

## NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8 November 2017 at 7.00pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre

#### PRESENT:

Councillors: A Thompson (Chairman)

M Boon      L Burns      S Harrison      E Hartley

Officers: D Earl – Town Clerk

E Brown – Deputy Town Clerk

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 11 members of the public

#### OPEN SESSION:

Concern was raised about the steps from the beach at Needles Eye; there had been 3 accidents involving pedestrians here and a hand rail was requested to be added to the list of ongoing priorities.

The Town Clerk informed that Councillor Peden had also been approached regarding this issue. The Council would check costs and provision within the budget.

Dog fouling on the Parkrun route was raised as an issue. The Chair informed that whilst improvements had been made this was still a problem and the Town Council would make representations to NCC enforcement. Members of the Public were still encouraged to report irresponsible dog owners through County channels.

The replacement bus shelter on the B1334 southbound (Spital) was queried – The Town Clerk informed that this was due to be replaced in the next day or so.

Mr Todd's written report on the activities of Newbiggin Development Trust was queried; had this been received by the Town Council and would it be made available to the public – the Town Clerk confirmed that this had not yet been received by the Council while the Chairman of the meeting ensured that the activities of NDT must be made public.

Concern was raised by residents that the bonfire at Haweswater Road had gotten out of hand over the past few years; photographs were circulated at the meeting. A gas tank had been removed after the Fire Brigade had been called. A Member had contacted the police and had been referred to the Fire Brigade. A Member informed that County Councillor Lang was looking at a project to avoid it in the future and had been assured that the area would be cleared of the remaining debris.

Concern was raised that despite street lighting being reported 3 times, the lights were still out from Spital to the Welfare. It was noted that this was NCC responsibility.

Annual Assembly – It was queried when the report of the Annual Assembly would be made available. The Town Clerk explained that due to time constraints and resource issues the report had not been done yet but it would be collated as soon as possible.

**C061/17 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Bromwich-Alexandra, M Cholerton and M Peden.

**C062/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

A Member commented on C059/17 that after chatting with the Deputy Clerk it was her preference to have a desktop PC rather than a laptop; the Town Clerk confirmed that this was already in hand.

**It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**C063/17 MINUTES OF THE GRANTS COMMITTEE**

A Member queried why all Councillors were not informed direct of Committee meetings. The Town Clerk informed that it had not been the practice of the Council to inform all Members but the agendas were posted on the notice board as per legal requirements.

**It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**C064/17 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS**

No interests were declared.

**C064/17 NOTICE OF MOTION**

Cllr Harrison moved the motion set out in the agenda with an amendment to part A.

The motion and amendment were seconded and it was unanimously **RESOLVED that:**

- a. Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council produce then adopt a policy and application form for grants in excess of £300 to comply with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and The Local Government Transparency Code 2015
- b. The large grant application form and policy are published on the website to inform all Community groups.

**C065/17 URGENT BUSINESS**

Councillor Hartley noted for record the temporary closure of the Post Office and a query that had been received and replied to by Councillor Peden. She requested that the letter informing of the temporary closure be published on the Town Council website.

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date.....

