

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs Moorhouse (Town Mayor) (in the Chair); Councillors Blissett; Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Child, Hallimond, Harrison, Kirkbride, Peat, Sutherland, Raw and Mrs Thompson.

**Also in attendance:** Sergeant Rogers, Inspector Turner and Paul Emerson (Durham Constabulary); one member of the public; one member of the press.

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

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

None.

**49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 10/May/18 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 this point of the meeting. Members were reminded that a declaration could be given later in the meeting if a need arose during discussion.

**50. ATTENDANCE OF POLICE REPRESENTATIVE**

Inspector Turner and Sergeant Rogers of Durham Constabulary attended to update on current issues, including latest scams and fish sellers. Operation Winter Nights was in progress to prevent crime to vehicles and homes. There was no significant increase in violent crime.

Inspector Turner introduced himself as the new Inspector for Teesdale, Weardale and Crook, having previously been Sergeant for the area 9 years ago.

Paul Emerson, Traffic Management Officer for Durham and Cleveland, explained about speed limits and how these were set, which needed to be credible to be effective.

**Resolved** – (a) That Insp Turner, Sgt Rogers and Paul Emerson be thanked for their attendance; and  
(b) That the information be noted.

**51. COUNCIL MEETING – 18 JUNE 2018**

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

**52. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – 16 JULY 2018 – MINUTES**

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

### **53. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor thanked everyone that participated in making the town's 1940s weekend a success. Thanks were also extended to all those involved in remembrance events: Aviation Day on 22 June and Red Ensign Day on 3 September, with 91 attendees attending the latter.

It was mentioned that Councillor Sutherland had written a book: 'The Ship Owner's House' and this would be launched at The Witham on 27 September.

The Juggling Convention would take place on 20 October at Glaxo Sports & Social Club. Tickets were available in the town council office.

The Town Mayor was working with Barnard Castle School Interact to raise funds for Barnardo's and other charities by holding a 'Fashion Through The Ages' event on Sunday 28 October. Thirty one civics were currently attending.

The town council's Christmas Tree lights switch-on 30 November would feature an Aladdin-themed pantomime.

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

### **54. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Following the co-option of Councillor Raw to represent the East Ward on 16 July, it was noted that a vacancy currently existed on Partnership and Planning Committees.

It was proposed that Standing Orders were amended to ensure that a decision to appoint to committees was taken at the same meeting that resolved the co-option.

**Resolved** – (a) That Councillor Raw be appointed to fill Planning and Partnership Committee vacancies; and  
(b) That Standing Orders be amended to include the following paragraph:  
*8.b Where a casual vacancy on the council is filled by co-option at a Special Meeting of Full Council, the resolution to appoint shall include the appointment of the Co-opted Councillor to any committee vacancies resulting from the casual vacancy.*

### **55. NOTICE OF MOTION – CLLR MRS MOORHOUSE**

A notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Moorhouse and seconded by Councillor Blissett.

**Resolved** – (a) That the Town Council aims to keep Barnard Castle as a thriving and vibrant market town. We support The Witham in its endeavours to keep art, culture and a valuable community venue alive and operational, now and for the future;  
(b) That together with all local businesses and organisations, the Town Council will share and develop ideas to increase footfall to the town to help it flourish and prosper; and  
(c) That The Witham be invited to send a representative to sit on the Partnership Committee as co-optee.

### **56. 'EN BLOC' ITEMS**

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

- (1) **Planning Committee Meeting – 18 June 2018 –Minutes;**
- (2) **Planning Committee Meeting – 2 July 2018 –Minutes;**
- (3) **Partnership Committee Meeting – 2 July 2018 – Draft Minutes;**
- (4) **Planning Committee Meeting – 16 July 2018 – Minutes;**
- (5) **Services Committee Meeting – 16 July 2018 – Draft Minutes;**
- (6) **Planning Committee Meeting – 30 July 2018 – Minutes;**
- (7) **Planning Committee Meeting – 13 August 2018 – Minutes;**
- (8) **Planning Committee Meeting – 30 August 2018 – Minutes;**
- (9) **Planning Committee Meeting – 10 September 2018 – Draft Minutes;**
- (10) **Resources Committee Meeting – 10 September 2018 – Draft Minutes; and**
- (11) **Town Mayor’s Activities**

**Resolved** – That the *en bloc* items be received.

## **57. UPDATES AND REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES**

### **(1) PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

#### **(i) A Partnership Approach to Sustaining the Environment in Barnard Castle: Plastic Reduction Strategies**

It was resolved (a) that the town council supports the Rotary Club of Barnard Castle's plastic reduction strategy and contributes members to its working group on the subject;

(b) That appropriate administrative support be provided towards pursuing identified objectives of the strategy;

(c) That appropriate actions proposed by the group be considered by the Services Committee;

(d) That a regular update on the activities of the group be provided periodically to full Council meetings under the 'Reps on Other Bodies' standing item; and

(e) That the town council hosts an initial meeting of the group in Woodleigh.

*Councillor Peat requested an update and it was reported that the Rotary was waiting for further information from Durham County Council before calling a meeting.*

#### **(ii) 2018/19 Community Events Programme – Juggling Convention**

It was resolved that Cllr Mrs Moorhouse liaise with Durham City Jugglers to establish proposed costs for defined performances, linked to the convention to take place on Saturday 20 October, to be considered by Full Council at its Special Meeting on 16 July 2018.

#### **(iii) 1940s Event – 22 to 24 June 2018**

It was resolved (b) that thanks be given to all those involved and sponsors of the event;

(c) That the 2019 1940s weekend be confirmed as 21 to 23 June 2019, to be programmed into the 2019/20 Community Events programme with budgetary allocation; and

(d) That any underspend from the 2018 1940s weekend be earmarked for spend against 2019 1940s weekend.

**(iv) Aviation Day – 22 June 2018**

It was resolved (b) that thanks be given to all those involved and, in particular, to Allan Jones and Andrew Nicholson; and

(c) That the date for the 2019 Teesdale Aviation Day be agreed as Friday 21 June 2019, to be programmed into the 2019/20 Events programme with budgetary allocation.

**(v) Fly the Red Ensign – 3 September 2018**

It was resolved that the Fly the Red Ensign ceremony, on 3 September 2018, be designated a civic event.

**(vi) Christmas Lighting 2018/19 (Barnard Castle Christmas Lights)**

It was resolved that the town council gives administrative assistance with the SAG process for a prospective fireworks display.

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

**(2) SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**(i) Mini Golf 2018 Season**

It was resolved that subject to advice from Urban Crazy, a Karcher WD4 Premium Tough Vac Wet and Dry Vacuum Cleaner, be purchased at a cost of no more than £110, from the Mini Golf budget.

**(ii) Wednesday Market**

It was resolved that 'A' boards, reinforcing the existing parking prohibition, be purchased at a cost of no more than £400, from the Wednesday Market budget.

**(iii) Floral Displays 2018/19**

It was resolved (b) that all sponsors of hanging baskets for 2018 be thanked for their donations; and

(c) That thanks be given to The Workers involved in planting out Woodleigh and the Gateway Beds and removing ragwort.

**(iv) Influence Church 'No Strings' – 16 June**

It was resolved – (a) that this Committee's thanks be given to members of the Influence Church and for the kind donation of bark; and

(b) That the town council supports the Influence Church's 'No Strings' volunteer project in June 2019.

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

**(3) PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**(i) Public Rights of Way Consultation**

It was resolved (a) that the town council objects to the proposed changes to the public rights of way network in the vicinity of Teesdale School; and

(b) That it be recommended to Durham County Council that a public meeting be held to consult with local residents on proposed changes.

**(ii) DM/18/02149/FPA & DM/18/02150/LB – 25 Market Place – Change of use to café/restaurant and internal alterations to facilitate change of use, including replacement window transfer and installation of kitchen flue to rear.**

It was resolved that the town council objects to the application on the grounds that, in line with policy SC3 of the Teesdale Local Plan (2002) as the substantive, extant development plan for Barnard Castle, a change from class A1 would be materially harmful to the primary shopping function, vitality and viability of the town centre. The town council deems there to be sufficient cafes and that the unit should remain as a shop/retail outlet. In addition, the town council is concerned that, if DCC is minded to approve the application, there is no proposed accessible toilet provision.

