

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **Wednesday 10th APRIL 2019** at **7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT Councillor I Gray (Chairman) and
Councillors Eddy Adam, M Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson,
Derek G Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P J Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp,
Mrs D Bowman, Arun M Chandran, B A Clare, J D Clare, J Clark,
Mrs M Dalton, R S Fleming, George C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, B Hall,
Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Kate Hopper, Mrs V M Raw,
Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

OFFICIALS Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr S Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)
Mr L Williams (Grounds Maintenance Service Coordinator)

79. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Wendy Hillary, M Iveson and Mrs S J Iveson.

80. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

81. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

82. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

83. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Dave Hardaker seconded by Councillor Mrs M Dalton and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the **27th February 2019** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

84. **ALLOTMENT REPORT**

The Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator submitted an Allotments' Inspection Report for the period ending 31st March 2019. The report also advised that Darlington Bee Keepers' Association had agreed a license allowing them to use an area of land adjacent to the current plots for teaching, education and demonstrations.

RESOLVED –it be recommended that the report be received.

85. **CEMETERIES REPORT**

The Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator submitted a report for the period ending 31st March 2019 giving information with regards to burials and grants of grave spaces which had been issued.

RESOLVED - it be recommended that the report be received.

86. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report for the period ending 31st March 2019 to update members on environment items including the removal of a mature Sycamore at Aycliffe Village and the completion of tarmac works in the Lorry Park and Council Offices' car park.

RESOLVED - it be recommended that the report be received

87. **WORKS & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SERVICE PLAN**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report which requested members to approve the annual Service Plan.

RESOLVED - it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) The Plan be approved.
- iii) The Town Pride Team be shown on future staffing structures.
- iv) The number of staff in each section be shown on future staffing structures.
- v) The staff structure conforms to GDPR.

88. **STUMP GRINDING**

The Works and Environment Manager's report brought members up to date with work required following the removal of the large Leylandii hedge at Stephenson Way Cemetery and asked members to consider the preferred option for removal of the remaining stumps.

RESOLVED –it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) A contractor be employed to remove the stumps.

CHAIRMAN.