

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

15 JULY 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Child (in the Chair); Councillors Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Kirkbride and Mrs Thompson.

Also in attendance: Councillors Blissett and one member of the press.

Officers: Mr King (Town Clerk).

13 ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

None.

14 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. There were no declarations of interest at this juncture.

15 SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – 3 JUNE 2019 – MINUTES

Resolved – That the Minutes be accepted as a correct record.

16 ALLOTMENTS

(i) General update

An update was provided on allotments activity since the June meeting.

Three allotment gardens were in the process of being re-tenanted. Three new applications had been received since the last meeting and the waiting list currently stood at 10.

A request had been received from the developer of Claire House for action to be taken over overhanging trees from the Town Head allotment site perceived to be a potential hazard to vehicles parked on the property. Discussion had taken place with Durham County Council over whether work was necessary and guidance on any action to be taken. Three options were identified: fell both trees, crown-lift both trees; or fell the oak and crown lift the silver birch.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That all three options be offered to the developer to enable him to appoint a contractor, acceptable to the council, at his own expense to take forward his preference of the options.

(ii) Allotments Improvement Action Plan

There was nothing to update.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

17 PLAY AREAS

A complaint had been received from resident in respect of the condition of the goal posts in Marwood Drive play area.

Durham County Council had issued a tender for the replacement of the Demesnes play area, forming part of the area leased to the town council.

Emergency works had been undertaken to two play areas as a result of play inspection on 12 July.

Resolved – (a) That the actions be noted;

(b) That estimates for the refurbishment of the football goal at Marwood Drive be brought to a future meeting;

(c) That the emergency repairs by Parklane Playgrounds to Dawson Road and Scar Top Play areas be approved at £60; and

(d) That it be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to approve necessary repairs within established budgets and delegation limits as a result of the quarterly inspection.

18 MINI GOLF – 2019 SEASON

Figures were provided on the 2019 season. Seven-day opening for the summer holidays was due to begin on Saturday 20 July.

The condition of the wooden components on the holes was noted.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and

(b) That it be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to approve necessary repairs to the wooden walls of Hole 8 (County Bridge) within established budgets and delegation limits.

19 WEDNESDAY MARKET

In the five weeks from 5 June to 3 July inclusive, total rental receipts were £645, an average of £129 per week. The market was to be featured in a relevant trade magazine..

Resolved – That the information be noted.

20 FLORAL AND OPEN SPACES

(i) Floral Displays 2019/20

The summer planting was completed. HMYOI had donated two sample hanging baskets for display at Woodleigh. Due to scaffolding surrounding the building, the Town Mayor would gift these to local residential care homes in the Town. HMYOI also supplied the plants for the 'Gateway' beds, which had been planted by volunteers led by Cllr Richard Child. Future planting may focus on low growing perennials to supplement annuals and reduce maintenance. These beds were included in the watering contract.

Resolved – a) That the information be noted;

(b) That thanks be extended to HMYOI for their generous donation of the hanging baskets;

(c) That the baskets be gifted by the Town Mayor to local residential care homes in the Town;

(d) That the watering contract be extended to a value of £2,800 per annum to include the Gateway beds; and

(e) That thanks be given to Cllr Richard Child and the local volunteers.

21 DOG FOULING

There was nothing to report.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

22 PUBLIC SEATS

A bench, which was located in the grounds of Woodleigh, had been vandalised just prior to 1940's weekend. The bench had since been taken to HMYOI for repair by Mr Roger Peat and had been temporarily replaced by the bench used for Teesdale Aviation Day

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted.

(b) That thanks be given to Mr Roger Peat for his assistance.

23 WAR MEMORIALS

It was noted that, in line with the resolution of committee, a brass plaque was to be commissioned for the Merchant Navy marker within the Memorial Garden.

Resolved – That the information be noted.