

Billingham Town Council

Minutes of Services & Engagement Committee Meeting **Tuesday 17th December 2024 at 5.30 p.m.** **Held at Billingham Library & Customer Service Centre**

- Present:** Councillors Helen Atkinson
 Gareth Hedley
 Maria Lacey
 Mick Stoker (Chair of Committee)
- Official:** Miss Vicky Lloyd – Deputy Town Clerk
 Miss D Smith – Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer
- Apologies:** Cllr Michelle Bendelow – Personal
 Cllr Daniel Forrest – No apologies received

Cllr Gina McCall was also present.

113/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

114/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

115/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

There were no public present or questions on this occasion.

116/24 MINUTES OF SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19th NOVEMBER 2024

Members were asked to approve the above draft minutes.

RESOLVED

- (i). That the minutes of the above meeting held on 19th November 2024, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

117/24 EVENTS UPDATE

The Deputy Town Clerk gave members an update on events.

Christmas Tree Lights Switch On

On the 30th of November, the Town Council held its annual Christmas Tree Lights Switch on in Billingham Town Centre. The event included a singing performance by girl group Pink Lemonade, mascot characters for photo opportunities, children's rides and carols around the tree by Singing Sues Vocal Academy. Culminating with the light switch on at 5pm by the cast of the Forum Theatre pantomime Cinderella.

Events 2025

- VE/VJ Day 80 – Thursday 8th May
- Billingham Show – Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th September
- Billingham Remembrance Sunday Parade – Sunday 9th November
- Christmas Tree Lights Switch On – Saturday 29th November

RESOLVED

- (i). Information duly noted.

118/24 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.

RESOLVED

- (i). Information duly noted.

- 119/24 PLANNING APPLICATION 24/2028/FUL – Hybrid planning application comprising:**1) Full planning permission for the demolition of existing buildings/structure (West Precinct, 35-39 Queensway, 64-98 Queensway and Kingsway West car park), erection of new building (class E) at 35-39 Queensway, change of use of 1-9 Town Square to a public house (sui generis, creation of a new, surface level car park, and façade improvements to existing buildings and 2). Outline planning permission for the erection of a new building (class E) at 72-90 Queensway and Town Centre public realm/landscaping improvements.
Location: Land at Billingham Town Centre, The Causeway, Billingham.

Members were asked to consider any comments to the above planning application.

At this point Cllr Stoker declared a pecuniary interest and left the room whilst this item was discussed.

Members remain neutral in respect of this application and made the comment that clarification is required on the management of vehicle parking facilities throughout the demolition works. Following the reconfiguration of the townscape would there be adequate vehicle parking spaces.

RESOLVED

- (i). Comments to be submitted to Stockton on Tees Borough Council.

120/24 LOW GRANGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Deputy Town Clerk advised members that the Trustees held a Christmas Fayre on the 8th of December. Proceeds raised from the event will be split between Pantry in The Park and the Chairmans chosen charity The Billingham Legacy Foundation.

Members were asked to approve the following:

1. Task & Finish Group
2. Terms of Reference

RESOLVED

- (i). Members unanimously approved the formation of the Task & Finish Group.
- (ii). Members approved the Terms of Reference for the above Group.

The meeting concluded at 5.52 pm with Councillors Atkinson, Hedley, Lacey and Stoker present.

Signed M. Stoker Date 14-01-2025
Chairman of Services & Engagement Committee
M. STOKER