



HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL

I GIVE NOTICE that an online meeting of the Community Engagement Committee will be held on Monday 1 March 2021 at 6.30pm when the following matters will be considered:

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To receive minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held 12 January 2021, enclosed.
3. Matters arising (if any).
4. Councillors' declarations of interest (see enclosed).
5. To consider content for the Hex-press.
6. To note the Hexham Cultural Network meeting on 2 March.
7. To note a NALC free public online event on 2 March on being a local Councillor.
8. To consider responses to the Tourism Strategy consultation (see attached).
9. To consider the Honorary Steward and Bailiff of Hexham award.
10. To consider a community noticeboard.
11. To consider 2020 Footfall in Hexham data (circulated to Committee members on 23 February).
12. To agree a date and time for the next meeting.
13. Any urgent matters at the Chairman of the meeting's discretion (*matters to be raised under this item should be written out (if possible) and handed to the Chairman of the meeting or the Clerk before the meeting begins*).

Jane Kevan
Town Clerk
23 February 2021

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Hagenda0321CommunityEngagement

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2021

648.	PRESENT: Councillor T Pearson in the Chair and Councillors R Hull, S Ball, T Dodds, J Ord, C Hanley and T Cessford. One local resident also attended.
649.	No APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received.
650.	MINUTES of the meeting held on 1 December 2020, having been circulated, were AGREED.
651.	<p>MATTERS ARISING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. DEFIBRILLATOR SITE (minute 639g and action log refers). It was noted that the new bus station may no longer be the preferred site, due to the possibility of vandalism and also as it is so near the hospital. It was further noted that at the Torch Centre or outside No 28 may be preferred.b. HSHAZ (minute 642 and action log refers). It was noted that a briefing had been held for Councillors on 15 December.c. DRAFT TOURISM STRATEGY (minute 643 and action log refers). It was noted that a questionnaire should be sent out next week, once the NCC consultation mechanism is available.d. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE (minute 644 and action log refers). It was noted that a working group will be set up after the elections. A suggestion for a "post Covid party" was noted but it was AGREED that an event such as a picnic in the park may not safely take place until next year although the Town Council will fund it. It was also noted that the Hexham Market Charter 800th anniversary will be in 2022 and this needs to be commemorated.e. GREEN FLAG AWARD (minute 645 and action log refers). It was noted that Space for Nature have offered help. It was AGREED to clarify the skills being offered and to liaise with the Operations Manager before any work is started. It was also noted that both bird and bat surveys have been arranged and that information on the Hexham Cemetery booklet has been added to the website.f. QUALITY STATUS (minute 646 and action log refers). It was noted that draft minutes have been added to the website but that an action plan and proposed actions still need to be considered.
652.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest were made.
653.	HEXPRESS: It was AGREED to check with the Community Partnership

	when the next edition will be issued and to consider whether it should be electronic only and in a different format.
654.	SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY: It was AGREED to approve the draft policy attached to the agenda and to refer it to the Finance & General Purposes Committee to recommend to Full Council.
655.	SEATING AT THE BANDSTAND: It was AGREED to contact Councillor Graham about his suggestion for this and research seating options.
656.	SKATEPARK: It was noted that Hexham Youth Initiative has a wish list; a list of approved contractors has been provided by the Skateboarding Association; Cramlington Town Council has recently improved its skatepark; and that equipment and surfacing are both very expensive. It was AGREED to discuss this issue with NCC's Green Spaces Officer and Sports Development Manager and to research any grants that may be available.
657.	COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD: It was AGREED to seek advice on the possibility of placing a community noticeboard next to the Town Council noticeboard outside the Moot Hall. It was also AGREED to add contact details for the Samaritans to the noticeboard and website.
658.	CORBRIDGE COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING SCHEME: It was AGREED to note information received on this and to circulate it to all Councillors for information.
659.	NEXT MEETING: It was AGREED that the next Committee meeting will be held online on Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 6.30pm.

Action Log

Contact Space for Nature/liaise with Operations Manager (minute 651e)	Councillor Ord/Clerk
Consider a Quality Status action plan and proposed actions (minute 651f)	Councillor Pearson/Clerk
Contact HCP regarding the next Hexpress (minute 653)	Councillor Pearson
Refer the social media policy to the F&GP Committee (minute 654)	Clerk
Contact Councillor Graham re bandstand seating and research seating options and costs (minute 655)	Councillor Pearson/Admin Officer
Contact NCC Officers re the skatepark and research possible grants (minute 656)	Councillor Ball
Contact Val Robson about an additional noticeboard and research options and costs, and add Samaritans' details to the HTC noticeboard and website (minute 657)	Clerk

Circulate info on the Corbridge community-led housing scheme (minute 658)

Admin Officer

Chairman

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 3 September 2012 Councillors must declare if they have a disclosable interest in any matters under consideration.

To do so Councillors should use one of the following statements:

1. "I have a disclosable pecuniary interest
in..... (for example) Agenda item 3,
Planning application number 13/1234".
(NOTE: Code of Conduct paragraphs 11&15 apply).
2. "I have a disclosable personal interest
in..... (for example) Agenda item 4,
Grant aid application by Hexham Youth Initiative
(NOTE: Code of Conduct paragraph 13 applies).

Councillors should familiarise themselves with the Code of Conduct regarding the definitions of (A) pecuniary interest and (B) other personal interest and their obligations when declaring any such interests.

To ensure Councillors interests are correctly minuted please use one of the above statements when declaring an interest.

NB. Should a Councillor wish to take part in the consideration and voting on a matter or matters in which he/she has a disclosable interest then they may request a dispensation be granted to enable them to take part in the discussion and voting on it but at least 10 days' notice must be given for any dispensation request.