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

**(4) RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**(i) Budget 2019/20 – Timetable & Basic Assumptions**

It was resolved (a) That the budget timetable be approved;  
(b) That the indicative net tax base and LCTRS grant change of -£283 be noted;  
(c) That pay inflation of 2% be assumed;  
(d) That non-pay inflation of 2% be assumed; and  
(e) That any proposal for new budget items be submitted by 19 October 2018.

**(ii) General Data Protection Regulations – NALC changes**

It was resolved that any reference to 'Data Protection Officer', implying a post, within the council's constitution be amended to read 'Proper Officer'.

**(iii) Constitution**

It was resolved (a) That the terms of reference, as set out, be approved, in principle; and  
(b) That all members be invited to highlight for review specific areas within the Council's Policies, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to the Clerk by 15 October 2018.

**(iv) Asset Transfers**

It was resolved that the proposed clause covenanting the county council to undertake its duties under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 be required to finalise the lease.

**(v) Reserves**

It was resolved that delegated authority be given to the Clerk, in conjunction with the Town Mayor and Chair of Partnership Committee to identify options for potential spend and report to Council on 24 September.

**Resolved** – (a) That the information be noted; and  
(b) That options for potential spend out of reserves be reported for consideration by Council (item 64, below).

**58. REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES**

**(1) Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum (Councillors Blissett & Harrison)**

A meeting was held on 3 July. There were fourteen incidents reported to the Police during the traveller period, although nothing serious. The situation at Harmire Industrial Estate was ongoing. Early arrivals at Winston temporary stopover had caused some concern amongst residents. The next meeting was on 6 November.

## **(2) Teesdale Local Councils Forum (Councillors Mrs Moorhouse and Sutherland)**

There was nothing to report. An update on the status of the forum was requested.

## **(3) Smaller Local Councils Forum (Councillor Sutherland)**

A meeting was held on 26 July. There was a presentation from Durham County Council (DCC) planners on the County Durham Plan preferred options. Updates were received on The Ledbury Case (outlined in Clerk's Update, item 62, below) and a discussion about whether parish and town council clerks should continue to be called 'Clerk' or be known by another title. Draft Social Media Guidance for Councillors was circulated by DCC's Monitoring Officer. There had been a noticeable increase in the number of Member Code of Conduct complaints nationally arising from the use of social media. DCC's Standards Committee had been invited by the Forum to produce guidance tailored to the town and parish council sector.

## **(4) Dementia Friendly Communities (Councillors Kirkbride and Harrison)**

A meeting was held on 20 June. Dementia Friends Training sessions were being planned again.

Work was ongoing with Durham Fire & Rescue Service to provide better access to Safe and Well-being visits for people in the area and an easy to complete self-referral sheet.

Unfortunately, funding from Northern Heartlands, to produce a playlet based on the book 'Grandma' to take into schools, was unsuccessful. In the interim, the group was planning to write a scenario, perhaps similar to a short film from the Alzheimer's Society, which was available on U-Tube. This would be offered to Primary schools in the town and they would be given a copy of 'Grandma' for their library.

A sewing group, together with youngsters from the YMCA, was busy producing Activity Mats (colourful mats with buttons, zips, different textures, sounds, etc. for restless hands to feel, or to stimulate conversations with carers and families). It was hoped there would be sufficient by Christmas to give all care homes, with residents living with dementia, a selection. Plans were in place to develop a lending library which could be accessed by family members or volunteers working on the Alzheimer's Society project, 'Side by Side'.

An easy to access information leaflet had been produced about facilities and activities already on offer in the town, listing regular or occasional events that were dementia friendly. The leaflet would be available for anyone to pick up – from the Council Offices, Doctors Surgeries, The Library, Carers groups and so on. Ten books about Dementia had also been donated from Barnard Castle Surgery.

The Barnard Castle Dementia Friendly Community Group (BCDFCG) met monthly at Woodleigh and welcomed new members.

