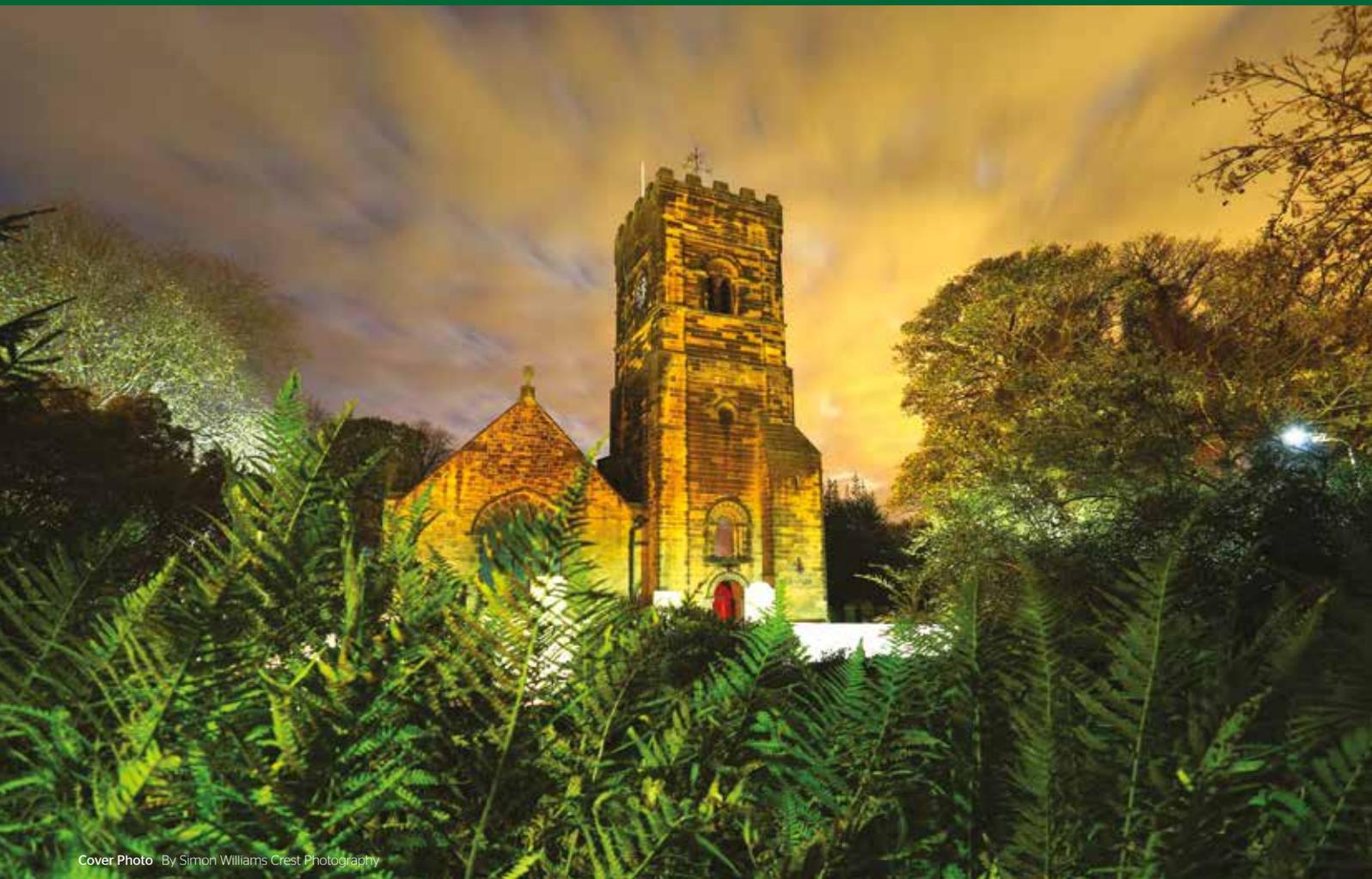


WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL



RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2019 Issue



Cover Photo By Simon Williams Crest Photography

In this issue ▶



New 20 Acre Play Area



Neighbourhood Plan Consultation



School Holiday Activities



Foreword from Christine Taylor Mayor, West Bedlington Town Council

Where does the time go, another busy six months both on a personal and council front. I moved house, having lived in High Ridge for 18 years and I've downsized to a new home Hartford Crescent which is lovely and I think I'm going to like living there.

