



**WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 11th May 2017 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Robinson (Chair) Agenda Item 1 only, D Graham, P Hedley, C Henderson, A Hogg, K Roach, C Taylor, V Thompson, M Trimmings, J Tyler.

COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT: All Councillors were present for the meeting.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk S Young and 21 (Twenty One) members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations for this meeting.

C071/17 – 1. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2017/18

Resolved: Having been proposed and seconded Councillor Christine Ann Taylor was elected Mayor of West Bedlington Town Council for the year 2017/18.

C072/17 – 2. TO RECEIVE THE MAYORS DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Councillor Taylor signed the Mayors Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

C073/17 – 3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR THE YEAR 2017/18

Resolved: Having been proposed and seconded Councillor Victoria Thompson was elected Deputy Mayor of West Bedlington Town Council for the year 2017/18.

Councillor Thompson signed the Deputy Mayors Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

OPEN SESSION

- A resident made a short statement to the effect that he hoped that politics could be kept out of future Town Council meetings and decision making.
- A resident sought the support of the Council in relation to the protection of Humford Dam. The Clerk advised that the Council had already invited the Northumberland Rivers Trust to The Annual Meeting of the Town on Wednesday 31st May 2017 to make a presentation and answer questions from residents about the dam.
- A resident supported the views expressed by other residents in relation to the protection of Humford Dam.

C074/17 - 4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence for this meeting – all Councillors were present.

Chairman's initials

C075/17 - 5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 6th April 2017 are approved.

C076/17 - 6. MATTERS ARISING

- Councillor Hogg asked with regard to minute C058/17 7d NRSA Act Section 50 Agreement if any further update was available. The Clerk advised that further information was still needed and that the matter would be added to a future agenda once it has been received.
- Councillor Trimmings asked with regard to minute C058/17 7c if any further update was available. The Clerk advised that further information was still needed and that the matter would be added to a future agenda once it has been received.
- Councillor Trimmings asked with regard to minute C068/17 17 Any Other Business about the absence of the future agenda items requested on the current meeting agenda. The Clerk apologised for the omission and confirmed they would be included within the next meeting agenda.

C077/17 – 7. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest for the meeting.

C078/17 - 8. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS

- a. Finance and Governance – No meeting.
- b. Events and Communication working group – No Meeting however The Clerk provided a brief verbal update and advised the Council that proposals for both a Bedlington Picnic 2017 and Bedlington Street Fair 2017 were expected in the near future.
- c. Services Committee – The Clerk distributed draft minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 27th April 2017.

RESOLVED to accept all committee / working group reports

C079/17 - 9. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

- a. **RESOLVED** to accept the draft monthly Council meeting dates for the year supplied with the exception of June's meeting which will be held on 15th June 2017.
- b. **RESOLVED** to continue with the current structure of Council Committees and Working Groups – Finance and Governance Working Group, Events and Communications Working Group and Services Committee.
- c. **RESOLVED** the membership of Committee and Working Groups –
Finance and Governance Working Group – Councillors Taylor, Thompson, Hedley, Hogg, Roach and Trimmings.
Events and Communications Working Group – Councillors Graham, Hedley, Hogg, Taylor and Thompson.
Services Committee – Councillor Graham, Hedley, Henderson, Hogg, Roach, Taylor, Thompson, and Trimmings.
- d. **RESOLVED** to reappoint Mr Malcolm Wilkinson as the Councils Internal Auditor for the financial year 2017/18.
- e. **RESOLVED** that Councillors Hedley, Hogg and Roach will be the Councils cheque signatories.
- f. **RESOLVED** to make a payment of £5k in support of Bedlington Live 2017.

C080/17 – 10. CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that all Correspondence, Consultations and Invitations (Appendix A) has been properly received and actioned.

Chairman's initials

C081/17 - 11. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

a) Feedback

- I. Town / Parish Liaison Committee - no meeting to report upon.
- II. NALC – no meeting to report upon.
- III. LMAPS now Community Safety Hub– (Councillor Hedley) – report for next meeting.
- IV. Northumberland In Bloom – no meeting to report upon.
- V. Gallagher Park Steering Group – no meeting to report upon.
- VI. Dr Pit Stakeholder Meetings – no meeting to report upon.
- VII. Bedlington Partnership – no meeting to report upon.

RESOLVED to accept all reports provided.

b) Election of Council representatives on external communities / bodies

RESOLVED that with immediate effect Councillor representation on external groups will be:

- I. Town / Parish Liaison Committee – Council Chair Councillor Taylor (Deputy Chair if absent)
- II. NALC – Councillor Hogg.
- III. LMAPS now Community Safety Hub– Councillor Hedley.
- IV. Northumberland In Bloom – no longer needed.
- V. Gallagher Park Steering Group – Councillor Graham.
- VI. Dr Pit Stakeholder Meetings – Councillor Trimmings.
- VIII. Bedlington Partnership – Councillor Thompson.

C082/17 - 12. CLERKS REPORT

RESOLVED to accept the Clerks report (Appendix B).

C083/17 - 13. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments and receipts (Appendix C).

C084/17 – 14. ANNUAL RETURN OF ACCOUNTS 2016/17

- a. **RESOLVED to approve The Annual Return Of Accounts For 2016/17 (The Chair Councillor Taylor signed the approval of the accounts)**
- b. **RESOLVED to accept and approve the Internal Audit summary and report for the financial year ending 31st March 2017.**

C085/17- 15. PLANNING

RESOLVED not to make any comment in relation to any of the applications contained within the schedule for the meeting (Appendix D).

The Clerk was instructed to enquire into any Section 106 funding in relation to planning applications 17/01170/OUT and 17/01163/OUT.

C086/17 - 16. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS

No funding applications for this meeting.

C087/17 - 17. RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

No further update at this time.

C088/17 - 18. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN 2017

RESOLVED to approve the draft meeting agenda provided for the meeting on Wednesday 31st May 2017.

C089/17 – 19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business requested.

Chairman's initials

C069/17 - 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 15th June 2017 at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre

C070/17 – 19. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.52pm

Signed by the Chair

15th June 2017

Appendix A, B, C, D form part of these minutes.

Chairman's initials

Appendix A – Correspondence, Consultations and Invitations. (Agenda Item 8).

a) Correspondence

Ref	From	Summary	Action
130/17	NALC	NALC Transparency 30 March 2017	Noted and Circulated
131/17	CAN	CAN Enews 30 March 2017	Noted and Circulated
132/17	NALC	Local Standing Orders Motions One Draft – May 2017 NALC County Committee	Noted and Circulated
133/17	NALC	Parish Precept in England	Noted and Circulated
134/17	Arch	Bedlington Supplier Event	Noted and Circulated
135/17	Northumberland County Council	Freedom Of Information Presentation Notes	Noted and Circulated
136/17	NALC	NALC Enews 4 April 2017	Noted and Circulated
137/17	NALC	Northumberland Parishes Portal	Noted and Circulated
138/17	NALC	Local Council Elections – Data Information	Noted and Circulated
139/17	Sharon Ramzi	Meadowdale Play Area Closure	Noted, Replied and Both Circulated
140/17	Bedlington Community Allotment	Annual Report 2017	Noted and Circulated
141/17	Northumberland County Council	Reinstatement of Book Banks	Noted and Circulated
142/17	CAN	Spring Conference Update	Noted and Circulated
143/17	NALC	After Election Day Information	Noted and Circulated
144/17	NALC	Green Book Update	Noted and Circulated
145/17	NALC	NALC Enews 11 April 2017	Noted and Circulated
146/17	NALC	Northumberland Elections Figures	Noted and Circulated
147/17	NALC	Pro Parish Council Article (Guardian)	Noted, Circulated and
148/17	NALC	General Election	Noted and Circulated
149/17	Catapult PR	Northumberland Day 28 th May 2016	Noted and Circulated
150/17	Highways England	A1 in Northumberland Improvements	Noted and Circulated
151/17	Ashington Town Council	Workers Memorial Day	Noted and Circulated
152/17	NCC Elections	Notice of Poll County and Parish Elections	Noted, Circulated and Displayed on Notice Board
153/17	Arch	Meet the Buyer Events	Noted and Circulated
154/17	Street Works NCC	TTRO 104644 – Bebside Roundabout	Noted and Circulated
155/17	NALC	NALC Enews 24 April 2017	Noted and Circulated
156/17	Bedlington Community Allotment	Minutes of Spring Get Together and AGM	Noted and Circulated
157/17	Channel 4	Village of the Year	Noted and Circulated
158/17	CAN	CAN Enews 28 April 2017	Noted and Circulated

b) Consultations - None for this meeting

Owner	Description	Where and When
Stannington Parish Council	Neighbourhood Planning Consultation	To Stannington Parish Council by 2 nd June 2017
NCC Planning	Local Plan Core Strategy	Online corestrategy.northumberland.gov.uk

c) Invitations

Date	From	Description	Comments
10 th April 2017	Bedlington Community Allotment	Spring Get Together and AGM	Open to ALL
8 th April 2017	Emily Wallace	Fundraising Banquet	Open to ALL

Chairman's initials

Appendix B – Clerks Report (Agenda Item 12).

Finance - Regular financial updates will be provided to members throughout the year.

Accounts – Annual Return 2017 - If approved at this meeting – I will publish the Annual return on the website and advertise the statutory inspection period. The inspection period will be 3rd July 2017 until 11th August 2017 which fulfils the statutory requirements and avoids my own planned holiday period.

Services

Allotments - No further update – Still awaiting the outcome of our application to register the long term leases with the Land Registry. Funding has been set aside as resolved to provide funding for future repairs (Dr Pit Allotment Association).

Play Areas

Westlea – The supplier has visited the site and carried out a further inspection. Cement may not have taken under the 4 seat springer and this allows excessive movement which probably accounts for the loosening of the nuts and bolts. Also some edges to the grass matting have been turned up – all will be replaced / repaired as part of the ongoing warranty with the supplier. Alarmingly the supplier noted there had been an attempt to burn the safety surfacing.

Meadowdale – The Services Committee Chair has reported that the litter bin was set on fire, the fire service put out the fire straight away.

I have contacted Meadowdale school in relation to school day openings as previous resolved and will advise NCC once the school has confirmed their acceptance.

A contractor has been instructed to fit pads to muffle the noise of the gates as resolved.

Public Seats - I am still awaiting design details for the enhanced war memorial planting – in the meantime the WW1 remembrance seats are in storage awaiting installation.

Litter Bins - Though I've not received any formal confirmation from NCC it appears that they have installed the new ground mounted bins in the locations requested. The location of the bins at Hollymount Square and The Hartlands have been questioned by residents via social media and to Councillor Hogg.

A repair is to be instigated to the lid of the bin near the entrance to The Whitely Memorial School – also I have had no contact from my request to fix the broken lock on the bin at the bottom of the ramp (Old NCC Office) ON Front Street so will contact another supplier to arrange a repair.

Grass Cutting - The “boxed” cut of the grass along Front Street has continued and looks really well.

Events and Communications

I, the Chair, Deputy Chair and Events Chair had an initial meeting with Leading Link and Jigsaw Events Ltd in relation to 2017 Street Fair. They are looking to stage an event on Saturday 19th August 2017 and are to submit a detailed costed proposal as soon as possible.

I am advised that a costed proposal for a Picnic event is imminent.

Projects

Gateway Features - I have submitted the art work for the lecterns to accompany each of the gateway features and awaiting proofs.

Sun Dial - A Heritage Statement has been supplied to progress our planning application for the public sun dial and the planning authority have agreed to an extension of the application determination period.

Lynmouth Lunching Club - Lynmouth Day centre have informed me that due to a funding shortage they have had to delay the start of the proposed luncheon club.

Chairman's initials

Elections

The Town Council election was not contested. A full complement of 9 Councillors have now all completed their declaration of acceptance of office.

The Town has 3 new County Councillors following the outcome of the election.

General

Meetings Admin - I try to send agendas for meetings on the Wednesday proceeding the meeting. Any requests for agenda items should be made before the Wednesday please (Ideally include any agenda requests in Any Other Business at the proceeding meeting).

Minutes – I try to provide a draft of the minutes to The Chair and Deputy Chair the next working day and to all Council members within 3 working days – please let me know of any issues with the draft minutes (I will only record outcomes).

Please feel free to contact me at any time – my preference is email, I can usually pick those up on non-work days (unless I'm up a mountain) and I'll try to come back to you ASAP.

Change of work day – I will not be at work on Monday 15th May 2017 so will work on Tuesday 16th May 2017 (usual hours)

Holiday – advance notice that I will be on holiday for the week 26th – 30th June 2017.

Appendix C – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 13) Payment 1st April 2017 to 31st April 2017. All payment GROSS of VAT.

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Description
Zurich Municipal	1,402.99			Insurance
Smart Office Systems Ltd	7.20			Printer Toner
D L Maintenance + Repair	164.00			Bus Shelter Repair
Keith Dalton	43.20			Councillor Expenses
J Smith & Sons	144.00			Litter Bin Repairs
Talk Talk Business	34.74			Telephone + Internet
Kaspersky	44.99			Security Software
Azure Garden Centre			775.01	Gardening Materials
Northumberland County Council	(97,868.00)			1 st Half Year Precept Payment
Barrington Metalworks Ltd	22,187.64			Gateway Features
WL Straughan & Son Ltd	1,242.00			Turf + Watering
WL Straughan & Son Ltd	554.40			Seat + Bin Installation Costs
Malcolm Wilkinson	67.50			Internal Audit Costs

Chairman's initials

Appendix D – Planning Applications Received for Comment. (Agenda Item 15).

Applications Received for comment by the Council from the Planning Authority.

Ref.	Description	Response Due
17/01258/FELTPO	Tree preservation order: T1 Fagus sylvatica (Beech) fell tree due to meripilus giganteus (fungi). T2 Populus nigra (Black Poplar) fell tree to poor health. Refer to arboricultural report for detail. Location 1 Bellingham Court Bedlington NE22 5QS	11th May 2017
17/01259/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order. Fell: T1 (00582) Horse chestnut, T2 (00583) Horse chestnut, T3 (00584) Lime tree, T6 (00587) Horse chestnut. Crown thin, reduce and deadwood: , T4 (00585) Lime tree, T5 (00586) Horse chestnut, T7 (00588) Lime, T8 (00589) Horse chestnut and T9 (00590) Horse chestnut. For detail refer to arboricultural report. Location Hirst Head House Hirst Head Bedlington NE22 5QH	11th May 2017
17/01270/COU	Change of use of part of an agricultural building to B2 and B8. Location Broadway House Farm Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5RS	11th May 2017
17/01092/FUL	Building is a former public house, now closed. First floor already has full planning approval for residential use as 2 flats. It is proposed to change the ground floor from a public house to 3 no. residential flats. Location The Barrington Arms Vulcan Place Bedlington NE22 5DL	18th May 2017
17/01170/OUT	Outline application for residential development of up to 5 no. dwellings (All Matters Reserved) Location Land South East Of Blue House Farm Cottages Netherton Colliery Northumberland	19th May 2017
17/01163/OUT	Outline residential development for two new dwelling houses Location Land To North West Of Blue House Farm Cottages Netherton Colliery Northumberland	19th May 2017
17/01500/FUL	Erection of a one storey tiled roof extension. (Re-submission of 16/04121/FUL - permitted) Location 27 Thorntree Drive Beaufront Park Bedlington Northumberland NE22 7LR	24th May 2017

Other Applications.

Ref.	Description	Response Due
17/01322/MISC	Proposed Northern Powergrid Distribution Station Land East of Ridge Farm Netherton Lane Bedlington	Permitted Development

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

Ref.	Description	Decision
17/00292/MAST	Proposed installation of 25 metre high lattice telecommunication tower on concrete base with 1 No. dish and 2 No. 12 element yagi antennas Location Land South West Of Hirst Head Cricket Ground Vulcan Place Bedlington Northumberland	GRANTED
17/00725/FUL	Proposed rear extension and internal refurbishment to existing bungalow Location 30 Oakapple Close Bedlington Northumberland NE22 7LL	GRANTED
17/00755/VARYCO	Removal of condition 9 (Ground gas - validation and verification) pursuant to planning permission 15/03266/FUL to allow the removal of a gas report Location Lidl Schalksmuhle Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6BP	WITHDRAWN
17/00836/FUL	Proposed garden room Location 4 Windsor Court Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5PB	GRANTED

Chairman's initials