



**WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 11th April 2019 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: D Crosby, D Graham, P Hedley, C Henderson, A Hogg, C Taylor (Chair), M Trimming.

COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT: Councillors V Thompson, J Tyler.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk S Young, Northumberland County Councillor's Crosby, Robinson, Wallace and 9 (Nine) members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations for this meeting.

OPEN SESSION

- A resident shared contact details for Locality Coordinators in South East Northumberland.
- A resident asked if West Bedlington Town Council has requested any event funding from East Bedlington Parish Council. The Chair replied that to date no request had been made.
- A resident asked if at the previous Council meeting joint members of both West Bedlington Town Council and East Bedlington Town Council should have made a declaration of interest with regard to the agenda item relating to the joint funding of the Gallagher Park Play Area Project. The Chair replied that all disclosures of interests are the responsibility of the individual Councillors themselves and further advised that the law provided for individuals to be members of more than one Parish / Town Council at the same time.
- A resident asked if the overgrown footpaths on 20 Acre Playing Field cut be cut back to expose the full width of the footpath. The Chair replied that the footpaths and the playing field was in the ownership of Northumberland County Council and the upkeep was also their responsibility. The Chair advised that she would make representation to Northumberland County Council and request the work to be undertaken.
- A resident asked if there are any plans for speed calming measures on Church Lane, Bedlington opposite 20 Acre Playing Field. The Chair confirmed that the Town Council had been in discussion with Northumberland County Councils Highways Dept. and they had agreed to look into a variety of speed calming measures. Though at the present time nothing had been confirmed.
- A resident shared some information with the newly sign posted walkways at Gallagher Park, Bedlington.

C65/19 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence for this meeting were received from Councillors Thompson and Tyler. The apologies for absence received were **NOTED**.

Chairman's initials

C66/19 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 14th March 2019 are approved as a true record of the meeting.

C67/19 - 3. MATTERS ARISING

- Councillor Trimming asked in relation to minute C44/19 Matter Arising if there was any update re the repair of the damaged fence at Attlee Park. The Clerk advised that to date unfortunately he had not received a reply to The Councils enquiry and further reminders.

C68/19 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest for this meeting.

C69/19 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE

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

C70/19 – 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATES

County Councillor's Crosby, Robinson and Wallace provided very brief verbal updates on some of the matters they had been dealing with over the last month.

C71/19 - 7. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS

- a. Finance and Governance - Councillor Taylor - no meeting to report upon. The Clerk will schedule a meeting of the group as soon as possible.
 - b. Events and Communication working group – Councillor Graham provided a brief verbal update in relation to the preparation of the summer event and advised members that the next scheduled Events Group meeting would be held on Friday 10th May 2019.
 - c. Services Committee - Councillor Hogg - Draft minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 24th March 2019 were distributed.
 - d. Neighbourhood Planning Group - Councillor Hogg – no meeting to report upon.
- RESOLVED To ACCEPT** all committee / working group reports

C72/19 - 8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

- a. **Events. Remembrance Day – Shadow Soldiers. RESOLVED to APPROVE** in principle to set aside funds of £400 to purchase two “Shadow Soldiers” for display at the War Memorial during Remembrance week.
- b. **Governance. – RESOLVED** to transfer the portfolio for Communications from the Councils Events and Communications Working Group to the Councils Finance and Governance Working Group with immediate effect.

C73/19 – 9. CORRESPONDENCE

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

C74/19 - 10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- a. **Feedback**
 - I. Town / Parish Liaison Committee – (Councillor Taylor) – no meeting to report upon.
 - II. NALC – (Councillor Crosby) – Draft Minutes to follow.
 - III. Gallagher Park Steering Group – (Councillor Graham) – no meeting to report upon.
 - IV. Bedlington In Bloom – (Councillor Hedley) – no meeting to report upon.

RESOLVED to accept the reports / updates provided.

C75/19 - 11. CLERK'S REPORT

RESOLVED to APPROVE the Clerk's Report for this meeting (Appendix B).

Chairman's initials

C76/19 - 12. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

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

C77/19 - 13. PLANNING

- a. **RESOLVED** to comment as per Appendix D.

C78/19 - 14. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS

There were no funding applications for this meeting.

C79/19 - 15. RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

Distribution of the spring 2019 issue of the Residents Newsletter was in progress.

C80/19 – 16. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN 2019

No further update in relation to the annual meeting on 17th April 2019.

C81/19 – 17. ACCOUNTS / BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT / FINANCIAL UPDATE

- a. **RESOLVED to ACCEPT and APPROVE** the financial update circulated.
- b. **RESOLVED to ACCEPT and APPROVE** the internal audit report of 25th March 2019.
- c. **RESOLVED To APPROVE** The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 Annual Return of Accounts) 2018-19.

C82/19 POLICE REPORT

No report for this meeting.

C83/19 - 19. EXEMPT BUSINESS

There was no exempt business for this meeting.

C84/19 – 19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Trimming – Remembrance Poppies on lighting columns

Councillors Taylor / Trimming – Attlee Park Fence

All Councillors – Northumberland County Council work requests.

Town Clerk – Election of Council Chair (Mayor) and Vice Chair

Approval of Accounts (Annual Return).

C85/19 - 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 9th May 2019 at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.

C86/19 - 22. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.14pm

Signed by the Chair

9th May 2019

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

Chairman's initials

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

a) Correspondence:

Ref	From	Summary	Action
67/19	NALC	NALC Training Programme 2019	Noted and Circulated
68/19	Northumbria Police	Cuppa with a Coppa 21 st March 2019	Noted and Circulated
69/19	Northumberland CVA	South East VCS Network Meeting + Funding Fair	Noted and Circulated
70/19	News Post Leader	Advertising Costs	Noted and Circulated
71/19	Northumberland CC Highways	Postponed TTRO 112707775	Noted and Circulated
72/19	Northumberland County Council	LAC Meeting 20 th March 2019	Noted and Circulated
73/19	NALC	Elections and Purdah 2019	Noted and Circulated
74/19	Bedlington In Bloom Residents Group	Group Update	Noted and Circulated
75/19	Northumberland County Council	Gallagher Park BMX Track Lease	Noted and Circulated
76/19	Family Gateway	Note of Thanks – Easter Egg Donation	Noted and Circulated
77/19	NALC	External Audit Arrangements March 2019	Noted and Circulated
78/19	NALC	NALC Enews 20 March 2019	Noted and Circulated
79/19	Keep Britain Tidy	Great Spring Clean	Noted and Circulated
80/19	Northumberland County Council	High Street Community Clean Up Fund	Noted and Circulated
81/19	Resident	Bedlington 2 Day Family Festival	Noted and Circulated
82/19	Resident	Bedlington 2 Day Family Festival	Noted and Circulated
83/19	Resident	Bedlington 2 Day Family Festival	Noted and Circulated
84/19	Leading Link	Children’s University 2019	Noted and Circulated
85/19	Northumberland Pride	Note of Thanks – Funding Donation	Noted and Circulated
86/19	Ashington Leisure Centre	School Holiday Activities	Noted and Circulated
87/19	NALC	Meeting with County Council officers 21 March 2019	Noted and Circulated
88/19	Bedlington Terrier North East	Bedlington Gathering 2 nd June 2019	Noted and Circulate
89/19	NALC	NALC Enews 27 March 2019	Noted and Circulate
90/19	NALC	Further Information on the Audit for 2018/19	Noted and Circulate
91/19	Elijay Research	Parish Survey	Noted and Circulate
92/19	NALC	Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England	Noted and Circulate
93/19	East Bedlington Parish Council	Note of Thanks – Funding Donation Gallagher Park Live 2019	Noted and Circulate
94/19	Northumberland County Council	Party on The Pitch Event 22 nd June 2019	Noted and Circulate

b) Consultations:

Owner	Description	Where and When
None	For This	Meeting

c) Invitations:

Date	From	Description	Comments
None	For	This	Meeting

Chairman’s initials

Appendix B – Clerks Report (Agenda Item 11).

