



**WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 9th November 2017 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

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

COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT: K Roach.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk S Young, County Councillors Crosby, Robinson and Wallace, 9 (nine) members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS

There was a presentations in support of their funding applications (Agenda Item 14) from Leading Link.

OPEN SESSION

- A resident advised the Council that a festive lighting decoration had been installed upside down. The Clerk responded that The Council was already aware of the mistake and that arrangements had already been made to correct the installation.
- A resident expressed his disappointment that The Council was considering the deferment of its Handyman / Operative project (Agenda Item 8d.) The Chair advised that the outcome of the agenda item could not be prejudged.
- A resident advised the Council that he had not received a copy of The Residents Newsletter and was aware of other residents in a similar situation. The Chair advised that the Council would contact the distributor.

C185/17 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received for this meeting from Councillor Roach.

The Apologies received were noted.

C186/17 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 12th October 2017 are approved as a true record.

C187/17 - 3. MATTERS ARISING

Minute "Open Session" - Councillor Graham asked if contact had been made with Police in relation to anti-social behaviour during weekends in Bedlington. The Chair confirmed that the matter was in hand. Minute C173/17 Events – Councillor Trimming thanked Councillors Graham and Taylor for their work to bring about the well received and attended Halloween Event.

Chairman's initials

C188/17 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

C189/17 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE

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

C190/17 - 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.

C191/17 -7. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS

- a. Finance and Governance - Councillor Taylor. No meeting to report upon.
- b. Events and Communication Working group – Councillor Graham provided a verbal update on the successful Halloween Event, ongoing preparations for the Christmas Lights Switch on Event and the Remembrance Parade and service.
- c. Services Committee – Councillor Trimming - Draft minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 26th October 2017 were distributed.
- d. Operative / Handyman Project Working Group – In Councillor Roach’s absence The Chair advised that the project of the working group was to be considered later in the meeting agenda.

RESOLVED to accept all committee / working group reports

C192/17 - 8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

- a. **RESOLVED that the Council submit an expression of interest to find out more about Northumberland County Councils proposal around a new partnership for Bus Information with Town and Parish Councils.**
- b. **RESOLVED to WITHDRAW RESOLUTION C135/17 and to end the project looking at the possibility of relocating the Trotter Memorial.**
- c. **RESOLVED to DEFER until the next meeting.**
- d. **RESOLVED to DEFER for the foreseeable future (at least until the costs of a Handyman Service provided by Northumberland County Council are known).**
- e. **RESOLVED to support an event to celebrate Northumberland Day.**
- f. **RESOLVED to REFER the request for a firework display to the Councils Events and Communications Working Group to investigate potential venues, costs and other logistics.**
- g. **RESOLVED that the 2018 Annual Meeting of The Town will be held on Wednesday 30th May 2018.**

C193/17 – 9. CORRESPONDENCE

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

C194/17 - 10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- i. **Reports from Councillor Representatives**
 - I. Town / Parish Liaison Committee (Councillor Taylor) – no meeting to report upon.
 - II. NALC – (Councillor Hogg) – no meeting to report upon.
 - III. LMAPS now Community Safety Hub– (Councillor Hedley) – no meeting to report upon
 - 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. Humford Dam – (Councillor Hogg) – no meeting to report upon.
- ii. **Election of Councillor Representative to Bedlington in Bloom residents group.**
RESOLVED that Councillor Hedley is elected as The Councils representative at Bedlington in Bloom resident’s group meetings.

Chairman’s initials

C195/17 - 11. CLERKS REPORT

RESOLVED to accept the Clerks report (Appendix B).

C196/17 - 12. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments and receipts (Appendix C). Thanks once again to County Councillors Crosby, Gobin, Robinson and Wallace for their contributions towards the War Memorial.

C197/17- 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.

C198/17 - 14. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS

- **RESOLVED** to approve the funding application of Leading Link Bedlington and award the sum of £850.
- **RESOLVED** not to make any donation to Community Action Northumberland.
- **RESOLVED** not to provide an annual subsidy to Contact Morpeth Mental Health Group Ltd.

C199/17 - 15. RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

Members reiterated the problems experienced by some residents receiving their copy of the newsletter. The Chair advised members that a resident (Mr. John Laverick) has very kindly offered to help with proof reading future editions of the newsletter for which the Council is very grateful. The Chair reminded members that any articles for consideration into future editions should be submitted to the Clerk without delay not retained until deadline dates.

C200/17 – 16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Clerk – Receive Update re Sports Centre.

Clerk – Invitation to Northumbria Police re Policing in Bedlington.

C201/17 - 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 14th December 2017 at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre.

C202/17 – 19. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.58pm

Signed by the Chair

14th December 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
299/17	Friends of Union Bridge	On Line Survey	Noted and Circulated
300/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	My Street App Launch	Noted and Circulated
301/17	Northumberland County Council	Street Lighting Modernisation Project Update	Noted and Circulated
302/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Witness Appeal request	Noted and Circulated
303/17	Bedlington Forum	Notice of Meeting 23 rd Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
304/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Hate Crime Event	Noted and Circulated
305/17	NALC	NALC Enews 10 Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
306/17	NALC	Slides From NALC AGM 7 Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
307/17	NALC	Transparency Fund Drop In	Noted and Circulated
308/17	NALC	Nalc Meeting with NCC Planners	Noted and Circulated
309/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Scam Alert	Noted and Circulated
310/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Uninsured Drivers	Noted and Circulated
311/17	Bedlington Forum	Meeting Agenda 23 rd Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
312/17	Northumberland VCS	SE Northumberland Network Meeting Dates	Noted and Circulated
313/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Missing Person Request	Noted and Circulated
314/17	Northumberland County Council	TTRO 192683 Barrington Road Bedlington	Noted and Circulated
315/17	NALC	NALC Enews 17 Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
316/17	NALC	Draft AGM Minutes	Noted and Circulated
317/17	Northumberland County Council	Planning Objection Response	Noted and Circulated
318/17	Northumberland CVA	e-bulletin – Issue 86	Noted and Circulated
319/17	Northumberland County Council	Northumberland Area Special Educational Needs School Place Planning Strategy	Noted and Circulated
320/17	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Clean Sweep For 12 Streets Crime Operation	Noted and Circulated
321/17	NALC	NALC Enews 24 Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
322/17	NALC	Planning Training Newcastle and Northumberland	Noted and Circulated
323/17	Northumberland County Council	Neighbourhood Planning Newsletter Oct 2017	Noted and Circulated
324/17	The Pensions Regulator	Increase In Minimum Pension Contributions	Noted and Circulated
325/17	Mr K Dalton	Copy of letter to Chief Fire Officer	Noted and Circulated
326/17	Northumberland County Council	Nedderton Traffic Survey	Noted and Circulated
327/17	Northumberland County Council	Parish and Town Council Election Costs	Noted and Circulated
328/17	NALC	Precept Capping Update	Noted and Circulated
329/17	Northumberland County Council	TTRO Bedlington Remembrance Parade 2017	Noted and Circulated

b) Consultations - None for this meeting.

Owner	Description	Where and When
Northumberland County Council	New partnership for Bus Information with Town and Parish Councils.	Expression of interest – no time scale

c) Invitations – None for this meeting.

Date	From	Description	Comments
28 th Oct 2017	Morpeth Cage Bird Society	Invite to present prizes	Invite to Mayor
24 th Oct 2017	Bedlington In Bloom	Presentation Evening	Invite To All
17 th Oct 2017	Northumbria Police – Your Northumbria	Hate Crime Event	Invite To All
20 th Nov 2017	Northumberland CVA	AGM	Invite to Chair

Chairman's initials

Appendix B – Clerks Report (Agenda Item 11).

Finance - Budget time is fast approaching – I have sent a suggested schedule of meetings to members.

Northumberland County Council have confirmed the date for Precept submissions as Monday 29th January 2017 (This is broadly in line with my estimated date – and the suggested schedule is unaffected).

We need to confirm the date of the initial meeting? Ideally in the week commencing 20th November 2017.

The Councils Financial position remains strong and broadly in line with planned spending and budget. The Finance and Governance Working group will meet on Monday 13th November 2017 to agree on future financial reporting and look at any areas of potential under / over spend.

ALL members should now start to consider any projects / spending proposals for inclusion into next year / future year's budgets. New projects should have an agreement in principle if the Council intends to set aside funds in its forthcoming budget, accordingly these should be included within the Council agenda for 14th December 2017.

Next Internal audit meeting scheduled for 15th November 2017.

Services

Bus Shelters – West End School and St Bede's have responded positively to my initial approach to be included within the Schools Art Project for our Bus Shelters. I am contacting other schools and obtaining indicative project costs for member's future consideration.

Westlea Play Area – repairs are scheduled for 15th November 2017.

The installation of the Festive lighting has started on Glebe Bank, Schaulksmuhle Road, Vulcan Place and Front Street East. The remaining lights for Front Street West will be installed after Remembrance Sunday.

I am still awaiting a confirmed delivery date for the Christmas tree. It is provisionally arranged for the week commencing 20th November 2017. The new star for the top of the tree has been delivered. The new signs for the picket fencing have been collected and the new white picket fence will be fitted once the Christmas tree has been installed.

Events and Communications - The Salvation Army will hold a Carol Service in The Market Place Bedlington on Sunday 10th December at 3pm. All Councillors are invited to attend.

Christmas Lights Switch On Event - Northumberland County Council have accepted the Event Notification and road closure application. Five organisations / traders have confirmed their willingness to take a stall at the event.

The "Santa give a ways" have been collected.

A resident has volunteered to "proof read" future editions of the Residents Newsletter for which I and the Council are very grateful. Any articles for future editions should be sent to The Clerk without delay, please do not wait until the deadline date.

Projects - Still awaiting quotes for railings, additional lamp post painting and sun dial installation.

Operative Working Group update is included within this meeting's agenda.

Skate Park – needs to be discussed as part of budget setting meetings.

Any new projects / events also need to be discussed as part of the budget setting meetings.

Admin

Advance Notice of Christmas / New Year Office Opening / Closed Hours.

Usual opening hours up to and including Friday 22nd December 2017.

Monday 25th December and Tuesday 26th December 2017 (Christmas Day and Boxing Day) – Office Closed.

Wednesday 27th December 2017 – Office open 9.30am to 5.30pm.

Chairman's initials

Thursday 28th December 2017 (Services Committee 6.30pm) – The Office will be open from 5pm.

Friday 29th December 2017 – The office will be open from 10am to 5.00pm.

Monday 1st January 2018 (New Year’s Day) and Tuesday 2nd January 2018 - Office Closed.

Wednesday 3rd January 2018 onwards – resume usual office opening hours.

Appendix C – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 12) Payments 1st July 2017 to 31st July 2017.
All payment GROSS of VAT.

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Dr Pit	Description
Bedlington Boxing Club	500.00				Community Chest Award
DL Maintenance & Repair	277.50				Bus Shelter Repairs
Northumberland County Council	(8,088.00)				Contribution Towards War Memorial
Talk Business	34.74				Telephone + Internet
Northumberland County Council	240.00				Grass Cutting
MW Design	1,675.00				Residents Newsletter Print + Design
Michael Wood Design Limited	40.00				Halloween Posters
Peeks the event makers	106.92				Halloween Event Props
Azure Garden Centre			502.70		Plants
Barchester Healthcare				(740.00)	Contribution Towards Tree Felling Cost
West End First School	1,500.00				Pupils Fund Award
DL Maintenance & Repair	197.50				Repair Costs - Bus Shelters + Bins
Viking Payments	19.24				Stationary
Bedlington Community Centre	3,750.00				Rent 1 st Half Year
Vets4Pets	(250.00)				Advertisement Cost Fee
R Watson Newsagents	65.30				Newspapers for Public Library
Northumberland County Council	(1,000.00)				Contribution Towards Planters
Mick Whitfield Building Services	78.00				Play Area + Litter Bin Repairs
Northumberland County Council	2,723.01				Payroll Costs
Home Bargains TJ Morris Limited	192.24				Christmas Event Giveaways

