'dog day'

16. BLUE PLAQUE – DEMESNES CORN MILL

Minute 23/Oct/23 & 61/May/22 refers.

Following the decision by Durham County Council (DCC) not to include a blue plaque on the old Corn Mill, the committee resolved to continue to explore the installation of a plaque. The advice belatedly received from DCC is to make a listed building planning consent application. To progress this I have referred to the local historian promoting this to supply a form of words to go on the plaque. Additionally the planning application will cost the council £50, and a resolution to spend this sum is required.

A mock up of the plaque using the wording supplied has been obtained to aid planning application. The estimated costs of the plaque, if permission received, is in the region of £440.

Resolved – (a) That Listed Building planning consent be submitted; and (b) That the cost of £50 for the Listed Building Planning application be approved from the 2024/25 Ground Maintenance budget.

DRAFT

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

02 SEPTEMBER 2024

PRESENT: Cllrs Ing, Foote-Wood, Blake

Officers: Mr Clark (Town Clerk), Ms Atkinson (RFO)

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Cllr Ing took the meeting.

12. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE OF APOLOGIES

Cllr's Thompson, Drew & McLean submitted their apologies.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be accepted.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

Resolved – None declared.

14. RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING – 02 JUNE 2024 – MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting on the 02 June 2024 be approved as a true record.

15. BUDGET MONITORING REPORTS

Received – Reports on the income and expenditure activity from 01 April to 31 July 2024.

Resolved – That the information be received and noted.

16. BUDGET 2025/2026 TIMETABLE & ASSUMPTIONS

Received – A report setting out a preparation timetable for the 2025/26 budget and the pressures to be considered in preparing the budget, seeking members' views and direction on the principles to be adopted.

Resolved – That the detail within sections 2 to 5 of the report be agreed:

- (a) That the budget timetable is as detailed in Appendix A;
- (b) That pay inflation of 4% be modelled;
- (d) That non-pay inflation of 5% be assumed; and
- (e) That any proposals for new budget items be submitted by 04 October 2024.

17. WOODLEIGH

- Since the last Resources meeting a number of repairs have been carried out to the Woodleigh offices all related to plumbing.
- Barclays Bank PLC will open to their customers on Monday 16th September from the ground floor at Woodleigh.
- Discussions are ongoing with Deerbolt to hold meetings in the Dawson Room*

**Cllr Ing declared an interest as his son is the Chair of the IMB at Deerbolt*

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.