## **(5) Walkers are Welcome (Councillor Mrs Thompson)**

A meeting was held on 22 August 2018. Marketing was ongoing. Businesses had been invited to pay a small annual fee to be listed on the BCWAW website. The Website had been updated and now included the downloadable walk leaflets.

Unfortunately, an application made to County Durham Community Foundation for funding to re-print the Walking-in-Teesdale leaflets had been unsuccessful and other funding sources were being looked at.

The Tuesday morning walking for health programme had not re-started and this situation was being monitored.

A Bright Woods Forest School family walk was being held in October.

The annual footpath survey was to be conducted in October. Members and supporters were routinely checking footpaths when they walked during the year.

Positive links had been made with The Hub. They normally had two or three Duke of Edinburgh Award groups each year, who might be willing to do some footpath surveying.

Consideration was given to an email from DCC Access & Rights of Way, regarding a proposal to designate part of the recently-improved dismantled railway track from Barnard Castle to West Auckland as a Public Bridleway. Part of this proposal would include the diversion of FP 10, which went from the A688 to the Leisure Centre.

The proposed route of the diversion would go via The Hub. It was agreed that BCWAW should not oppose the proposal and that this would be relayed to DCC.

The bus service from Barnard Castle to Middleton-in-Teesdale via Cotherstone had apparently been reduced to a two-hourly service, although no-one had been aware of any consultation on this or notification of the change. This was clearly less convenient for both residents and walkers wishing to access walks in the Upper Dale. BCWAW agreed to check all of the services operating from the town to see what the current provision was and to ensure that the information on our website was correct.

A successful stall was held at the Farmers Market on 1 September 2018. Walking in Teesdale leaflets and Yard Walk leaflets were sold. Three guided Yard Walks were held with a total of 22 people attending.

#### **(6) The Richardson Hospital – Community Hospitals Reference Group (Cllr Sutherland)**

A meeting was held on 20 September. The reference group was coming to an end after a year, although ad hoc meetings could be held if there were concerns. Communication still needed to improve and the public were still not aware of all services available. There was a drive to move mental health services back to Richardson Hospital. More activities were needed to fill the hospital and reduce room hire charges. There was a proposal to discontinue the out of hours service, which was only at nurse practitioner level, due to no GP availability. The local GP surgery reserved emergency slots for 111 referrals.

#### **(7) Barnard Castle HGV Action Group**

The Action Group held a successful meeting in late July with over 60 residents attending. They were generally supportive of the idea of a ban and permit system like the one that has been so effective at Kirkby Stephen. There was a little more reticence about the relief road, particularly as the Durham Plan seemed to assume it would still use Abbey Bridge, which was felt to be unsuitable for heavy traffic. The residents' comments were added to the online responses to the Durham Plan.

The next steps for the group were:

1. To try to contact local hauliers and discuss the plan with them;
2. To get time on the agenda of DCC's Transport Sub Committee to talk about both the Relief Road and the ban and permit system; and

3. To run a local petition to put pressure on the Sub Committee and DCC Highways to act on these issues.

#### **(8) The Witham Board**

A request had been received from Bob Garton, Chair of Trustees, for a member of the town council to sit on the board of The Witham Ltd. Cllr Hallimond was already the town council representative on The Management Committee of Trustees of the Barnard Castle Mechanics Institute and Witham Hall Community Association but had never been invited to a meeting. Further information was requested about the role of a member of the town council on the board of The Witham Ltd.

**Resolved** – (a) That the information be noted; and  
(b) That the town council appointment of a representative to The Witham Board be deferred until Council meeting on 19 November.

#### **59. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2017/18**

Pursuant to Minute 27/June/18 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, was duly submitted to the Council's External Auditor, Mazars LLP, Durham, by the agreed date of 6 July 2018. Additional information was requested by Mazars on 12 September and duly returned on 14 September.

The External Auditor had until 30 September to submit its response and issue a Notice of Conclusion of Audit for 2017/18. To date, the town council had not received the full and complete AGAR from Mazars. Once received, a decision would be required from this Council to show that the AGAR was approved and accepted.

