



**WEST BEDLINGTON  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14th February 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, V Thompson, J Tyler.

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk S Young, Northumberland County Councillor Crosby and 11 (Eleven) members of the public.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Bedlington Brass Community Trust in support of their Community Chest Application (Agenda Item 14b)

Representation from Mr R Cornell re Blue House Farm Planning. (Agenda Item 13b)

Apologies were received from Bedlington FC re support of their Community Chest Application (Agenda Item 14a)

**OPEN SESSION**

- A resident asked for information in relation to Government “capping” of Town and Parish Councils budgets / precept requirements. The Clerk advised that there was no planned capping of Town and Parish Councils budgets / precept requirements for the foreseeable future.
- A resident asked if The Council was happy to pay only £4,573.06 instead of the estimated £10,000 for the cost of the recent by – election. The Chair replied that whilst she was pleased to have to pay a reduced cost from the supplied estimated costs she was nevertheless disappointed to of had to pay for any by – election costs.
- A resident asked when the Christmas tree in The Market Place would be removed. The Chair replied that Northumberland County Council arrange the removal of the tree and that she would ask The Clerk to contact the County Council to ask for it to be taken away as soon as possible.

**C23/19 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

**C24/19 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 are approved as a true record of the meeting.

**C25/19 - 3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Chairman's initials

#### **C26/19 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of interest for this meeting.

#### **C27/19 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE**

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

#### **C28/19 – 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

County Councillor Crosby provided a very brief verbal update on some of the matters he had been dealing with over the last month. Apologies for their absence were received from County Councillors Robinson and Wallace.

#### **C29/19 - 7. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS**

- a. Finance and Governance - Councillor Taylor - no meeting to report upon.
- b. Events and Communication working group – Councilor Graham – All matters are included within the current agenda.
- c. Services Committee - Councillor Hogg - Draft minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 24th January 2019 were distributed.
- d. Neighbourhood Planning Group - Councillor Hogg - All matters are included within the current agenda.

**RESOLVED To ACCEPT** all committee / working group reports

#### **C30/19 - 8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

- a. **Neighbourhood Planning. RESOLVED to APPROVE** the recommendation of The Councils Neighbourhood Planning Group and appoint Jo-Anne Garrick Ltd as The Councils Neighbourhood Plan consultant.
- b. **Restoration of Michael Longridge Grave. RESOLVED** to contribute one third (up to a maximum of £300) of the restoration costs of the grave of Michael Longbridge's which is situated in St Cuthbert's Church, Bedlington.
- c. **Policy Review. RESOLVED to APPROVE** (after review) The Councils policy for DBS checks.
- d. **Branding.**
  - i. Creation of Bedlingtonshire strap line - **REFERRED** to The Councils Events and Communications Working Group.
  - ii. Marketing Suggestions / Recommendations - **REFERRED** to The Councils Events and Communications Working Group.
- e. **Events. Gallagher Park Live 2019. DEFERRED** to request details of content and nature of event, together with associated costs and any other contributions to fund the event.
- f. **Events. Christmas 2019 Christmas Lights Switch On. RESOLVED to APPROVE** the quote (£4,860) received for the supply and hire of a temporary Ice Rink.
- g. **Events. Summer Events 2019.**
  - i. **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the recommendation of The Councils Events and Communications Working Group and invite Charmain Hamilton to provide the event with a capped net budget of £25,000.
  - ii. **RESOLVED** that the management fee contracted to the event provider will be limited to £1,500.
  - iii. **RESOLVED to DELEGATE** the negotiation of food outlet contributions to Councillor Graham. Approval of any contributions / contracts remain the subject of Council approval.
  - iv. **RESOLVED** the appointment of a fairground provider will be subject to Council approval.
  - v. **RESOLVED** that all income from concessions will be paid directly to The Council.
- h. **Website Hosting. RESOLVED** with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to transfer the website hosting to ZEN Internet Ltd.
- i. **Youth Leisure Provision 2019. RESOLVED to ACCEPT and APPROVE** the proposal from Footprints on The Moon to provide children's activity workshops throughout the school holidays. (2 sessions per week for 9 weeks of the school holidays at a total cost of £2,880).

Chairman's initials

- j. **Christmas Lighting at St. Cuthbert's Church. RESOLVED to APPROVE** the supplied quote (£505.20) for the supply and installation of Christmas lights on St. Cuthbert's church tower.

#### **C31/19 – 9. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

#### **C32/19 - 10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

##### **a. Feedback**

- I. Town / Parish Liaison Committee – (Councillor Taylor) – minutes to be distributed when available.
- II. NALC – (Councillor Hogg) – verbal update provided.
- 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.

