

## **BEVERLEY ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Energy Technology Centre, East Riding College,**

**Armstrong Way, Beverley at**

**6.30pm**

### **25 members of the public were present.**

Also in attendance were: Mayor of Beverley, Councillor Bryan Pearson; Deputy Mayor, Councillor Duncan Jack; Alan Menzies, Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration, East Riding of Yorkshire Council; PCSO Matthews; Mike Welsh, Principal, East Riding College; Helen Watson, Town Clerk; Libby Woodhouse, Administrative Assistant; and Peter Nendick, Macebearer.

### **1. Mayor's Introduction**

The Mayor of Beverley, Councillor Bryan Pearson, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Mayor gave a report to the Meeting as follows:

Along with the Council's planning and environmental consultee duties and daily operational duties within the town, looking after 270 allotments over 5 sites and the skate park, we have achieved the following:

- Recent Success - 2018-2019 Yorkshire Regional Finalists in the national Countryside Alliance Rural Oscar in the Local Food & Drink category for Beverley Food Festival. Regional winners will be awarded at Westminster in June. Also a finalist in 2 categories (Local Food & Drink Experience and Event) in the 2019 Remarkable East Yorkshire Tourism Awards
- Great Get Together in June – there was an Alice in Wonderland theme and thanks must go to local talented actor Gordon Meredith as the Hatter. This was a collaborative event with St Marys Church.
- NGS Open Allotments Day Scarecrow Festival.
- Britain in Bloom Judging in August – Judges Rae and James were delighted with all the hard work done by many - Beverley Town Council, our Bloom Volunteers, Brighter Beverley, ERYC and all who were associated. We won silver gilt overall, but a very proud GOLD for the COMMUNITY Section. This is judged on three pillars of Horticulture, Culture/Environment and Community. So really it's a full town audit. We really need people to pull together to make our town shine this summer in preparation for the Yorkshire in Bloom judges this year. Any volunteers are warmly welcomed.
- Brighter Beverley – The Volunteer team were out and about litter picking and tidying the streets of Beverley. Two dates coming up in 2019 are 12<sup>th</sup> March and 9<sup>th</sup> April. See Deputy Mayor Cllr Jack for more information.
- The Food Festivals were well attended in October and November and are popular events on the Beverley Calendar. This year we welcomed Peter Sidwell a celebrity TV chef and food writer that attended Beverley College 25 years ago.
- Beverley Town Council paid for the Beverley Bonfire to be erected and dismantled once again and worked in collaboration with Westwood Lions.
- The Christmas Lights in November were illuminating and we thank all involved especially the Fundraising group and the Beverley Westwood Lions.
- The Christmas Food and Drink Festival in collaboration with Beverley Minster was another success enjoyed by many in November.
- The Big Beverley Pancake Race – A new addition to the events calendar to keep the town alive. 10 business teams were involved and this was a good community event. This was repeated again last weekend. Beverley Town Council worked with the Rotarians to stage this event. We thank the Rotary Club of Beverley with special mention the late Rosanne Randle, whose support and idea it was to re-start the Race from the 1980's, who sadly passed away last year.
- Pensioners Lunch – Always well attended with a flavour of local food and entertainment and enjoyed by many. This year George England entertained with a smile and a song or two and we were even up dancing.

- The Town Council has a new project starting in April which is an RHS Gardening/Community Allotment group made of Beverley Town Council, new volunteers, a charity called r-evolution, Civic Society, St Marys Church and ERYC. Anyone interested in this should contact Helen, the Town Clerk.
- Mayoral Charities - This Year the Mayoral charities are Cherry Tree Centre and St Marys Church Lads and Girls Brigade. These are two worthy local charities that do great works across all ages in Beverley. Quizzes and tombolas have been held and there will be a concert on 27<sup>th</sup> April so come along and give generously to these charities.

**The Mayor thanked all the working groups of Beverley Town Council and the community groups the Council works with:**

Beverley in Bloom, Brighter Beverley, Westwood Lions, Beverley Lions, Rotary Club of Beverley, St Marys Church, Cherry Tree Centre and St Marys Church Lads and Girls Brigade.

The Mayor thanked East Riding of Yorkshire Council and local businesses who partake in hanging basket scheme.

Food Festival sponsors were thanked - Beverley Minster, Jacksons, East Riding College, Deli No One, HEYHA (Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitality Association) and VHEY (Visit Hull and East Yorkshire)

The Mayor said that as it was near the end of a 4 year term of Office, he would like to take the opportunity to thank fellow Councillors, the Town Clerk, the Deputy Town Clerk, the Admin Assistant, the Handyman and the Macebearer. They are a small but very efficient team, who work hard to make Beverley a better place to live, work and enjoy.

**2. Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

A resident wished to correct the accuracy of the Minutes in that on page 2 Community Rail had *NOT* promised to paint the bridge. The Meeting resolved that with the correction, the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

**3 Any matters of interest or concern relating to Beverley**

The Mayor invited questions from the floor and requested that anyone who wished to speak gave their name and post code to ensure they are resident within the Beverley Town Council Parish boundary. Due to the new Data Protection Act 2018 whereby written consent would be required to store and process personal data, the identity and addresses of residents with queries is not published.

**Twinning**

- A resident commented on how successful the recent twinning trip to Nogent had been and queried how the Council would build on this in the future.

The Mayor reported on the visit to Nogent which he also had attended and how welcoming and exceptionally kind they had been. On their return visit, Beverley will try to show the same warm welcome.

The Town Clerk stated that funding in the budget for the forthcoming year had been included for Twinning purposes however it would be for the new Council following the elections to determine how this was spent.

- The resident also queried whether the Council had considered the option to take part in twinning with an Italian town.

The Town Clerk reported that this had been discussed at a Council meeting. The proposal would mean a new association and had not gone forward at the time due to costs and people willing to take this forward. The proposition was still there but not resolved.

The Mayor stated that the new Council would be able to consider this proposal again.

- A resident asked whether anything had been learnt from the Nogent visit that could improve Beverley.

The Mayor reported that the Christmas Lights on the drive from Nogent to Chantilly where they had stayed were incredible.

The Deputy Mayor also had visited Nogent and remarked that displays could be improved in Beverley but that depended on finance. The roundabout snowscene Christmas Trees in Nogent were very nice but that it was the wrong time of year for floral displays.

### **Streetscene Issues – Litter, Dog Fouling**

- A resident commented that dog stencils and bins had been very good in trying to combat the litter and dog fouling issue. The resident had been concerned that with the new Flemingate and College development there would be an increase in litter, however the area was always well swept and cleared and remarked how successful this had been. Following contact with Flemingate or the College the area is always cleared if needed.

The Deputy Mayor explained that the Brighter Beverley Group were meeting at the Potting Shed on 12<sup>th</sup> March to litter pick and clear the Sparkmill and Priory Road area with a possibility of doing the access between Grovehill Road and Holderness Road depending on time and volunteers. The cleaning day last year near Roberts & Speight to Tesco had proved extremely successful. A large amount of litter had been collected and ERYC had been a great support by coming to remove the large number of black sacks that had been filled.

- A resident commented on issues in the Chantry Lane/Priory Road area:
  - That the area was terrible with litter and cups that had been dropped
  - That it was awful to see the area being used as a smoking area by college staff.

Mr Welsh, the College Principal, kindly agreed to take these issues back and look into them. A resident confirmed swift action was usually taken from either ERYC or the Town Council if issues were reported to them.

### **Joint “Greater Beverley” Meetings**

- A resident pointed out the anomaly of this meeting and that this was just for the four Beverley Wards when in fact residents considered themselves part of the greater town of Beverley which included Molescroft and Woodmansey. Would the Town Council consider having a “whole Town meeting” to include Molescroft and Woodmansey.

The Town Clerk stated that the Town Meeting was a result of the legal situation arising from 1894 and still a legal requirement from the Local Government Act 1972. At that period of time it was considered an important vehicle for information flow however if there are issues in the current time, access is usually 24/7 by email or phone messages. The legal situation is that it *must* be done by law. The Town Clerk reported that meetings with the neighbouring parishes of Molescroft and Woodmansey had taken place but there had been a lack of continuity recently due to issues such as changes in staff. Both Molescroft and Woodmansey would be holding their own Annual Parish Meetings shortly. The new Council can consider this option following elections.

### **Commuted Sums**

- A resident queried the amount of Commuted Sums that had been spent within the central four Wards of Beverley. It was felt that more money had been given to Molescroft and Woodmansey and queried where it had been spent within Beverley. The resident asked that this is researched and included within the Minutes of this meeting.

Another resident gave an indication where Commuted Sums had been spent which included the Cricket Club, the Windmill at the Golf Club, the Norwood Recreational Club and Bowling Green and the Rugby Club for the development of their youth team.

The Town Clerk will research this matter and will include a list in the Action Plan attached to these Minutes.

**MUGA Facility**

- A resident stated that some time ago the Town Council went into discussion with ERYC with respect to the MUGA on some land which would be built on within Beverley. ERYC were to provide an equivalent facility however this had not happened and could the Town Council provide an update. Another resident reported that the Town Council went into agreement with ERYC to surrender the land and that the Town Council had kept to the bargain. What had the Town Council done to make sure ERYC had kept to their side of the bargain?

The Mayor outlined the position with regard to the land for the benefit of the other people in the meeting. It had become an awful space and had caused a great deal of consternation.

The Deputy Mayor assured the resident that the Council would take this up and would write to ERYC for clarification and a response would be provided to the residents and published.

The Town Clerk reported that this issue will be forwarded to Full Council to consider.

**Annual Town Meeting Minutes**

- A resident asked that the Minutes of this Meeting are published in draft form and within the public domain within 4 – 6 weeks as this would be a reasonable timeframe.

The Mayor stated that the Minutes would be available when they were ready.

The Mayor thanked the Police, Alan Menzies ERYC and Mr Welsh from the College for their time in attending and that it was good to see them.

The Mayor closed the Meeting at 7 pm.

Signature: .....

Date .....