

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Community Development Committee
Thursday 1st June 2023 at 7.00 pm
The Guildhall, Butcher's Row, Barnstaple

Present: Councillors:

V Elkins, J Hunt, M Lovering, J Coates, I Williams, L Dawson and
C Horrell

Also in attendance:

R Mahoney, Community Development Officer

L Scarrott, Heritage & Cultural Manager

S Brown, Heritage & Cultural Assistant

R Ward, Town Clerk

Members of the Public:0

Apologies for absence:

L York and K Stevenson

1 Election of Chairperson

Cllr Coates nominated Cllr Lovering. Cllr Hunt seconded. Cllr Lovering was unanimously elected.

2 Election of Vice-Chairperson

Cllr Hunt nominated Cllr Coates. Cllr Lovering seconded. Cllr Coates was unanimously elected.

3 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apologies and reasons for absence were received and approved (NC).

4 To receive any dispensations and disclosable pecuniary or other interests.

Cllrs J Hunt and M Lovering as members of North Devon District Council, have a dispensation under SO66 to discuss and vote on any item on the agenda unless the item refers to a financial or legal agreement or dispute between the two authorities.

5 To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Heritage, Culture and Community Committee (as the predecessor committee) Meeting held on 13th April 2023

Approval (6 for, 1 Abs).

6 Budget Monitoring Report

RESOLVED: To note the budget monitoring report for May 2023. Approved (NC).

7 Town Council Community Grants

It was RESOLVED: To note that this committee has the responsibility for the Town Council Community Grants. Approved (NC).

8 Events update / item

It was RESOLVED: To note that a new Events Officer has been appointed. Approved, the first event will be the Fair Proclamation and she will also be responsible for the Mayor's diary (NC).

9 Community development update

The Community Development Officer went over the report attached to the agenda explaining current work as well as goals the team have for future work. This enabled all councillors to have a discussion and raise points or questions.

Cllr Williams suggested that the interpretation boards at Rock Park be re-done, with potential for more boards to be added.

It was suggested that a calendar of events be sent to councillors to ensure they are aware of all events going on, not just council facilitated but wider community events. This would enable councillors to sign up to being present at more events.

Cllr Coates commended the Heritage Team for their effort in organising the Mayor Making Ceremony.

The Heritage and Cultural Manager gave an update on the team's work and goals. She discussed how successful the schools programme is and how they are building upon this and expanding the Town Council's offer to schools. She mentioned how craft events will resume, and that a willow weaving workshop has been arranged. She discussed how the Guildhall is being used more frequently and how outside organisations are also utilising the space.

Cllr Williams left the room at 20:15 and returned at 20:17.

The Council was informed that the Officers are part of the Town Team for Culture which is enabling the Town Council's voice to be part of bigger projects concerning Barnstaple's community and development.

Cllr Coates asked if the councillors could receive a tour of the Guildhall so that new councillors are aware of the Town Council's collection.

It was RESOLVED: To note the Community Development update. Approved (NC).

10 Overview of a Proposed Communications Strategy

It was RESOLVED: To note the overview of the proposed Communications Strategy.

The principles behind good communications are to help:

1. Promote the aims and ambitions of the Council.
2. Maintain and improve reputation.
3. Foster engagement of residents, stakeholders and staff.
4. Support good political and managerial leadership.
5. Build trust in the community, and

6. Attract visitors and investment to the Town.

The principles were considered and approved (NC).

11 Town Council Vision and Strategy (standing item)

It was RESOLVED: To note that the Town Council Strategic Plan will be developed and delivered over the coming year and that each committee will need to contribute. Approved (NC).

Meeting closed at 8.47 pm.

Chairman.

Signed:

Dated: