

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on **WEDNESDAY, 17th JANUARY 2018** at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT: **Councillor I Gray (Chairman)** and
Councillors Eddy Adam, M Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Derek G Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, Mrs D Bowman, Arun M Chandran, J D Clare, J Clark, Mrs M Dalton, R S Fleming, George C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, Dave Hardaker, K Henderson, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, M Iveson, Mrs S J Iveson, Mrs V M Raw, Ken Robson and Paul Symons.

OFFICIALS: Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr S Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)
Mrs J Thexton (Leisure Manager)

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Sally Symons.

66. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P J Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, B A Clare and B Hall.

67. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

68. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

69. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

70. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton, and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meetings of the Environment Committee held on the **29th November 2017** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

71. **PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor Jed Hillary, seconded by Councillor Ken Robson, and

RESOLVED –that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee held on the **6th December 2017** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

72. **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Grounds Maintenance Services Coordinator submitted a report for the period ending 7th January 2018. The report advised of routine maintenance which had been undertaken.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report be received.

73. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report to update members with environment items including the removal of fish from the pond at Aycliffe Nature Park to protect the Great Crested Newts. The report also advised of events held during the Christmas period and standard trees and hedgerow plants which were to be planted throughout the Town.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- a) The report be received.
- b) Officers ascertain whether there is a possibility of determining a monetary value of the fish and the destination of the fish which are to be removed from the Pond.

74. **CEMETERIES REPORT**

The Grounds Maintenance Services Coordinator submitted a report to update Members with burials and grants of grave space.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report be received.

75. **BUS SHELTER REQUEST – BURNHILL WAY**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report which advised of a request by a resident of Avon Court for the installation of a bus shelter on Burnhill Way, near Avon Court.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- a) The report be received.
- b) The offer from Durham County Council Councillors to fund installation of a bus shelter (with maintenance carried out by Durham County Council) on Burnhill Way near to Avon Court be accepted.

CHAIRMAN