

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



PF/AR

24th February, 2021

MEETING 1

PARKS AND EVENTS COMMITTEE – TUESDAY, 2nd MARCH 2021, 6.30pm

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, 2ND MARCH, 2021

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**

DECISION REQUIRED 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 virtual meetings.

2. **MEMORIAL – MR JOHN HAYS**

Although attempts have been made to make contact no response has been received from Mrs Hays. The Shop on Church Street have said it may be too early for this and also there are other pressing issues with regards to the pandemic and the effects on the holiday industry being dealt with. It is suggested the Town Council sends further correspondence in a month if no response has been received.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to agree for the Deputy Town Clerk to sends further correspondence in one month if no response has been received.

3. SPORTS MURALS

No further feedback has been received to date unless it comes in between this agenda going out and the night of the meeting.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to note the information provided.

4. ELECTRIC MODEL CARS

Attached at Appendix A are pictures received from the Chairman of the Durham County Model Car Club. The group are a local amateur sports club who race 1/10th scale electric model cars in both indoor and outdoor settings.

The group are currently searching for a piece of land where they can lay and construct a permanent outdoor flat astro-turf track the first of its kind in the North East. The track would be big enough to host both 1/8th and 1/10th Regional, National and European Championships which attract competitors from all over the world.

It is suggested that the Deputy Town Clerk meets with them to look at possible sites not only on Council land but also put them in touch with for example the owners of the land where the model aeroplanes set off from.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to agree for the Deputy Town Clerk to meet with the Club to look at possible sites.

5. AIR RAID MEMORIAL

As members were previously informed names may need adding and removing from the existing memorial at the old cemetery and it has been proposed to add a new one at the clock garden. It is hoped that the Deputy Town Clerk can meet in person with the local historical societies, RBL and other interested parties when the situation allows to move this issue forward and bring recommendations to this committee.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to agree for the Deputy Town Clerk to meet with interested parties when the situation allows to agree recommendations to be brought back to this committee.

6. SEAHAM CEMETERY (LORD BYRONS WALK) RULES

Members are asked to approve the letter attached at Appendix B that sensitively asks members of the public to remove items that don't conform to the rules of the cemetery so that maintenance can be carried out. Attached at Appendix C is the existing template letter sent out to deed holders upon purchase of a grave space. Attached at Appendix D is the existing Cemetery regulations for Seaham Cemetery.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to agree for the letter attached at Appendix B to be sent out.

7. CYCLING COAST TO COAST – WHITEHAVEN TO SEAHAM

A Coast to Coast Cycling finishing point in Seaham has been talked about for some time now. It would be good if Councillors agreed to invite the Regeneration team from DCC, Sustrans and Whitehaven Council to a Zoom meeting in the near future to try and see how this could be achieved.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to agree for a Zoom meeting to be set up with all interested parties.

8. MINUTES OF ALLOTMENTS WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 2ND FEBRUARY 2021

Attached at Appendix E are the minutes of the Allotments Working Party meeting which was held on 2nd February, 2021 for Members approval.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to approve the minutes of the Allotments Working Party meeting held on 2nd February, 2021.

9. PROPOSED VIEWING PATIO AT DAWDON CRICKET PAVILION

Dawdon Cricket Club have requested permission from the Town Council to allow them to create a patio area between the Pavilion and practice nets to promote a safe area for outside viewing of their games. Attached at Appendix F is the proposed location plan for the site.

DECISION REQUIRED Members views and further instructions are requested.

10. COMPLAINT FROM GREENSCAPE

There has been a complaint from Greenscape that they have asked to be raised at this meeting. They feel they are being targeted by someone throwing bags of dog dirt into their community garden. This is on top of the incident where someone threw poison over their garden. They wanted Councillors to know about the problems and would like to know if the Council can assist them trying to catch the person or persons.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to note the information and provide any instructions on how it can help.