On the Council front we've been really busy with sourcing CCTV systems to help combat some of the anti-social behaviour we are being plagued with recently. After shortlisting two companies and receiving excellent presentations from both, we appointed Reay securities Ltd. We have been working with Andy and Simon from Reay to ensure we obtain the best coverage for our assets. We consulted the police and have been able to cover some major problem areas. I've written a short article within this Newsletter outlining where CCTV cameras will be located.

Grit bins, but spring is on the way... working with County Councillors Malcolm Robinson and Russ Wallace we have been able to provide several additional grit bins over the town. These are in place now ahead of next winter so you should be able to identify the new ones. Malcolm and Russ funded these from their small schemes allowance and we will pick up the tab for the replenishment as and when it's needed.

Speed Awareness Signs, again working with our County Councillors we are adding Speed Awareness Signs. We are currently in the process of purchasing signs for Nedderton Village which will be placed when entering the village from both sides. Hartford Home Farm, a forty mile an hour zone will receive two new ones as this is a busy stretch of road and we are hoping to reinforce the speed limit here. Again funding for these is from County councillors small schemes allowance and West Bedlington Town Council, we will also pick up the tab for their maintenance costs.

I recently attended the Northumberland Local Plan roadshow held in Bedlington Community Centre. While it was informative on what is going on in our County it was disappointing for some residents who thought it would provide them with an update on the Town Centre redevelopment, we were able to redirect them to the Local Area Committee Meeting held on 20th March at Netherton Social Club. I'm hopeful all our questions will be answered there.

Plans for a Neighbourhood Plan have been underway since I first joined the Council 7 years ago. It has been started and shelved on several occasions but recently we have made some good progress with the appointment of Jo-Anne Garrick as our plan developer. We intend to hold an open forum as part of our Meeting of the Town on Wednesday 17th April so please come along if you can; additional details are contained within the Newsletter.

Events: following on from last year's events we are proposing to hold a 2 day summer event on 20 Acres playing fields, flyers are already circulating; a Spooktacular in conjunction with Bedlington Cricket Club on the 2nd November and our Christmas light switch on the 30th November; complete with ice skating, carols and craft fair.

We have invested some funding into providing activities for our younger residents throughout the school holidays. We have a wide range of activities including Football, Golf, Glass painting and den building with Footprints on the Moon at Plessy Woods. There are also additional activities with the Family Gateway and a full itinerary is contained in the Newsletter.

Finally, I hope you enjoy this Newsletter. We try and include as much variety as possible, however, if you have any suggestions or something you would like to include please forward it to westbedlingtontowncouncil@gmail.com

Our next edition is due out in the Autumn.

I hope you all have a fabulous summer!

Best regards,

Christine Taylor
Mayor



Protecting Our Assets

Following a number of discussions, research by Steven our Town Clerk and presentations to the Services committee, we appointed Reay Security Ltd as our service provider for CCTV for our town.

The purpose of CCTV is to record incidents of vandalism/hooliganism to council property, provide security to members of the public and potentially provide evidence to the authorities as requested.

We are proposing to install up to 9 stand alone CCTV surveillance systems in the following locations:

- Meadowdale Play Park/Black Path
- West Lea Play Park/Red Ash Path
- Red Lion Roundabout/Subway
- Front Street West/TSB
- Market Square
- Morrisons roundabout/Chahals shop/Black Path

We have worked with police and Reay Security to identify known troubled areas and are focusing on these first but we have the flexibility to move or add cameras if and when needed. We are hoping the introduction of CCTV into the town will act as a deterrent to the mindless damage we are suffering from at the moment and help in protecting our assets.

We as a Town Council will not have access to the recording as the system is being totally managed by Reay Security so it will not be possible to request images unless it's to support a criminal prosecution and it is requested via the Police for prosecutions. This supports the new GDPR policy and as a Town council we fully support this approach.



Christmas Lights

In line with the last few years we have plans to add to our Christmas Lights displayed on lamp posts throughout the town, over the last couple of years we added lights down Glebe Bank and Schalksmuhle Road and this year we propose to head down Hartford Road East, with lights being placed on the first eight lamp posts heading down the bank. We are hoping this will give a more festive feel for people driving into our town and plan to add to Burdon Terrace/Ridge Terrance next year.

We are also replacing some tree lights as these are past their best and some have been stolen from the trees!!

