Minutes of the Economy Committee meeting held on

Tuesday 2nd February 2023 at 7pm

# Present

Cllrs G Jennison, G Dixon, B Wyatt-Millington, S Hewitson and R Knowles

In attendance:

Deputy Town Clerk, Cllr Wheatley (Bingley Town Council), Peter Ashton and Anna Dixon, Bob Davidson Baildon Walkers are Welcome

# EC2223/40 Chairs opening remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked the Deputy Clerk for his hard work over the Christmas period; specifically the lights switch on.

Cllr Hewitson thanked Cllr Jennison for the hard work she also put into the festive events over Christmas.

# EC2223/41 Approve reasons for absence

None

# EC2223/42 Disclosures of interest

None

# EC2223/43 Minutes of previous meeting

**Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of 27th September 2022.**

# EC2223/44 Clerks report

The Deputy Clerk had provided a brief update on the dismantling of the Christmas lights.

# EC2223/45 Public participation

Peter Ashton commented on his support for the Baildon Tram train proposal.

Peter also noted his support that the Ian Clough name be retained for the new library. Cllr Dixon advised that this is something that is being discussed but we are not at that stage of development yet.

Anna Dixon raised concerns about the lack of banking facilities and a central Post Office in Baildon.

# EC2223/46 Possible Post Office / Cash Facilities in Baildon (Library) – Moved Up

Cash Machine:

It was discussed and noted that the Council / Councillors have not been approached regarding lack of cash machines, as there are various around Baildon. Access to cash remains important for many, but there are a number of cash machines in the area, viz: on Otley road at Tesco and Esso, in Baildon Co-op, McColls and Coach Road Post Office.

Post Office:

Options were discussed.

The committee agreed that there remains an aspiration for a central post office but the library would be an unsuitable location for various reasons.

It was agreed that the Coop would currently be the best location for a post office, should one be opened in the village centre.

**Resolved that the Economy Committee would write to the Coop to explore the issue.**

Anna Dixon will also write to the Coop in this regard.

# EC2223/47 Miconex Community Gift Card Scheme (Moved Up)

# Cllr Wheatley gave a detailed explanation of the project as well as the scope and goals.

Discussions were had regarding what the Council would actually get in return for the funding (what is included within the cost) as well as the viability of such a scheme in Baildon.

The committee thanked Cllr Wheatley for such a detailed report and for his time put into the project.

**Resolved that Baildon Town Council will not enter into this project.**

# EC2223/48 Walkers are Welcome (Moved Up)

Walkers are Welcome rep gave a detailed report on the recent successful events put on by Walkers are Welcome as well as their hopes for the future.

The committee congratulated Walkers are Welcome on their ongoing success as well as the popularity of many of their events.

**Resolved to allocate £500 from next year’s budget to Walkers are Welcome.**

**Resolved to move £250 from Marketing Baildon into the Walkers are Welcome budget line (this year) and delegate the same to the Clerk for upcoming events.**

# EC2223/49 Important Information From Councillors and Staff

Cllr Dixon updated the committee that the Harley weekend will be going ahead this calendar year.

Cllr Wyatt-Millington updated that he hopes to have something for the upcoming newsletter relating to Bradford City of Culture

# EC2223/50 Northgate Public Toilets

# The Committee noted that it was previously agreed that we would have gates installed (with the automated / timed locking system) with £3000 delegated to the clerk to have doors fitted if needed.

# Discussions were had as to whether the gents toilets could be re arranged so that there is just one cubicle, allowing more room for different styles of anti-vandalism toilets.

**Resolved to allocate £3037.42 from the Northgate Toilets reserves and delegate the same to the Clerk in order to implement repairs and refurbishment of the gents toilets.**

# EC2223/51 Public Transport

Cllr Knowles gave a report on the various challenges and benefits of public transport in Baildon (specifically trains) followed by a detailed proposal on implementing a Tram train system in Baildon and into Bradford Interchange and Foster Square.

**Resolved that the Economy Committee support the proposal and to recommend the same to the next Full Council.**

**Resolved to nominate Cllr Knowles as the lead Councillor on Public Transport.**

Cllr Knowles advised the committee on the possible forthcoming cuts to bus services and suggested that a watching brief be implemented.

**Resolved to ask BTC staff to monitor this and notify Cllr Knowles of any cuts when they show up on the report.**

Cllr Knowles also reported on the lack of display bus timetables at Baildon Station and the Baildon Station bus stop. Cllr Knowles advised further that there are no real-time bus displays at Baildon Towngate bus terminus or Baildon Railway Station.

**Resolved that Cllr Knowles will write a formal letter to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on behalf of the Council in relation to these issues.**

# EC2223/52 Parking

Parking issues in the village were discussed but no action to be taken at this stage.

# EC2223/53 Friends of Baildon Station Nursery Invoice

Item withdrawn as matter resolved.

**EC2223/54 Review of Committee Budget**

Resolved to move £375 from Baildon at Christmas budget to the Northgate Toilets budget line.

**EC2223/55 Promotional Opportunities**

Walkers are Welcome

**EC2223/56 Items For Next Agenda**

None at this stage

**EC2223/57 Next Meeting Date**

TBD

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