Finance

At the end of the financial year the Council's financial position remains strong. A financial report is included within the current meeting agenda for information. A meeting of The Council's Finance and Governance Group will take place in April 2019 to set out the provision of any specific (earmarked reserves).

Services

No update in relation to Services – not already provided for within Council and Services Committee Minutes.

Events and Communications

The resident's newsletter is scheduled to be distributed this week.

Projects

CCTV – I continue to chase Northumberland County Council in relation to the provision of a power source (Commando Sockets).

Admin

The office will be closed on the afternoons of Monday 15th April 2019 and Friday 26th April 2019.

Appendix C – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 12) Payment 1st Mar 2019 to 31st Mar 2019. All payment GROSS of VAT.

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Dr Pit	Description
Morpeth Welding Ltd	144.00				Terrier Seat Welding
Northumberland County Council	9,162.00				Christmas Lighting Costs
B&C Energy Solutions Ltd	114.00				Bus Shelter Supplies
Sendrig Construction Limited	606.24				Church Tower Lights
Talk Talk Business	38.40				Telephone + Internet
Jo-Anne Garrick	900.00				Neighbourhood Plan Consultation
Front Street News And Post Office	35.00				Library Newspapers
Bedlington Community Centre	30.00				Room Hire Costs
Zen Internet Ltd	5.39				Website Hosting
North East War Memorials	150.00				Funding Donation
Northumberland Pride	500.00				Funding Donation
Peoples Painting For Health &	500.00				Community Chest Funding
Morrisons Bedlington	162.00				Easter Eggs For Donation
Northumberland County Council	8,371.29				Jan Feb March Payroll Costs
Malcolm Wilkinson	70.00				Internal Audit Costs
Unity Gifts	204.00				Dog Show Prizes
Amazon - Handmade Rosettes	30.23				Dog Show Rosettes
Northumberland County Council	(2,500.00)				High Street Cleansing Fund
Northumberland County Council	1,976.55				Environmental Enforcement
Northumberland County Council	2,674.80				Meadowdale Play Area Gates
Northumberland County Council	207.73				Christmas Tree Removal
Andrew Deptford	342.00				Community Defibrillator Spares
Northumberland County Council	2,000.00				Gallagher Park Play Area
Whitley Memorial CF First School	1,500.00				Pupils Fund Application Funding
Ageing Well Golden Age Forum	100.00				Community Chest Funding

Chairman's initials

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	Decision
19/00953/FUL	Steps and platform to caravan Location 10 Hartford Caravan Site Hartford Bridge Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AD	22nd April 2019.	NO COMMENT
19/01010/FUL	Lounge extension Location 16 Court Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 7LD	22nd April 2019.	NO COMMENT

Other Applications.

Ref.	Description	Response Due
	None 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 for this meeting.**

Appendix E – Chairs Update (Agenda Item 5).

The Council Chair Councillor Christine Taylor provided a verbal update in relation to:

- Bedlington in Bloom
- Repainting of double yellow line at Bedlington Market Place
- CCTV – Power Supply delays
- Resignation of Chairman of East Bedlington Parish Council
- Gallagher Park Play Area Project – No financial contribution from East Bedlington Parish Council
- Budget transparency and Social Media comments – cost of additional grass cutting and floral displays
- Annual Meeting of The Town 17th April 2019 – reminder.

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

Ref.	Description	Decision
18/04329/FUL	Extension to side of existing dwelling to form garage Location 10 Raby Close Hazelmere Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6NL	GRANTED
18/03632/REM	Reserved matters application to detail access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale from outline application 17/01163/OUT. Location Land To North West Of Blue House Farm Cottages Netherton Colliery Northumberland	GRANTED
18/03529/FUL	Proposed new dwelling & associated works Location Blue House Farm Cottages, Land To North West Of Blue House Farm Road Netherton Colliery NE22 6BB	REFUSED

Chairman's initials