



**WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Robinson (Chair), K Dalton, J Dobie, D Graham, P Hedley, A Hogg, C Taylor, J Tyler.

COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT: S Tyler.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Town Clerk S Young and 11 Members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations for this meeting.

OPEN SESSION

- A resident asked for an update in relation to his request for a new footpath opposite the Police Station.
The Chair advised that the Council had receive quotes for the work but was unable to procure the work through their preferred supplier due to the lack of appropriate permissions from Northumberland County Council.
- A resident asked if there had been any progress with regard to resolving the previously identified issues around the Street Lighting Replacement Project.
The Chair was able to reaffirm that the Council had already taken these matters up with the NCC lead officer responsible for the project and although we have received assurances that the issues will be dealt with there is still no time scale as to when that may be.
- A resident asked if Lidl would be making any contribution towards the provision of new bus shelters near their new store.
The Chair confirmed that a couple of requests had already been made to Lidl but to date no reply had been received.
- A resident asked if any provision had been made to notify bus users of revised arrangements whilst Front Street is closed for the weekends Street Fair.
Councillor Hedley offered to provide notices in the bus shelters to notify bus users of alternative bus stops.
- A resident informed the Council that there was no longer any advertising of service changes on the buses themselves.
- A resident asked what the times of the weekends Street Fair are.
The Chair was able to confirm the times of the event.
- A resident asked if there were any plans to locate fairground equipment on the "gap" site. The Chair confirmed that the whole event would take place on Front Street.
- A resident provided an update on the Bedlington Partnership's work towards a Neighbourhood Chairman's initials

Plan and asked for interested residents to get in touch and involved in the process.

C106/16 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Councillor S Tyler.

Resolved to accept the apologies for absence received.

C107/16 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

Resolved that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 14th July 2016 are approved.

C108/16 - 3. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Hogg informed the Council that in respect of C101/16 12. Planning the planning application ref 16/02175/FUL has been withdrawn by the applicant.

Councillor Hogg asked in respect of C104/16 Councillor Taylors resignation when would the election of a Deputy Mayor and a representative on the Bedlington Partnership be determined. The Clerk apologised and advised that both appointments would be included within the next meeting agenda.

C109/16 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were disclosures of interest from Councillor Hogg in relation to Agenda Item 11 Planning – planning application reference 16/02440/DISCON and Councillor Hedley in relation to Agenda Item 13 Community Chest Application.

C110/16 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE

The Chair provided updates on the matters detailed in Appendix D – Chairs Update

C111/16 - 6. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS

- a. Finance and Governance – No Meeting to report upon.
- b. Events and Communication working group – Councillor Graham provided a verbal update and informed the meeting that a Community Defibrillator had today installed and registered with North East Ambulance Service at Bedlington Masonic Hall.
- c. Services Committee – Councillor Dalton provided a verbal update in support of the previously distributed draft copy of the minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 28th July 2016.

Resolved to accept all committee / working group reports

C112/16 - 7. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

- a. **Resolved to join the National Association of Local Councils “Direct Access Scheme”.**

C113/16 – 8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Council were informed of the following correspondence:

Ref	From	Summary	Action
125/16	Wellbeing – NCC	Web based version of NHA Pocket Guide	Noted and Circulated
126/16	Safer Northumberland – NCC	Safeguarding Short Film	Noted and Circulated
127/16	NALC	Enews 12 July 2016	Noted and Circulated
128/16	Northumberland County Council	Review of charges at Household Waste Recovery Centres	Noted and Circulated
129/16	NALC	Northumberland County Council Future Budgets	Noted and Circulated
130/16	Wellbeing NCC	Pokemon – Rising Concerns	Noted and Circulated
131/16	NALC	Enews 19 July 2016	Noted and Circulated

Chairman's initials

132/16	NALC	Advance notice of planned Transparency Training	Noted and Circulated
133/16	NALC	Enews 26 July 2016	Noted and Circulated
134/16	Bedlington Forum	Next Meeting notice – 15 th August 2016	Noted and Circulated
135/16	Northumberland County Council	Northumberland News – Summer Edition	Noted and Circulated
136/16	NALC	Enews 2 August 2016	Noted and Circulated
137/16	Go North East	Simplified Fares for Young people, Students and Apprentices	Noted and Circulated
138/16	NALC	Mailing List inclusion for future National Association Local Councils bulletins.	Noted and Circulated
139/16	Bedlington Forum	Next Meeting 15 th August 2016 – agenda and minutes from last meeting	Noted and Circulated
140/16	St Cuthberts Church	Letter of thanks	Noted and Circulated
141/16	Vera Baird – Police and Crime Commissioner	Domestic & Sexual Violence & Abuse	Noted and Circulated

West Bedlington Town Council has been requested to give their opinion on the following consultations:

Owner	Description	Where and When
National A.L.C	Survey – Community Led Housing	On Line by 30 th Sept 2016

The following invitations have been received:

Date	From	Description	Comments
13 th July 2016	Northumbria Healthcare	2016 Annual Members Meeting	Invite Distributed
16 th July 2016	Northumberland County Council	Northumberland Live Gallagher Park	Invite Distributed
10 th Aug 2016	Historic Towns Forum	Volunteer Event Kellogg College, 60-62 Banbury Road, Oxford.	Invite Distributed
TBC	WPR Farms	Site Visit to view business diversification	Invite Distributed
3 rd Sept 2016	Bedlington Community Allotment	Open Day	Invite Distributed

Resolved that all correspondence, consultations and invitations have been properly received and actioned.

C114/16 - 9. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

a). Feedback from Councillor Representatives on external committees

- Town / Parish Liaison Committee (Councillor Robinson) – no meeting to report upon.
- NALC – (Councillor Dalton) – no meeting to report upon
- LMAPS now Community Safety Hub– (Councillor Hedley) – no meeting to report upon
- Northumberland In Bloom – (Councillor Taylor) – no meeting to report upon.
- Red House Farm residents Group – (Councillor Hogg) – no meeting to report upon.
- Joint Meetings with East Bedlington Parish Council – no meeting to report upon.
- Gallagher Park Steering Group – (Councillor Dalton) – no meeting to report upon
- Dr Pit Stakeholder Meetings – (Councillor Dalton) – no meeting to report upon.
- Bedlington Steering Group – (Councillor Graham) – no meeting to report upon.

b). Resolved to appoint Councillor Hedley as the Councils representative on Northumberland in Bloom.

Resolved to accept all reports provided.

C115/16 - 10. CLERKS REPORT

There was no Clerks report for this meeting.

C116/16 - 11. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

Resolved to approve the schedule of payments and receipts (Appendix B).

C117/16 - 12. PLANNING

Chairman's initials

Ref.	Description	Response Due
16/02347/FUL	Proposed double garage with single flat accommodation replacing existing garage and outhouses Location Four Acres Hartford Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AQ	11th August 2016
16/02440/DISCON	Discharge of Conditions (Construction Method Statement), 4 (Highway Works), 5 (Street Management and Maintenance), 6 (Surface Water), 7 (Landscaping Plan), 8 (External Materials Schedule), 9 (Parking Area), 10 (Drainage), 12 (Refuse Storage) and 13 (Surface Water Drainage) for Planning Permission 15/03794/FUL - Development of 10 no. 2 bed 3 person bungalows, new access road and turning head & 16 parking bays Land To The Rear Of 19 Hartford Road East Bedlington Northumberland	15 th August 2016
16/02389/DISCON	Discharge of Conditions 1 (Reserved Matters), 2 (Expiry Date of Outline Approval), 3 (Expiry Date of Reserved Matters Approval), 4 (Refuse and Recycling Storage), 6 (Completed in Accordance with Development Plan), 7 (Vehicular Access Design), 8 (Highways Management Plan), 9 (Access), 10 (Construction Work and Delivery Hours), 12 (Contamination), 14 (Disposal of Surface Water), 15 (Drainage Plan), 16 (Overland Surface Water Flows), 17 (Disposal of Surface Water During Construction Phase) and 18 (SuDs Basin) for Planning Permission - 15/01080/OUT - Outline Permission: Residential development for up to 180 dwellings. Land East And South East Of Blue House Farm Netherton Road Bedlington Northumberland.	15 th August 2016
16/02402/FUL	Proposed single storey extension to front to provide additional Lounge. Location 27 Nottingham Court Hazelmere Bedlington NE22 6PE	17th August 2016
16/02514/FUL	Construction of porch / wc Location 67 Westlea Bedlington NE22 6DY	25 th August 2016
16/02685/MISC	Upgrade of telecommunications equipment Communications Mast Netherton Lane Bedlington Northumberland	N/A

Resolved not to make any comment in relation to 16/02347/FUL

Resolved not to make any comment in relation to 16/2440/DISCON

Resolved to comment in relation to 16/02389/DISCON in relation to site access, loss of hedgerow, location of site compound and contractor traffic.

Resolved not to make a comment in relation to 16/02402/FUL

Resolved not to make a comment in relation to 16/02514/FUL

Planning decisions are shown in Appendix C for information only.

C118/16 - 13. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS

Resolved to award £437 to 2522 (Bedlington) SQN Air Training Corps in respect of their Community Chest Application.

C119/16 - 14. RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

No further update but members were reminded to submit news articles without delay.

C120/16 – 15. POLICE REPORT

Resolved to accept the Police Report provided.

C121/16 – 16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman's initials

Councillor Hedley – invitation to Vera (Baird Police and Crime Commissioner) to attend a future Council meeting.

Councillor Hogg – election of Deputy Mayor and Council representative on Bedlington Partnership.

Councillor Hogg – enquiry about planning permission for advertising hoardings in Bedlington Market Place.

Councillor Graham – hoped everyone would enjoy the weekends Street Fair.

Councillor Robinson – Contingency for and procurement of a food festival event on 17th/18th September 2016.

C122/16 – 16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 8th September 2016 at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre

Meeting Closed at 7.45pm

Signed by the Chair

11th August 2016

Appendix A, B and D Form Part of these minutes.

Appendix A – No Clerks report for this meeting.

**Appendix B – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 12) Payment 1st June 2016 to 30th June 2016
All payment GROSS of VAT.**

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Description
Bedlington Masonic Buildings Ltd	(1,380.00)			Contribution to Community Defibrillator
Talk Talk Business	33.00			Telephone + Internet
Bedlington Community Centre	3,965.00			Rent and Room Hire
Alcyone Healthcare	(1,380.00)			Contribution to Community Defibrillator
Zen Internet Ltd	4.79			Internet Hosting
Land Registry	6.00			Land Search
St Benet Biscop Catholic	(15.00)			Uncashed cheque written back
Community Works	(306.00)			Rental Contributions from the Community Picnic
Community Works	1,790.00			Community Picnic
Belle Tents Ltd	1,680.00			Marquee Hire – Community Picnic
Salvation Army	200.00			Community Chest Funding
Salvation Army	200.00			Youth Leisure Funding
St Cuthbert's Church, Bedlington	360.00			Funding for Pipes and Drums
Bedlington Community Centre	45.00			Wreath
Northumberland County Council	2,706.75			Payroll Costs

Chairman's initials

Appendix C - Planning decisions notified to WBTC by NCC - Information Only

Ref.	Description	Decision
16/01516/FUL	Proposed single storey extension to form garage and bathroom with quad pitch roof to replace existing flat roof Location 17 Rosalind Avenue Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5BA	Granted
16/00511/VARYCO	Variation of condition 8 (Removal of Hedges) relating to planning permission 14/04261/VARYCO - Variation of condition 15 from application 13/02080/FUL (Erection of 33 dwellings with associated highways and landscaping infrastructure) (As Amended)	Granted
16/01878/FUL	Resubmission of application 16/00643/FUL - Side extension to an existing house to form two bedroom house. Location 47 Alfred Avenue Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AZ	Granted
16/01814/CCD	Proposed single storey extension to Early Years building to form toilets, changing room and meeting room Location Bedlington West End First School Ridge Terrace Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6EB	Granted

APPENDIX D – Chairs Update (Agenda Item 5)

Chairman's update July 2016:

Not much to report this month as most people are way on holiday.

I did have a meeting with NCC highways and tried to tie the officer down on several issues including the forgotten yellow lines around the Nail, new bollards to stop vehicle ingress onto our Market Place, same problem at the top of the street and whether our bin replacement programme will have any reason to be a matter of concern to NCC highways?

Again we were promised to be kept in the loop even, as I requested, if the answers were no! To date nothing has come back.

Further to that I asked through Steven for any updates on the myriad of things we discussed and questioned with NCC Neighbourhood Services and the Officer in charge of the street lighting project. Again the silence is deafening and it's holding us up putting into place the projects we have agreed to do this year.

At the next NCC Parish/Town council meeting I will be highlighting this and furnishing a list of dates and times this has happened. It really isn't good enough.

I also had a meeting with Dean Jackson our Town Champion. He confirmed he is leaving and I will let him explain to the steering group his reasons but I do need to say what my reaction was. I said if we do not get another Town Champion straightaway then I will be saying that NCC and Arch have clinically deceived the Bedlington community with their whole Tesco redevelopment consultation exercise. I can't think of any other reason to give us a Town Champion then not replace him!

I was asked to collect as much info as possible off young people about the type of equipment and activities we should consider for our playground equipment project. I duly asked our Youth Council to canvass their peers and again they stepped up to the mark. This is Christine's remit so I won't go into many details but one thing which did emerge was reports of bullying going on in the Dr Pit Park. I said I would do what I could to resolve that as soon as it was reported to me and I spoke to Victoria Thompson, Mike Jefferies and Emma Evans about the possibility of a multi-agency approach.

Chairman's initials

Vicky is the Police Vicky! They agreed and we now have a meeting on 23rd of this month with Police, NCC Councillors, NCC Youth Services, NCC parks and Lyn from Leading Link. I hope we can sort this out so once the upgrades have been done the park will be there for everyone to enjoy! Plus I personally don't like bullies!

Our Street Fair is on this weekend and I do want to mention one or two things about it, or more specifically the pre planning which has gone on. Members will remember at our last meeting we spoke of a particular problem we had encountered last year but which I hoped to resolve this year, namely showmen claiming some sort of holy rite to be the only operator allowed to come in on any fairs we might want to put on. After protracted negotiations, sometimes quite heated and at one point this year's fair was cancelled, I rewrote a contract and the operator has duly signed it. This gives us the right to say who comes in or not! I would like to thank David for making himself available for all of these meetings and even the times he had to be somewhere else on our behalf. No doubt he will update members about this weekend's extravaganza!

I also contacted Arch about the wall at the side of their School Hall development. As members will remember it was classed as dangerous to public safety by the appropriate NCC officer. Seems when it was in private hands we had all sorts of support from NCC, now its theirs, once again, the silence is deafening. I will read out the applicable bit of what came back.

"The wall is part of the planning approval i.e. it will be taking down and rebuilt further into the site to allow the footpath to widened up church lane. In terms of danger, building control have not served any notices and are aware of its condition . I believe the previous owner carried out some remedial work and erected heras fencing."

Now I believe we as the statutory planning consultee have any plans or resubmissions brought before us for comment and I can't remember seeing any planning in the now approved application to widen the footpath. It would have been welcomed I'm sure! Neither have I seen a resubmission reducing the number of flats from 19 to 18 which is being touted now. The previous owner cut the tree down and that's about it as far as I remember? Maybe its time building control did issue a notice, if it was a public safety matter back then it still is as far as I can see!

Chairman's initials