The audited return must be published by the Council by 30 September (in practical terms, this year, by Friday 28 September). The publication was not dependent on the formal acceptance of the auditor's opinion on the AGAR.

As the Council's income and/or expenditure for 2017/18 was over the £200,000 threshold, an 'Intermediate Audit' was required in support of the External Audit.

The 2017/18 budget for Internal and External Audit expenditure was set at £1,460 as it was anticipated that this Council would be likely to incur expenditure in excess of £200,000. The correct procedure for internal and external audit fees was that the costs were accrued at the year-end so that each year's accounts included the fees for that year.

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

#### **60. DCC ALLOTMENT CONSULTATION**

Submitted – a report outlining a consultation exercise being undertaken by Durham County Council and proposing a response on behalf of the town council.

It was reported that Durham County Council was holding a scrutiny committee review, looking at proposals for its future allotment service, including consideration of a future allotment policy, tenancy agreement and management arrangements.

The County Council was also aware that numerous parish councils ran their own allotment sites and were looking for responses regarding how these were run. A draft response was circulated for consideration.

Members were reminded that the town council had successfully challenged Teesdale District Council over its failure to transfer allotments to Barnard Castle Town Council in 1974, as mandated in the 1972 Local Government Act. This was corrected in 1994. DCC claimed no allotments within this parish.

The closing date for comments was 12 October.

**Resolved** – That the following responses to the allotment consultation questions be made:

1. What experience do you currently have of managing allotments and what arrangements did you / do you have in place for doing so?

a. Have you previously managed them / do you currently manage them?

*Barnard Castle Town Council manages five allotment sites totalling 87 plots*

b. Who manages them?

*The Town Council*

c. How often do you inspect them?

*Every 6 to 8 weeks*

d. Do you offer any advice, information and guidance to your tenants?

*Yes*

e. How do you deal with problems tenants?

*Through the Town Council's contravention procedure*

f. Have you ever had to deal with a particularly difficult tenant and, if so, how was it handled and was the issue satisfactorily addressed?

*Yes,*

*Using the contravention procedure,*

*Yes*

g. Overall, would you describe your experience as positive or negative?

*Positive*

2. If DCC wished to consider as a future option the further devolved management of its current allotment portfolio where appropriate to T&PCs, how would your Council view that?

a. Would you accept the sites in your area subject to discussion?

*Not applicable*

b. What concerns would you have about taking them on?

- c. How would you manage them?
- d. What would you look for from DCC as part of the handover process?

Barnard Castle Town Council notes the advice of the National Association of Local Councils, which states:

*"In relation to the question of whether any land used for allotments and belonging to the district council will transfer to the relevant parish council, there are two pieces of relevant legislation. The first is Regulation 10 of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) Regulations 1999 (1999 Regs) which transfers allotment land from a district council to any newly created parish or any parish that has its boundaries moved to incorporate land not previously parished. Thus these regulations relate to the situation where an unparished area becomes parished or parish boundaries are altered. The second piece of relevant legislation is paragraph 9 of Schedule 29 of the Local Government Act 1972 (1972 Act) which prohibits a district council from providing allotments in any area where there is a parish council or parish meeting.*

*"As a result if a new parish is created any district council allotments have to be transferred to the new parish under Regulation 10 of the 1999 Regs. The 1999 Regs have no relevance to a place that is already parished unless the boundary is moved to include previously unparished areas. Whilst the 1999 Regs do not specifically deal with the point, they will also cover a unitary authority that has the powers of a district council.*

*Based on the successful challenge by Barnard Castle Town Council to the former Teesdale District Council in 1994, those allotments identified as being 'owned' by the county council may be being held 'ultra vires', as a continuation of the former district authorities acting ultra vires between 1974 and 2009.*

*Whilst section 15 of the Allotments Act 1922 permits a county council to let out its smallholding land for allotments, the county council only has power to hold allotments under the provisions of s24 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, which it can do only where:*

*"The county council, if satisfied that the circumstances are such that land for allotments should be acquired by them under this section, shall pass a resolution to that effect, and thereupon the powers and duties of the district or parish council under the provisions of this Act relating to allotments shall be transferred from that council to the county council, and the county council, in substitution for that council, shall proceed to acquire land in accordance with this Act, and otherwise execute this Act in the district or parish."*

*Consequently, any allotments which simply transferred to the county council in 2009 cannot be held under this provision and should have been transferred to the relevant parish council as the 'allotment authority' defined in the Local Government Act 1972. If the county only holds the allotment land because it is 'a county council with the powers of a district council', or, formally, under s3 of The County Durham (Structural Change) Order 2008, because it is simultaneously a district council, then it cannot claim to hold it as a county council under the specific requirements of the 1908 Act.*

3. If you currently manage allotments and some of your neighbouring T&PCs also manage them, have you ever considered sharing the responsibility?

No

a. If so, how has it progressed?

b. If not, would you be interested in considering it going forward and what would you see as the considerations to it succeeding?

*Barnard Castle Town Council is not aware of any allotment sites managed by its neighbouring parish councils, although it notes that Marwood Parish Council manages a small 'community garden' at Castle Vale, Barnard Castle.*

4. Do you have any experience of working with allotment associations?

No

#### **61. CDALC AGM – 20 OCTOBER 2018**

It was reported that the 2018 County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) Annual General Meeting was to be held on 20 October in the Council Chamber at County Hall starting at 10am. Every member council was entitled to send two representatives to the meeting although each council would only have one vote. Members had been forwarded a copy of the agenda by email.

**Resolved** – That Councillor Sutherland be nominated to attend and represent views of the town council at CDALC AGM on 20 October.

#### **62. CLERK'S UPDATE**

Submitted – A report outlining recent activities undertaken by the Clerk and staff and summarising the Clerk's forthcoming leave.

A notice to quit an allotment garden was made on 4 September under Regulation 7(2)(b) of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

There had been a number of substantive issues:

**Citizens Advice County Durham** – an email was received on 2 July seeking a donation to support its work. The council had a zero donations budget in the current financial year.

**Asset and Service Transfer** – there had been no further correspondence from Durham County Council or from the town council's solicitor, following the report made to Resources Committee on 10 September.

**Ledbury Judgement** – there had been correspondence from CDALC and NALC outlining the consequences of the High Court Judgement in the case of R (Harvey) v Ledbury Town Council (2018). NALC had yet to revise its guidance on grievance procedures to reflect this judgement.

NALC, with the support of SLCC and Lawyers in Local Government (representing Monitoring Officers) was lobbying for clarification on standards and member conduct from Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) and, in particular, on how, in the light of this judgement, a council could uphold its responsibilities as an employer to ensure that staff were treated fairly and appropriately.

Essentially a council could still consider the conduct of a member, in response to a grievance from an employee, though it must follow due process. However, any suggestion that there might have been a breach of the Code of Conduct must be referred to the Monitoring Officer for formal consideration. This position had been confirmed in a briefing received from Helen Lynch, Durham County Council's Monitoring Officer.

These briefings had been forwarded to members.

**Boundary Review** – the Boundary Commission for England had published its final proposals on the 2018 Parliamentary Electoral Review, confirming its recommendation that Barnard Castle remained in a single 'Bishop Auckland' constituency.

It was reported that the Clerk was attending the SLCC National Conference on 9-11 October.

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

### **63. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (IN RESPECT OF ITEM 64 AND 65 BELOW)**

**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 matter referred to at items 64 and 65 below, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

### **64. RESERVES**

Submitted – a confidential note pertaining use of reserves as donations for Remembrance commemorations.

**Resolved** – (a) That the council subsidises the opening of The Witham on 11 November and opening of The Bowes Museum WW1 exhibition on 20 October, for the benefit of the town and volunteers, from its Earmarked Reserves with donations of £1,000 and up to £500 respectively; and  
(b) That delegated authority be given to the Clerk to spend up to £500 on additional Remembrance related costs.

### **65. INVESTMENT POLICY**

Submitted – information about the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund, with a high level of capital security and competitive rate of interest.

**Resolved** – (a) That an initial investment of £50,000 be deposited in the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund; and  
(b) That the 2019/20 precept be deposited in the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund.