

## **Billingham Town Council**

### **Draft Minutes of Services & Engagement Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Held at Billingham Library & Customer Service Centre**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillors	Helen Atkinson Michelle Bendelow Mick Stoker (Chair) Gareth Hedley
<b>Official:</b>		Miss Dee Smith – Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer Miss Tracy Reece – Business Support Manager
<b>Apologies:</b>		Councillor Maria Lacey – No apologies received Councillor Daniel Forrest – No apologies received

Cllrs Gina McCall and Janet Atkin were also present.

#### **192/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

#### **193/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

#### **194/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**

There were no public present or questions on this occasion.

#### **195/24 MINUTES OF SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**

Members were asked to approve the above draft minutes.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i). That the minutes of the above meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

## **196/24 EVENTS UPDATE**

The Town Clerk gave members an update on events.

- VE Day 80 – taking place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May. The Town Crier will read the proclamation at the flagpole outside the library at 9am, and then the VE Day 80 flag will be raised. From 6pm in John Whitehead Park, there will be a celebration event including music from the Latte Singers and Billingham Silver Band. Activities will take place in the café. At 9.30pm, Mr Mark White CBE DL will read the VE Day 80 Tribute followed by the beacon lighting.
- Billingham Show – taking place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Tummy Ticklers Nursery will be providing the activities in the Children's Corner this year.

The Clerk also reminded members of the Annual Assembly taking place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 6.30pm.

### **RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

## **197/24 SERVICES UPDATE**

- a. The Business Support Manager gave an update on the Café in the Park, Pantry in The Park, Soup & Sandwich project, Go with the Flow and local groups using the building.

Members were asked to consider changing the hours of the pantry so that it opens earlier for parents dropping their children off at school on a morning. Concerns were also raised about the lack of variation of products from the Fareshare deliveries for the pantry.

- b. Members were asked to consider the continuation of the Baby & Toddler Group at the café.

### **RESOLVED**

- a. Information duly noted.
- b. To change the pantry hours to 9am to 10.30am and contact Fareshare raising concerns about the content of the deliveries.
- c. To defer the consideration of the Baby & Toddler Group to the next meeting of this committee in June 2025.

## **198/24 LOW GRANGE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Members were presented with a report on the centre.

The Town Clerk advised members that from May 2025, all Full Council meetings will be held in the Main Hall at the centre due to the rising costs of Billingham Community Centre on The Causeway.

**RESOLVED**

Information duly noted.

**The meeting concluded at 17.53pm with Councillors Atkinson, Bendelow, Hedley & Stoker present.**