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
17/03777/LBC	Listed building consent for secondary double glazing to two existing sliding sash windows Location Plessey View The Hall Hartford Hall Estate Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AG	13th November 2017
17/03832/OUT	Outline planning permission for the development of 1no. Detached residential dwelling with all matters reserved. Location Land South East Of 1 The Croft The Croft Nedderton Village Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6BA	21st November 2017
17/03850/FUL	Bedroom and utility extension. Conversion of conservatory to sun room. Location 23 Chipchase Close Hazelmere Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6ND	21st November 2017

Other Applications.

Ref.	Description	Response Due
	There are no other applications to consider for this meeting	

Any applications / Consultations received after the issue date of this agenda, where the expiry date for observations would not allow the Council to wait to consider and submit any observations at its next scheduled meeting - None

Chairman’s initials

Appendix E – Chairs Update (Agenda Item 5).

I attended a number of meetings this month:

- 1. 16/10 – Employee Pension changes, ensuring the Council are aware of its changing responsibilities in respect of pension contributions and collections for our town clerk.**
- 2. 17/10 – Inaugural meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Group, followed by a meeting to proceed with the proposed operative for the town.**
- 3. 18/10 – Local Planning Meeting – in Netherton Club**
- 4. 20/10 – West End first School – to ask if they would like to support the councils proposed art project for the bus shelters, the Head teacher was delighted to be asked and confirmed the schools participation.**
- 5. 23/10 – Forum – There is still no volunteer to take over as Chair and Secretary, when Brian and Margaret Oliver retire next March, it would be a great loss to the community if this group was disbanded.**
- 6. 26/10 – Services, (see minutes)**
- 7. 28/10 – Caged birds event in Bedlington Community Centre –I was invited to present the prizes and it was a pleasure as always to do so.**
- 8. 30/10 – GSC Grays Land Agents – further informal discussions on the Councils stance on 500 additional housing planned for Bedlington.**
- 9. 31/10 – Halloween Party – it was a great event, thanks to Councillor and Mrs Crosby for their fabulous support and costumes, to Colin Paterson for the disco and light show, Harriet Bell and her dancers for the Zombies and exhibition dance of Thriller, but special thanks to Councillor David Graham who pulled it all together, stood out in the cold and still managed to get into the spirit of the event.**
- 10. 3/11 – Chat with John Laverick, Bedlington resident who has offered his services to proof read all articles for our Newsletter – many thanks to John.**
- 11. 4/11 – St Cuthbert’s Christmas Fete – a great event, with jam made by Brian Thompson**
- 12. 6/11 – St Bede’s first School – to ask if they would like to support the councils proposed art project for the bus shelters, the Head teacher was delighted to be asked and confirmed the schools participation.**

A reminder that there will be the last post sounded at 11 am on the 11th day of the 11th Month at the Cenotaph, I will be doing the reading. And on that everyone will see our enhancements are complete and the seats in place, many thanks again to all four county councillors for their very valuable contributions.

Christine

Chairman’s initials

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

Ref.	Description	Decision
17/03113/FUL	Proposed detached garage Location 10 Brook Court Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5DF	GRANTED
17/03158/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order: Fell 1 no. Oak tree (T23), Crown thin by 10% and Crown lift 1 no. Beech tree (T26), Crown lift 1 no. Wellingtonia tree (T28) and Crown lift 1 no. Cedar of Lebanon tree (T30) Location Greenside Fairway Rise Hartford Hall Estate Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AG	GRANTED
17/03007/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order application to fell T1 Horsechestnut. Location 4 The Croft Nedderton Village NE22 6BA	GRANTED
17/02815/CCD	Proposed new early years centre including associated hard and soft landscaping Location Bedlington West End Nursery Ridge Terrace Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6EB	GRANTED
17/03463/VARYCO	Variation of condition 2 (time constraint) pursuant to planning permission 16/02623/FUL in order to change the opening and closing times for shutters. Location Astons Late Bar 34 Front Street West Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5UB	GRANTED

Chairman's initials