

Minutes of the **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY, 7 March 2023** at **6.00 pm** at **Ferryhill Town Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillor: C Bihari (Chair)

Councillors: C. Atkinson, S. Bowron, B. Lamb

Officials: D Anderson, Town Clerk
E Clark, Works Manager
S Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

CS.17.22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor C Woods.

Councillors D Farry, J Makepeace, J Quinn & K Tinkler were not in attendance but no apologies were received.

CS.18.22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

CS.19.22-23 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

There were no members' dispensations in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

CS.20.22-23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

CS.21.22-23 REVIEW OF ALLOTMENT & GARAGE TENANCY AGREEMENTS

Consideration was given to a report which had been previously circulated.

An additional sheet was distributed to members at the meeting regarding co-workers on allotment plots and the Clerk suggested that this be included within the agreements.

The Clerk also pointed out an amendment to No.19 of the allotment agreement regarding buildings, instead of buildings being raised 3" from the ground it was suggested that 6" seemed a more suitable height.

Members agreed to the new tenancies and the inclusion of the above, however they felt it was short notice to introduce the new agreements for this year and it would be fair to tenants to carry out a consultation in May once the rents had been paid and introduce the agreements later in the year.

RESOLVED

That the Allotment and Garage tenancy agreements be approved and once the 2023-24 rents have been collected a consultation be carried out.

CS.22.22-23 REVIEW OF FLAG FLYING POLICY

Consideration was given to a report which had been previously circulated.

The policy referred to flags that could be flown by the Council, described as recognised, and flags that as a general principal would not be flown as they would require specific planning consent. It set out guidance published by the government in relation to designated flag flying days, which were proposed to be adopted by the Council, and also gave guidance on flying flags at half-mast. It also suggested other ways of acknowledging significant occasions where there is not an appropriate flag, or where a flag would require planning consent, such as a post on Facebook or lighting the Town Hall an appropriate colour.

A schedule of flag flying days for 2023 was attached at appendix 2 for consideration.

Councillor Bowron requested that Autism Awareness Day be recognised. The Town Clerk advised that as a flag would require planning consent the Town Hall could be lit an appropriate colour and a post included on the Council's Facebook page.

RESOLVED

1. That the flag flying policy be adopted
2. That Town Hall be lit an appropriate colour and a post be included on the Council's Facebook page on Autism Awareness Day.

CS.23.22-23 WORKS MANAGERS QUARTERLY REPORT

Members considered a report which was previously circulated. Miss Ellie Clark, Works Manager was in attendance to answer any questions.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

CS.24.22-23 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – CANOPY, TOWN HALL GARDEN

Consideration was given to a report which had been previously circulated.

Whilst members agreed the canopy of lights looked fantastic at Christmas, they felt that in this economic climate they couldn't justify paying such a large amount of money to re-instate the poles for the canopy and felt a large Christmas Tree in the garden would be more appropriate.

Moved by Councillor C Atkinson, **Seconded by** Councillor S Bowron to look into purchasing a real Christmas Tree for the Town Hall garden and the canopy of lights be looked at in the future.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk look into purchasing a real Christmas Tree for the Town Hall garden and the canopy of lights be revisited in the future.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.50pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....