

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
23 MARCH 2015**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs Moorhouse (Deputy Town Mayor) (in the Chair); Councillors Deacon, Mrs Grady, Harrison, Kinch, Marshall, Peat, Cooke and Robinson (from item 116).

**Also in attendance:** Four members of the public (one of whom filmed the meeting) and one member of the press.

**Officers:** Mr King (Town Clerk), Mrs Woodward (Deputy Clerk)

**109. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE OF APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Blissett, Yarker and Hinchcliffe.

**Resolved** – That Cllr Blissett's, Yarker's and Cllr Hinchcliffe's apologies be accepted.

**110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 72(a)/Sep/12 refers), Members were asked whether they had any personal, pecuniary or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at that point of the meeting. Members were reminded that a declaration could be given later in the meeting if a need had arisen during discussion.

No declarations were made.

**111. COUNCIL MEETING – 19 JANUARY 2015 – MINUTES**

**Resolved** – That the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**112. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – 2 MARCH 2015 - MINUTES**

**Resolved** – That the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**113. EN BLOC ITEMS**

Submitted – In accordance with Minute 72/Aug/04, a set of items with the accompanying recommendations were moved *en bloc*. The items considered at the meeting were as follows:-

**(1) Planning Committee Meeting – 28 January 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Minutes be received.

**(2) Planning Committee Meeting – 9 February 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Minutes be received.

**(3) Partnership Committee Meeting – 9 February 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Draft Minutes be received.

**(4) Events T&F Group – 19 February 2015**

**Resolved** – That the notes be received.

**(5) Planning Committee Meeting – 23 February 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Draft Minutes be received.

**(6) Services Committee Meeting – 23 February 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Draft Minutes be received.

**(7) Special Partnership Committee Meeting – 2 March 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Draft Minutes be received.

**(8) Events T&F Group – 5 March 2015**

**Resolved** – That the draft notes be received.

**(9) Resources Committee Meeting – 9 March 2015**

**Resolved** – That the Draft Minutes be received.

**(10) Town Mayor's Activities.**

It was reported that, since the Council meeting on 19 January 2015, the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended the following:

3 February	Newspaper Launch (Teesdale Mercury, The Witham, Barnard Castle)
15 February	<b>(Accompanied by Consort Miss Kelly Blissett)</b> Chairman's Civic Service (Durham County Council, St Edmund's Church, Sedgfield)
20 February	<b>(Accompanied by Mayoress)</b> Mayor's Charity Civic Ball (Great Aycliffe Town Council, Redworth Hall Hotel, Redworth)
9 March	Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth (Barnard Castle Town Council, Scar Top)
14 March	<b>(Accompanied by Mayoress)</b> Mayor's Charity Evening (Richmond Town Council, Richmondshire Cricket Club)
17 March	Launch of the Mini Golf Season (Town Council, Scar Top)
20 March	<b>(Deputy Town Mayor Accompanied by Consort Mr I Moorhouse)</b> Mayor's Annual Civic Dinner (Chilton Town Council, Chilton & Windlestone Workingmen's Club)
21 March	<b>(Accompanied by Mayoress)</b> The Band and Bugles Freedom of the Borough of Hartlepool (Hartlepool Borough Council, Victory Square)

Council Members were reminded that on 24 April 2015, there would be a Mayor's Function at Glaxo in aid of the Mayor's Charity for 2014/15 (TCR Hub).

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

**114. UPDATES AND REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES**

There were none since the last Council Meeting on 19 January 2015.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

## **115. CLERK'S UPDATE**

Submitted - A report outlining recent activity by the Clerk and staff correspondence received since the last Council Meeting on 19 January 2015. A verbal update was made.

Members were informed that the government had written to local authorities and communities encouraging participation in VE Day 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorations. Council Members were asked to consider whether the Town Council should lead a local activity. It was reported that Local Poppy Appeal Supporters had organised an event on 8 May in the Parish Hall and that the Town Mayor would be in attendance. Councillor Kinch highlighted that 15 August would be the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VJ Day.

It was reported that the Town Council's office would be closed on Good Friday, Easter Monday and May Day.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

## **116. REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES**

Submitted – an update on some of this Council's representation on other bodies.

### **(1) Barnard Castle Business Guild Meeting**

It was reported that a meeting was held on 21 January and that meetings were now quarterly. A new town map had been produced and distributed.

### **(2) Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum Meeting**

There was a meeting on 24 February that discussed works to Shaw Bank and Stainton Bank. It was noted that works to Shaw Bank had been completed with 50% funding from Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP). Stainton Bank would be an overspill park for 2 or 3 caravans. Councillor Robinson queried whether TAP funding should have been used as this was intended for people living in Teesdale.

### **(3) Teesdale Local Councils Forum**

An update was given on Transparency and the need for parish councils to publish information on-line, via website.

### **(4) County Durham Association of Local Councils**

There were no matters to report.

### **(5) Castle Walls Trust**

It was reported that clarification of ownership was still ongoing. The trust was in the process of obtaining licences to be able to access the wall and had support from the North East Civic Trust and Durham County Council.

### **(6) North East Combined Authority (NECA) Consultation Meeting**

Councillor Kinch attended the meeting, representing the Town Council (Minute 108/Mar/15 refers) and gave a verbal update. It was reported that there would be no voting or referendum on the NECA and that there was a possibility of a NECA Mayor.

### **(7) Teesdale Marketing Ltd**

Councillor Peat reported that there was an AGM planned on 31 March. The Town Council was asked to support and promote the recently launched Explore Teesdale Website.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

### **117. VISION UPDATE**

Submitted – a report from the Vision that detailed activities at The Witham, NeST, Town Centre and Heart of Teesdale (HoT) Landscape Partnership. Councillor Peat praised HoT Landscape Partnership.

**Resolved** – (a) That the report be received and;  
(b) That an update be sought from the Vision Board on progress of the Vision.

### **118. BARNARD CASTLE YOUTH COUNCIL**

Submitted – a report and associated appendices, setting out a proposed resolution from Councillor Kinch that the Town Council consider the establishment of a youth council. It was noted that Great Aycliffe Town Council had a Youth Council and that Teesdale School was supportive. Concern was expressed regarding budgetary allocation and spending, delegation, implementation, operative costs and capacity.

**Resolved** – (a) That the Town Council support the proposal in principle.  
(b) That a Task & Finish group be set up to explore the proposal for 2015/16, with a view to implementation in 2016/17.  
(c) That members of the T&F group include Councillor Kinch, Cooke, Marshall and Robinson, together with co-opted representatives from the Teesdale YCMA and Teesdale School.