

Seaham Town Council



Seaham Town Hall, Stockton Road, Seaham, Co. Durham SR7 0HP
Tel: Wearside (0191) 581 8034

Town Clerk: Dianne Rickaby
Deputy Town Clerk: Paul Fletcher

DR/AR

30th September, 2020

In accordance with Paragraphs 7 & 10(2) (b) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

I hereby summon you to attend a Meeting of the PARKS AND EVENTS COMMITTEE to be held **online** on TUESDAY 6th OCTOBER 2020 at 6.30PM

Members of the press and public who wish to attend this meeting please email info@seaham.gov.uk to request the zoom login details.

Dianne Rickaby
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED OF THE NEED TO DISCLOSE ANY INTEREST, PREJUDICIAL OR PERSONAL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT

Accept the amendment to the standing orders to incorporate the new regulations from the Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, to conduct **DECISION REQUIRED** Virtual Council meetings.

The following items were deferred from the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 29th September, 2020

2. Allotment Issues

2.1 Fishbone Allotments Complaint about Caravans near to Neighbours Boundary – Hill Crescent

Fishbone Allotment Association and the plot holder have refused to move the Caravans away from the boundary as requested and agreed by Councillors previously. As per the attached letter at Appendix 5 the

plot holder and association have been instructed by the Council to move the vehicles off site form over 12 years now and they have refused. All the Council is currently asking them to do as a compromise is to move them away from the neighbour's boundary to the opposite side of the site but the plot holder and association still refuse to do this. Two options for the Council are to allow the association and plot holder to continue to disregard the Councils instructions or look into having them removed by calling a solicitor and bailiffs in to remove them from the site. On top of this the neighbour who is complaining about the caravans and vehicles has contacted the ombudsmen and put a formal complaint into the Council as attached at Appendix 6 and Members are asked to provide direction and instruction to Officers on how they want to answer this formal complaint and deal with the potential ombudsmen's investigation.

2.2 **Complaints about Animals at Fishbone Allotments**

Durham County Council has this year had to serve two letters to plot holders at Fishbone Allotments for dogs barking and being a nuisance to local residents. Attached at Appendix 7 is a poster put up at Fishbone Allotments recently regarding a concern for the welfare of animals on site. Members are asked to provide direction and instruction tom Officers on how they want the Council to deal with these issues.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to note the information being provided above and to decide and provide instruction to Officers on how they want items 17.1 and 17.2 to be dealt with.

3. **Greenscape**

Greenscape have stated they are willing to sign the draft agreement attached at Appendix 8.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to note the information.

4. **Sports Fees and Charges**

Attached at Appendix 9 the financial detail of what clubs usually are charged and what has been charged to date under the current virus crisis. Members are asked to briefly discuss although it may be prudent to hold back on any final decisions as this crisis would appear to be continuing and it maybe that further sports seasons could be affected.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to discuss the issues of sports fees and charges in the context of the current virus.

5. **Risk Management Issues**

There are financial and health and safety implications with regards to items on this committee report particularly in light of the current virus

crisis. However, all risks have been minimised by careful risk analysis and consultations with industry experts. The majority of the issues in this particular report are low risk both from a financial and health and safety point of view and any risks follow industry best practice and guidance from the Health and Safety Executive. All larger events such as the Carnival and Fireworks Night are organised in partnership with the local Police, Fire Brigade, Durham's Safety Advisory Group. Smaller events are risk assessed and managed internally. Thorough risk assessments are compiled, and inspections of the sites carried out prior and on the day of the events. Inflatables such as bouncy castles, big inflatable slides, walk in inflatable mazes etc are banned from Council owned land due to the risk of injury however, attractions that use for example inflatable sides for safety and protection as part of a larger non inflatable ride are allowed. Financial risk is reduced by the above reducing the risk of public and employee liability claims however, the financial risk of an event not attracting large crowds due to poor weather conditions is always a problem in particular with free events.

DECISION Members to note the information.
REQUIRED