#### **C33/19 - 11. CLERK'S REPORT**

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

#### **C34/19 - 12. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

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

#### **C35/19 - 13. PLANNING**

There were no planning applications to comment upon for this meeting.

#### **C36/19 - 14. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS**

- a. Bedlington FC. **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the application and award £500.
- b. Bedlington Brass Community Trust. **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the application and award £500.

#### **C37/19 - 15. RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER**

- a. **RESLOVED TO APPROVE** to following deadlines in relation to the 2019 Spring Edition.
  - i. Final date for submissions of articles to The Clerk – **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019**
  - ii. Planned distribution – week commencing **1<sup>st</sup> April 2019**.
- b. No update at this time.

#### **C38/19 – 16. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN 2019**

No update at this time.

#### **C39/19 – 17. ACCOUNTS / BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT / FINANCIAL UPDATE**

No update for this meeting

#### **C40/19 – 18. EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There was no exempt business for this meeting.

#### **C41/19 – 19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- i. Councillor Hogg - Response to Draft Local Plan.
- ii. Councillor Tyler - Written reports for Northumberland County Councillors updates.
- iii. Councillor Trimming asked if there was any update re the repair of the damaged fence at Attlee Park – The Clerk offered to send a further request to Northumberland County Council.

#### **C41/19 - 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 14th March 2019 at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.

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**C42/19 - 22. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 8.28pm

Signed by the Chair

DRAFT

14th March 2019

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

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

**a) Correspondence:**

Ref	From	Summary	Action
14/19	NALC (Northumberland Association Of Local Councils)	NALC Enews 8 January 2019	Noted and Circulated
15/19	Northumberland CVA	Training Workshops	Noted and Circulated
16/19	East Bedlington Parish Council	Funding Invitation – Restoration Grave of Michael Longridge, St Cuthbert’s Church, Bedlington	Noted, Circulated and added to Agenda
17/19	NALC	Newcastle and Northumberland Local Council of The Year 2019	Noted and Circulated
18/19	Ray Ayre	Mobile Gin / Prosecco at Events	Noted and Circulated
19/19	Northumberland County Council	Northumberland Local Plan – Advance Warning	Noted and Circulated
20/19	NALC	NALC Enews 16 January 2019	Noted and Circulated
21/19	Northumberland County Council	Local Area Council 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2019	Noted and Circulated
22/19	Robert Rainey	Blyth All Weather Lifeboat	Noted and Circulated
23/19	Les Wallace	Grouse Shooting Petition	Noted and Circulated
24/19	NALC	Vulnerable Adults and Scams	Noted and Circulated
25/19	East Bedlington Parish Council	Funding Invitation – Gallagher Park Live 2019	Noted, Circulated and added to Agenda
26/19	Northumberland County Council	Town Investment / Future High Street Funding	Noted and Circulated
27/19	NALC	National NALC Communications	Noted and Circulated
28/19	NALC	Audit and Joint Committees / Partnerships	Noted and Circulated
29/19	NALC	Draft Social Media Policy	Noted and Circulated
30/19	NALC	NALC Enews 24 January 2019	Noted and Circulated
31/19	NALC	NALC Enews 29 January 2019	Noted and Circulated
32/19	NALC	Parish Councils and Community Companies	Noted and Circulated
33/19	NALC	CSPL Report – Ethical Standards	Noted and Circulated
34/19	Northumberland County Council	Pictures – Nordic Subway Refurbishments	Noted and Circulated
35/19	Northumberland County Council	Recruitment of Election Staff	Noted and Circulate
36/19	Friends Of Gallagher Park	Meeting Agenda 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Noted and Circulate
37/19	Bedlington In Bloom	Update and Reply re Councils Decision Not To Enter Northumbria In Bloom 2019	Noted and Circulate
38/19	NALC	NCC Town and Parish Liaison Working Group	Noted and Circulate
39/19	NALC	NALC Enews 5 February 2019	Noted and Circulate

**b) Consultations:**

Owner	Description	Where and When
Northumberland CC	Local Plan – Publication Draft Plan (Reg 19)	<a href="http://northumberland-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/localplan/reg19">http://northumberland-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/localplan/reg19</a> until 5pm 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2019

**c) Invitations:**

Date	From	Description	Comments	
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019	Concordia Cramlington	NCC	Local Plan Presentation	Presentation follows Local Area Council Agenda

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

### **Finance**

The Councils financial position remains strong and is broadly in line with its estimates and reserves policy.

A meeting of The Councils Finance and Governance Group should take place in April 2019 to set out the provision of any specific (earmarked reserves).

