

Billingham Town Council

Minutes of Services & Engagement Committee Meeting Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 5.30 p.m. Held at Billingham Library & Customer Service Centre

Present: Councillors Helen Atkinson
 Michelle Bendelow
 Gareth Hedley
 Maria Lacey
 Mick Stoker (Chair of Committee)

Official: Miss Vicky Lloyd – Deputy Town Clerk

Apologies: Councillor Daniel Forrest (Personal)

Cllr Gina McCall was also present.

91/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed all present. The usual rules about housekeeping were made.

92/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

93/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

There were no public present or questions on this occasion.

94/24 MINUTES OF SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15th OCTOBER 2024

Members were asked to approve the above draft minutes.

RESOLVED

- (i). That the minutes of the above meeting held on 15th October 2024, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

95/24 EVENTS UPDATE

The Deputy Town Clerk gave members an update on events.

Billingham Remembrance Sunday Parade

On the 10th of November working in partnership with the Royal British Legion the Town Council delivered the annual Remembrance Day Parade which was well attended.

Representatives from the Royal British Legion, Armed Forces, Scouts, Sea, Army and St John Ambulance cadets and other local organisations marched from the top of the Salutation Public House to the Cenotaph on Station Road. Reverend Wachepa conducted a short Remembrance service which was followed by the laying of wreaths.

A short service was also held at the war memorial at Port Clarence on the Sunday afternoon.

Christmas Tree Lights Switch On

On the 30th of November, the Town Council will be holding its annual Christmas Tree Lights Switch on in Billingham Town Centre. The event will commence at 3pm with a singing performance by girl group Pink Lemonade. At 4pm Singing Sues Vocal Academy will perform carols around the Christmas tree. Culminating with the light switch on at 5pm by the cast of the Forum Theatre pantomime Cinderella. Event plans have been submitted to the Independent Safety Advisory Group at Stockton on Tees Borough Council for assessment.

The Town Council is running a children's design a Christmas Jumper colouring competition closing date Friday the 13th of December. The winner will receive a Christmas hamper.

RESOLVED

(i). Information duly noted.

96/24 SERVICES UPDATE

Members noted the update report from the Business Support Manager on Café in the Park, Pantry in The Park, Soup & Sandwich project, groups and organisations using the building.

The Deputy Town Clerk informed members Festive Afternoon Tea is available at Café in The Park from Monday 2nd of December to Friday 13th of December, 10am till 3pm £9.50 per person. Christmas Lunch (main course & dessert) Monday 16th of December to Friday 20th of December £15 per person.

Pantry

The last pantry will be Monday 23rd December and will reopen on the 6th of January 2025.

RESOLVED

(i). Information duly noted.

97/24 LOW GRANGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

A meeting with the Trustees has been held to focus on developing the centre. Room hire enquiries include Holidays Are Fun programme, after school club and dog training classes.

A Christmas fayre will be held on the 8th of December, 11am till 3pm which includes Christmas stalls, hamper raffle, refreshments with mince pies.

A discussion took place on potential user groups i.e. blood transfusion service, pop ups – Stockton employability & training hub, money advice and savings, Stockton Advice & Information Service, Tees Credit Union, Stockton Learning & Skills, Thirteen and the Fire Brigade.

RESOLVED

(i). Information duly noted.

98/24 NEWSLETTER

Members discussed future editions of the newsletter to include a winter and spring edition.

RESOLVED

(i). Information duly noted.

The meeting concluded at 5.50pm with Councillors Atkinson, Bendelow, Headley, Lacey & Stoker present.

Signed  Date 17-12-2024
Chairman of Services & Engagement Committee