



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL (Full Council) meeting held at 6:00 pm on Thursday 10 October 2024, in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Blyth, NE24 2AS.

Present:

Councillors: A Barrass (Mayor), A Cartie (Deputy Mayor), D Carr, C Jones, K Nisbet, J R Potts, M Richardson, S Stanger, and W Taylor.

Officers:

M Wilkinson (Town Clerk), E Brown (Principal Officer).

Members of the Public: 0

Questions from the public: 0

Min No	
1	Apologies for absence G Davey, S Davey, J Reid, M Robson, and A Watson. The apologies were agreed.
2	Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations None.
3	Mayor's Announcement The Mayor informed that the resignation of Cllr C Humphrey has been received with immediate effect. She further went on to highlight a civic visit to Solingen accompanied by Cllr K Nisbet where an abhorrent incident sadly occurred; thoughts and prayers remain with the city. She presented to the Council a gift from Solingen; a model of the Müngsten Bridge. The Mayor also spoke of those residents and businesses of Blyth that have been affected by the recent storms which caused flooding and damage to properties in parts of Blyth. She emphasised that

	we as a town council will continue to support charities and projects that are helping flood hit residents and businesses.
4	Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 18 July 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4.1	Actions outstanding from Previous Minutes None.
5	<p>Committee Minutes to be approved.</p> <p>5.1: Community Funding Sub Committee – 10 September 2024. It was agreed as a true record and signed by the Committee Chairman.</p> <p>5.2: Environment Committee – 19 September 2024. It was agreed as a true record and signed by the Committee Chairman.</p> <p>5.3: Special Community Development - 1 October 2024. It was agreed as a true record and signed by the Committee Chairman.</p> <p>5.4: Governance Committee – 1 October 2024. It was agreed as a true record and signed by the Committee Chairman. In addition, members thanked Cllr Robson for bringing to the Committees attention the proposal regarding the LGPS.</p>
6	<p>Decision Report</p> <p>6.1: External Audit Report 2023/24 It was resolved to accept the recommendations of the Governance Committee meeting held 1 October 2024. It was noted that Councillor email addresses were being progressed to .gov.uk.</p> <p>6.2: Interim Internal Audit Report 2024/25 The content of the report was noted.</p> <p>6.3: Review of Policies i. Retention Policy</p>

	<p>Members considered the amendments to the policy. It was resolved to accept the amendments.</p> <p>ii. Risk Management Policy Members considered the amendments to the policy. It was resolved to accept the amendments.</p> <p>Members requested clarity on the Code of Conduct complaints procedure. The Town Clerk informed that the civility and respect pledge was due back on the agenda in January and would highlight this information.</p> <p>iii. Public Question Time Procedure.</p> <p>Members considered the amendments to the policy. It was resolved to accept the amendments with the addition of a line explaining that public question time can be extended at the discretion of the Mayor.</p> <p>6.4: Office Arrangements - Christmas 2024 Members considered the report. It was resolved that the Town Council Office and services by staff would close from 3.00pm on Friday 20th December 2024, re-opening on 9.00am on Thursday 2 January 2025.</p> <p>Members also thanked staff for the work carried out over the year when there have been vacancies and other shortages of resources.</p>
7	<p>Delegated Decision Report</p> <p>There are no delegated decisions to report.</p>
8	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>This item is only for items of information to be given to Town Councillors and for items which either the Committee Chair or Town Clerk consider to be genuinely urgent.</p>
9	<p>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of the Blyth Town Council will be held on Thursday 9 January 2025 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House. Public Question Time Starts at 6.00pm and Council will commence shortly afterwards.</p>

	The meeting closed at 6:30 pm
10	Part II Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

A Barrass (Mayor)
A Cartie (Deputy Mayor)
D Carr
G Davey
S Davey
B Erskine
C Humphrey
C Jones
K Nisbet
J R Potts
J Reid
M Richardson
M Robson
S Stanger
W Taylor
A Watson