### **Services**

Play Areas – An initial meeting of the Councils 20 Acre Play Area Project Team should be convened as soon as possible.

Play Areas - The new benches for Westlea Play area have been ordered and are scheduled to be delivered next week.

Litter Bins – 5 new / replacement bins have been ordered and are scheduled to be delivered next week.

Grit Bins – The new grit bins have been installed by Northumberland County Council

Bus Shelters – all displaced panels have been replaced.

Public Seats – A new “Bedlington Terrier” seat to replace the one stolen at High Ewart Farm has been ordered.

Public Seats – Morpeth Welding are to weld the bolts on all the remaining “Bedlington Terrier” seats to prevent further thefts at a cost of £18 per seat.

War Memorial – A pre planning advise application has been sent to Northumberland County Council ( Cost £30) with regards to planning permissions for new highlight lighting of The War Memorial, new hand rail for the approach steps, Flag pole and to add a new inscription to those already remembered.

War Memorial – Quotes have been sought for the cost of a bespoke hand rail, flagpole and engraving of the additional inscription.

War Memorial – A request has been made to Northumberland County Council re the reconnection of the power supply to The War Memorial.

### **Events and Communications**

The Clerk has arranged for an update to The Councils current website – once these have been completed a review of the website and social media offering is needed.

The resident’s newsletter is included within the current meeting agenda and requires some timely focused contributions.

### **Projects**

Sun Dial – Tony Moss has assured me he is making progress but he is having to seek new suppliers (some distance away).

CCTV – The Council has resolved to appoint Reay Securities Ltd as preferred supplier for a fully managed CCTV service. I have a meeting scheduled for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 with Reay’s to confirm contract arrangements and the location of CCTV cameras.

As soon as The Council has entered into a contract for CCTV provision I can make a funding application to Northumberland County Council (£3,000).

### **Admin**

By-Election Costs - The Council has now paid for the costs of Septembers By-Election amounting to £4573.06 net of vat.

Neighbourhood Planning - The Council has been successful with its initial Neighbourhood Plan funding application – an award of £1,200 has been approved for some initial work to the plan.

Staff Holidays – The terms of The Clerks employment contract entitles the post holder to 2 additional day’s holidays after the completion of 5 years consecutive service. With effect from 1.4.2019 the current Town Clerk will be entitled to 26 days holidays plus statutory bank holidays.

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

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Dr Pit	Description
Northumberland County Council	5,580.86				November + December Payroll
Northumberland County Council	1,976.55				Environmental Enforcement Officer
Smart Office Systems Ltd	8.40				Printer Costs
HMRC	(3,221.52)				VAT Refund
D & M Fencing	252.00				Christmas Tree Picket Fence
Talk Talk Business	38.40				Telephone + Internet
Front Street News And Post Office	139.75				Library Newspapers
Northumberland County Council	1,440.00				New Grit Bins

**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
	None For This Meeting	

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:

Highways issues – Reinstatement of Double Yellow Lines for Bedlington Market Place, Subway clean and lighting improvement, Road Speed safety Signs.

Christmas 2019 Lights Switch on Event – is planned for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Joint Town and Parish Council meeting – Cancelled

CCTV – confirmed with the preferred supplier the agreed locations for CCTV.

Events – Discovering Arts Exhibition and Family Workshops – Free 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019 at Trinity Church.  
Art Exhibition 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 – St Cuthbert’s Church, 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2019 10am until 2pm

Town Centre Development – as a resident she had contacted Northumberland County Council to request an update on the development. Councillor Trimming asked if she was aware of any additional information with regard to the “superstore” sign up on the site – The only information available was that what was already available publically in the press and on the internet.

Policing In Bedlington – an increase in patrols have resulted in better outcomes. Councillor Hogg reminded everyone present that all instances of crime should be reported to the Police directly.

Councillor Bernard Pidcock – tribute was paid to Northumberland County Councillor Bernard Pidcock who has sadly passed away recently.

Chairman’s initials

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

Ref.	Description	Decision
18/04019/FUL	Single storey front and rear extensions Location 2 Warwick Grove Hazelmere Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6NW	GRANTED
17/02932/FUL	Proposed demolition of existing building and construction of new building comprising of 11 independent living bedrooms, with associated car parking. Location Land Between 86-90 Front Street East Bedlington NE22 5AB	GRANTED
18/03759/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order: Proposed tree works to 57 trees Location Land South Of The Old Vicarage Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland	GRANTED
18/04296/FUL	Demolition of existing detached garage and construction of new detached double garage Location Nether Rigg 11A Netherton Road Nedderton Village NE22 6AU	GRANTED

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Chairman's initials