



**WEST BEDLINGTON  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 15th June 2017 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** C Taylor (Chair), D Graham, P Hedley, C Henderson, A Hogg, K Roach, V Thompson, M Trimming, J Tyler.

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk S Young, County Councillors Crosby, Robinson and Wallace and 15 (Fifteen) members of the public.

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were presentations in support of funding applications (Agenda Item 14) from Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd, Bedlington Salvation Army and Callum Appleby.

**OPEN SESSION**

- A resident asked if the Council had made any progress with regards to the Council's plan to establish a handyperson / operative position.  
The Chair confirmed that a Council had created a specific working group to carry out the project and that a date for its first meeting was to be determined shortly.

**C092/17 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies. All Councillors were present for the meeting.

**C093/17 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017 are approved.

**C094/17 - 3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

**C095/17 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of interest for this meeting.

**C096/17 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE**

The Chair provided updates on the matters summarised in Appendix E.

**C097/17 - 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

County Councillors Crosby, Robinson and Wallace provided brief updates on some of the matters they have been dealing with over the last month. The Chair thanked them for their attendance and updates.

Chairman's initials

#### **C098/17 -7. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS**

- a. Finance and Governance - Councillor Taylor. An initial introductory meeting of the group had taken place but no recommendations for Council had been determined.
- b. Events and Communication working group – Councillor Graham – The recommendations of the group are outlined within the current meeting agenda (Item 8 Matters for Discussion / Decision).
- c. Services Committee – Councillor Trimming - draft minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 25th May 2017 were distributed.

**RESOLVED to accept all committee / working group reports**

#### **C099/17 - 8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

- a. **RESOLVED to investigate costs and necessary permissions for the painting of Glebe Bank railings through the Council's Services Committee.**
- b. **RESOLVED to set aside an annual budget of £15k to match the small claims funding of County Councillor Robinson and to spend on jointly agreed Bedlington projects.**
- c. **RESOLVED that Councillor Tyler will be added as a cheque signatory.**
- d. **RESOLVED to renew the Councils subscription to Northumberland Association of Local Councils at a cost of £1,329.91.**
- e. **RESOLVED to approve the Clerks attendance at the 2017 Regional Training Seminar at a cost of £69.**
- f. **RESOLVED to procure Ruby Tuesday Production and Events for the provision of 2017 Summer Carnival at cost of £5,500.**
- g. **RESOLVED to provide £2,000 of financial support to 2017 Bedlington Picnic Event.**
- h. **DEFERRED a decision to assist with the formation of a residents led group to support the opposition of the demolition of Humford Dam until such a time as more detail is provided as to the extent of the support required.**
- i. **RESOLVED to approve the following polices following their review**
  - i. **Standing Orders**
  - ii. **Financial Regulations**
- j. **RESOLVED to approve the following Committee / Working Groups terms of reference**
  - i. **Services Committee**
  - ii. **Communications and Events Working Group**
  - iii. **Finance and Governance Working Group**
- k. **RESOLVED to move the scheduled September meeting date from 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

#### **C100/17 – 9. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

#### **C101/17 - 10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

- I. Town / Parish Liaison Committee (Councillor Taylor) – verbal update of a meeting she had attended earlier in the day.
- II. NALC – (Councillor Hogg) – report circulated and verbal update provided.
- III. LMAPS now Community Safety Hub– (Councillor Hedley) – report circulated and verbal update provided.
- IV. Gallagher Park Steering Group – (Councillor Graham) – no meeting to report upon.
- V. Dr Pit Stakeholder Meetings – (Councillor Trimming) – no meeting to report upon.
- VI. Bedlington Partnership – (Councillor Thompson) – no meeting to report upon.

**RESOLVED to accept all reports provided.**

#### **C102/17 - 11. CLERKS REPORT**

**RESOLVED to accept the Clerks report (Appendix B).**

Chairman's initials

**C103/17 - 12. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

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

**C104/17- 13. PLANNING**

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

Planning decisions are shown in Appendix F for information only.

**C105/17 - 14. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS**

**RESOLVED** to approve the following funding applications:

- a. Community Chest Application – Bedlington Junior FC. £332
- b. Community Chest Application - Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd. £500
- c. Community Chest Application – Bedlington Salvation Army. £500
- d. Youth Leisure Provision – Callum Appleby. £500

**C106/17 - 15. RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER**

The Council will request feedback from Funding beneficiaries for inclusion within the newsletter.

**C107/17 – 16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Graham reminded everyone that the Bedlington Picnic was to be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017.

**C108/17 - 17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 13th July 2017 at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre

**C109/17 – 18. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 8.17pm

Signed by the Chair

13th July 2017

**Appendix A, B, C, D and E only form part of these minutes.**

Chairman's initials

## Appendix A – Correspondence, Consultations and Invitations. (Agenda Item 9).

### a) Correspondence

Ref	From	Summary	Action
159/17	NALC	Enews 2 May 2017	Noted and Circulated
160/17	NALC	General Election / Charities / Code of Conduct	Noted and Circulated
161/17	Bedlington Community Allotment	Family Open Day 3 June 2017	Noted and Circulated
162/17	Sarah Gibson & Brenda Dalton	Note of Thanks – Litter Bin at Chester Court	Noted and Circulated
163/17	NALC	Enews 9 May 2017	Noted and Circulated
164/17	Mr W K Dalton	Bedlington Live 2017	Noted and Circulated
165/17	Stuart Hotchkin	Housing Development Concerns	Noted, Replied, Circulated and Thanks Received.
166/17	Bedlington Town FC	Letter of Thanks	Noted and Circulated
167/17	NALC	Enews 16 May 2017	Noted and Circulated
168/17	NALC	Survey Request	Noted and Circulated
169/17	Northumberland CVA	Volunteer Fair	Noted and Circulated
170/17	Northumberland CVA	e-bulletin Issue 75	Noted and Circulated
171/17	Northumberland CC Elections Office	Electorate Figures	Noted and Circulated
172/17	Community Action Northumberland	CAN Enews 23 May 2017	Noted and Circulated
173/17	NALC	Enews 23 May 2017	Noted and Circulated
174/17	Northumberland CC Programme Officer	Local Plan Core Strategy – Appointment of Inspector and Programme Officer	Noted and Circulated
175/17	Ashington Blyth and Tyne Railway Association (ABTRA)	Letter of Introduction	Noted and Circulated
176/17	NALC	Enews 30 May 2017	Noted, Circulated and
177/16	Bedlington Forum	AGM & Forum Meeting 19 June 2017	Noted and Circulated

b) Consultations - None for this meeting.

c) Invitations – None for this meeting.

## Appendix B – Clerks Report (Agenda Item 11).

**Finance** - Accounts – Annual Return 2017 has been published on the Councils website and advertised the statutory inspection period. The inspection period will be 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 until 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017 which fulfils the statutory requirements and avoids my own planned holiday period (see below).

**Services** - No further update other than those items already included upon the meeting agenda.

**Events and Communications** - No further update other than those items already included upon the meeting agenda.

**Projects** - Gateway Features – quotes for the supply of interpretation boards to be considered at the next Services Committee meeting.

Sun Dial – planning permission has now been granted – awaiting quotes from supplier.

### Admin

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. Holiday – advance notice that I will be on holiday for the week and the Council office closed 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

Chairman's initials

**Appendix C – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 12) Payment 1st Jan 2017 to 31st Jan 2017.**

**All payment GROSS of VAT.**

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Dr Pit	Description
ThruYorDoor	202.50				Residents Newsletter Delivery
Talk Talk Business	34.74				Phone + Internet
Northumberland County Council	2,706.75				Payroll Costs March
Smart Office Systems Ltd	58.94				Printer Costs
Northumberland County Council	2,723.01				Payroll Costs April
Bizzy Bees	200.00				Buffett – Annual Meeting of The Town
J Smith & Sons	144.00				Repairs to Play Equipment
HMRC	(31,301.29)				VAT Refund
Northumberland County Council	2,000.00				Contribution to Dr Pit Park
DL Maintenance & Repair	125.00				Play Area Gate Mufflers
Imaging Products Ltd	79.92				ID Badges
Northumberland County Council	400.00				Grass Cutting
DL Maintenance & Repair	166.00				Bus Shelter Repair

**Appendix D – Planning Applications Received for Comment. (Agenda Item 13).**

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

Ref.	Description	Response Due
17/01933/FUL	Rear ground floor extension Location 26 Ayton Court Hazelmere Bedlington NE22 6NS	22nd June 2017
17/01930/FUL	Erection of a two story side extension and single story rear extension Location 1 South Riggs Bedlington NE22 5SQ	26th June 2017

Other Applications.

Ref.	Description	Response Due
17/01796/RETRES	Change of use from A1 retail to C3 dwelling house with no structural changes Location 21 Beech Grove Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5DA	21st Jun 2017

Chairman's initials

## Appendix E – Chairs Update (Agenda Item 5).

Since our last full council meeting I've had a busy time with a variety of extra curricula activities.

Meetings:

- The meeting of the town. This was a good opportunity to get people to meet our new Councillors and was well attended by both town and County councillors. The main talking point was the presentation from Peter Kierrs regarding Humford dam and the protect Humford dam group were well prepared and left Peter under no illusions on the strength of feeling regarding his proposals. Other presentations were from the hope church which was interesting to hear about the excellent work they are doing in the town supporting people in managing their debt. We were also treated to a quick intro to two of our county councillors who gave us a quick resume of their first week or so, I was delighted to welcome them both.
- Other meetings, I held a liaison meeting with Steve Bucknall head of Services from NCC, I raised a number of issues with him around lamp posts both repairing and painting, I asked about painting the railings down Glebe Bank as my reasoning is if they paint them they will deal with the traffic management issue as well, I'm waiting for his quote.
- Picnic, I have been assisting with the organisation of the Picnic which will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July at Attlee Park and things seem to be on track and progressing well.
- Our inaugural Services (Mike Trimmings Chair and Adam vice Chair), Finance and Governance (I will Chair) and Events (David Graham Chair) meetings, all of which are now up and running.

Events

- The planning meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the planning applications for both the Tesco site and the 500 additional houses by the Chester's, both were agreed. Adam Hogg was selected to attend and outline our concerns regarding the infrastructure to support 500 additional families but as was expected the houses were agreed, on the plus side so was the Tesco development, I'm sure our county councillors will touch on both these in their updates.
- I was asked to lead the Bedlington Terrier walk which was a pleasure and thanks to Suzanne for the loan of Chester he was superb in letting me walk him on the day and fully deserved his treat!
- I also popped into support the Summer Fayre at St Cuthbert's Church and bought some wonderful macaroons to go with my cup of team and I also visited the Community Allotment open day, purchasing some fabulous plants and as a plus was given a guided tour of the Bedlington in Bloom allotment which is located next door and which I have to say was looking fabulous with a colourful array of plants waiting to go up to the front street. The group are struggling for volunteers and County Councillor Malcolm Robinson has agreed to build two towers which will be placed on the front street, so if anyone would be interested in joining or supporting the group or would like to lend Councillor Robinson a hand I'm sure he would be grateful.
- I also attended East Bedlington Parish council Meeting to see what's is going on in the adjoining Parish, which was very enlightening!!

Just today I was at the Town and Parish Liaison Group meeting.....where I met a number of new Mayors/Chairs of Parish and Town Councils along with Paul Jones, Director of Services and NCC Head of Council Peter Jackson, who was very personable and we had a really good conversation about Bedlington and in particular about the plans for the Tesco site. He laid out his main issues as:

- County Hall – this will stay put in Morpeth and there will be a rolling development programme to enhance the existing building at a fraction of the cost to rebuild and move everyone around the county.
- LAC's – Local Area Councils, keen to let some decisions devolve to achieve more interaction with town councils, 5 area committees will be set up with the first meeting of ours the Bedlington and

Chairman's initials

Cramlington Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> June at 5 pm at Concordia. It is anticipated they will make decisions on planning for applications up to 100 houses as well as local transport plans.

- Arch – NCC are undertaking a fundamental review of all Arch's activities with a view of viewing return on their investment and building on what Arch have achieved to date. There was no discussion on disbanding Arch!!
- Neighbourhood Plans – there is a serious commitment to supporting NP's and it was reiterated that NCC will take seriously and uphold what is mandated in the plans.
- There will also be a review of the core strategy.

I would just like to add my continued thanks to Steven our Town Clerk, for ensuring we are all kept fully informed and keeping everything running seamlessly.....

#### Appendix F - Planning decisions notified to WBTC by NCC - Information Only

Ref.	Description	Decision
17/00588/LBC	Listed building consent for sympathetic restoration including masonry repointing and essential repairs and, in addition, the footway and carriageway will be resurfaced Location Hartford Bridge Bedlington Northumberland	GRANTED
17/00951/FUL	Single storey extension with a flat roof to the rear of property to create a new room with access to the garden Location 9 Demesne Drive Bedlington NE22 5SL	GRANTED
17/01079/FUL	Two storey extension to side and rear to provide additional bedroom and en-suite to first floor with the addition of a RiR using attic trusses changing from a hipped roof to gabled pitched roof to provide guest bedroom and office space in the loft. Location Rowan Brae 4 Netherton Road Nedderton Village NE22 6AS	REFUSED
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	GRANTED
17/01259/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order. Fell 3no Horse Chestnut and 1no Lime and prune 2no Horse Chestnut and 1no Lime (as amended 05/05/17) Location Hirst Head House Hirst Head Bedlington NE22 5QH	GRANTED
17/00584/FUL	Installation of a public sun dial Location Land East Of The Cross Market Place Bedlington Northumberland	GRANTED
17/00865/FUL	Proposed alteration and extension to an existing detached dwelling to include a double storey extension to the side, a new entrance porch, and a two storey rear extension, as well as associated landscaping (As amended 08.05.2017) Location 15 Shields Road Hartford Bridge Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AN	GRANTED
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	GRANTED
17/00609/FUL	Conversion of former social club and public house into a hotel, with restaurant and bar with external alterations including new conservation roof lights to front, steel gate and railings, and to the rear new dormer windows, rear extension to include office, lobby, dining area and kitchen with two storey off-shot for recreation room and cinema. Amended plans received 28th April 2017. Location Lairds House 40 Front Street West Bedlington NE22 5UB	GRANTED

Chairman's initials