

Billingham Town Council

Minutes of Services & Engagement Committee Meeting

Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 5.30 p.m.

Held at Billingham Library & Customer Service Centre

Present Councillors: Michelle Bendelow (Chair)
Helen Atkinson
Gareth Hedley
Mick Stoker

Official: Miss Vicky Lloyd – Deputy Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr Clare Gamble (No apologies given)
Cllr Maria Lacey (Personal)
Cllr Michael Shotton (No apologies given)

Cllr Gina McCall was also present.

151/23 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed all present. The usual rules about housekeeping were made.

152/23 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

153/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

There were no public present or questions raised on this occasion.

**154/23 MINUTES OF SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 19th DECEMBER 2023**

Members were asked to approve the above draft minutes.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the minutes of the above meeting held on 19th December 2023, a copy of which has been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.


20/2/24

155/23

EVENTS

Members were asked to consider a commemorative event to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day on 6th June 2024.

Members discussed ways we can come together as a community to commemorate D-Day. Ideas included local entertainment i.e. choir and silver band culminating in the lighting of a beacon in line with the nations tribute at 9.15pm. To work in partnership with the Royal British Legion (Billingham Branch) and other military groups. A working group to be set up.

An event plan will need to be submitted to Stockton on Tees Borough Councils Independent Safety Advisory Group (ISAG) for assessment.

RESOLVED

- (i) Information duly noted.
- (ii) A working group to be set up to report back to committee.

156/23

SERVICES UPDATE

The Deputy Town Clerk gave a verbal update on Café in the Park, Pantry in the Park, Soup & Sandwich Project and Sunday Lunch Service.

Café in the Park

The full café service will reopen for Easter. We continue to participate in the community space initiative offering residents a safe space to go during the day to keep warm, enjoy a hot drink, Wi-Fi, books, puzzles and games.

Corona Energy in partnership with Stockton & District Advice & Information Service have donated winter warmth boxes which contain thermal hats, thermal gloves, thermal socks and a torch.

Pantry in the Park

The pantry continues to open on Monday mornings. Opening hours have changed to 9.30am - 11.30am due to early demand from residents. Approximately fifty families visit the pantry each week.

The town council has subscribed to FareShare membership costs are £25 per month. Our first delivery included fresh fruit and vegetables and good quality food. Items will change weekly.

Soup & Sandwich Project

Soup and a sandwich continue to be offered to people attending the Pantry to takeaway.

Sunday Lunch Service

The service continues to offer a free hot two course Sunday Lunch delivery service to seventy two older residents. The service is struggling due to a lack of delivery drivers and volunteers to help run the service. The Business Support Manager has requested a review of the service to solve the issues.

Members recommend to full council to cease the Sunday Lunch delivery service and replace with a monthly community lunch sit-in service. The Business Support Manager to produce a report for full council on staffing, costs to run the service and results of the survey of existing recipients of the service, to establish who still requires a meal.

RESOLVED

- (i) Information duly noted.
- (ii) Recommendation to full council on 23rd January 2024 to cease the Sunday Lunch delivery service and replace with a monthly community lunch sit-in service.

The meeting concluded at 6.15p.m. with Councillors Atkinson, Bendelow, Hedley, McCall & Stoker present.

Signed..... Date
Chair of Services & Engagement Committee