11. PARKS & EVENTS AND LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS (JUNE 21ST 2021)

With the likelihood of all restrictions being lifted on 21st June 2021 it is request that Members approve the Deputy Town Clerk to start organising with partners the Armed Forces Day 26th June, NHS and Frontline Works Day 5th July, Carnival 16th, 17th and 18th July, Pirates Festival 29th August, Fireworks 5th November, Armistice Day 11th November, Remembrance Sunday 14th November and Christmas Lights 26th November.

Another event in the pipeline for members to approve is the RBL 100th Anniversary in 2021. It looks like events will start in May and continue throughout the year. It is hoped the Town Council can work with the Royal British Legion and put an event on at Terrace Green and it maybe that the Council will agree to provide £2,000 and in kind support to this project. It is though that an event maybe proposed shortly by the Royal British Legion to take place sometime in July on the Terrace Green as they see the site as idea for such an event.

It is also suggested that the Parks Department goes back to normal hours from April 1st 2021 and the Town Hall is open fully for work, meetings and events from 21st June. The Deputy Town Clerk has already began to engage with Ramside to try and get initial thoughts on a recovery plan and will arrange a meeting with them and the Town Hall Working Party as soon as possible.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to note the information and agree that the Deputy Town Clerk can organise the events above along with agreeing to support the RBL event as detailed and begin the Councils recovery from the pandemic as detailed above.

12. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

There are financial and health and safety implications with regards to items on this committee report particularly considering 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 REQUIRED Members to note the information.

13. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the confidential and commercially sensitive nature of the following items, the formal resolution be hereby passed to exclude the press and public from the meeting pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act, 1960.

DECISION REQUIRED Resolution to be passed to exclude the press and public from the meeting pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act, 1960.

14. DAWDON BOWLS PAVILION REFURBISHMENT

Pursuant to the last meeting of the Dawdon Park Charity a Member raised a question of the timescales for the bowls pavilion at Dawdon Park to be refurbished.

The Deputy Town Clerk requested that this item be referred to this meeting for further discussion. It maybe prudent to wait and see how many actual players attend this season to determine whether it is worth carrying out a new bowls pavilion project. £22,473 was left from the Dawdon Project.

DECISION REQUIRED Members to decide whether to wait and see how many actual players attend this season before committing any more Council resource to this possible project.

15. PROPOSED PURCHASE OF LAND AT FIELD HOUSE FARM

A member of the public has expressed an interest in purchasing land between Burdon Crescent and the public footpath linking Stockton Road and the Industrial Estate classed as Seaton Burn. Attached at Appendix G is a map of the area.

DECISION REQUIRED Members views and further instructions are requested.

16. PROPOSED PURCHASE OF ALLOTMENT LAND ADJACENT TO 1 HILL CRESCENT

Attached at Appendix H is an email correspondence from the current plot holder requesting to purchase the allotment adjacent to 1 Hill Crescent for which he is the current tenant.

DECISION REQUIRED Members views and further instructions are requested.

17. SPORTS CLUB LEASES

As Members will remember this was put on hold as the Town Clerk wanted to investigate the issue of the clubs and their income further. However it has come to a point where it is hoped that a working party can meet in the next couple of weeks to finalise the draft leases and take them to the next Full Council meeting for approval so the clubs can try and gain external funding.

Members are asked to nominate Councillors to sit on the working party and agree a date and time to meet.

DECISION REQUIRED Members views and further instructions are requested.

18. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

DECISION REQUIRED Members are asked to consider whether any of the items discussed present a press opportunity.

Sent to: COUNCILLORS R ARTHUR, E. BELL, MRS J A BELL, MRS G BLEASDALE,
MRS K BRACE, S P COLBORN, S CUDLIP, MRS S FORSTER,
MS R M GRATTON, G N HEPWORTH, MRS L KENNEDY, D MCKENNA, K SHAW,
T SHEPHERD, B TAYLOR, MISS L WILLIS

External Notice Board, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk (Leisure and Amenities),
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Finance Officer, Senior Clerical Assistant,
Administrative Assistant, Information & Technical Assistant, Internal Auditor, File.