

**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.