Our town looks fabulous all the time but I particularly love our tree lights and lamp post decorations during the festive season so if you see anyone either damaging them or helping themselves please report it to the Police.

West Bedlington Town Council Forthcoming Events

17th April - Annual Meeting of the Town - Bedlington Community Centre - Neighbourhood Plan Consultation.

15th/16th June - Bedlington's 2 day Family Festival - 20 Acres

- Dog Show (Saturday 15th June at 11am)
- The Greatest Showman
- Pete Donegan (From The Voice)
- Haus of Gaga
- Sebby Mercury
- ShowWaddyWaddy

2nd Nov - Spooktacular - Bedlington Cricket Club

- Halloween disco
- Fancy Dress for everyone - prizes
- Apple Bobbing
- Firework display

30th November - Christmas Lights Switch on - Market Square

- Christmas Lights Switch on at 4 pm
- Craft Stall - with Bedlington Community Centre
- Ice rink
- Schools Choirs
- Brass Band

West Bedlington Town Council

Youth Leisure Provision

For some time The Council has been aware of a need within the Town to provide events / activities for our younger residents during school holidays.



The Council has no direct resources of its own to call upon and is therefore indebted to event / activity providers to help fulfil this requirement. In the previous and current financial year the Council has made available funding of £22,500 to help fulfil this need.

Last year's events and activities included football coaching, golf lessons, den building and woodland crafts, arts and crafts workshops, glass decoration classes and play activities. We are looking to repeat and in some cases extend the number of events / activities available this year.

Additionally we are hoping to provide BMX and Skateboard demonstrations and will look to trial a shuttle bus to allow swimmers to travel to Ashington Leisure Centre - both projects are at an early stage but once details have been agreed we will advertise them widely within the community. Please check out the details of the already agreed activities

and events in this newsletter, remember in some cases places are limited so please ensure you book or fulfil the requirement of the event / activity provider (details are within each advertisement).

Finally if as a resident, parent or community group member you are aware of any event / activity providers who would be interested in providing the same for our younger residents during school holiday periods please in the first instance please ask them to contact the Council for an informal discussion.

Here's hoping the weather is kind and everyone enjoys the events / activities available.

All Activities will be held at Bedlington Community Centre, West End Front St, Bedlington NE22 5UB.

Please call Laura Pollard (Family Entrepreneur) for more information and to book your place on the activity: 07518940816

Activities are open to all local families from the Bedlington area

Places must be booked and paid in advanced



Holiday	Date	Time	Activity	Cost
Easter Holidays	10/04/19	1pm -3pm	Easter egg crafts and pebble painting	£2 per child, adults free
	17/04/19	1pm -3pm	Easter egg hunt	£2 per child, adults free
May Day Holidays	29/05/19	1pm -3pm	Glass painting and crafts	£2 per child, adults free
Summer Holidays	24/07/19	1pm -3pm	Model making from junk - making junk monsters	£2 per child, adults free
	21/08/19	1pm -3pm	Teddy bears picnic - make a picnic and enjoy it on the local green	£2 per child, adults free
October Holidays	23/10/19	2pm -4pm	Halloween Party - disco and snacks	£2 per child, adults free
Xmas Holidays	23/12/19	2pm - 4pm	Xmas Party - santa, games, snacks and disco	£2 per child, adults free

All proceeds made from the activities will be put back into the charity to improve life chances for children and families.



Forest School Wild Adventures Holiday Dates & Times

School Holiday Forest School	Dates/Times AM 10.00 - 12.00	Dates/Times PM 1.00 - 3.00	Booking Codes
April Easter Holidays	5th April - 23rd April	8th, 12th, 17th April 15th April	FWB001
Summer Mid Term	24th May - 3rd June	31st May 28th May	FWB002
Summer Holidays 19th July - 2nd Sept	23rd, 30th July 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th Aug	25th July 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th Aug	FWB003



**FOOTPRINTS
ON THE MOON**

Where Wild Adventures Begin

.....

We have a surprise!

Footprints on the Moon collaboration with West Bedlington Town Council



Join Footprints on the Moon throughout the holidays for some wild Forest School Adventures at Plessey Woods Country Park. **WE LOVE THE WOODS** and getting our hands dirty, learning new skills like Shelter Building and Woodwork, to Campfires & Cooking with ingredients we've foraged. We thought it would be mean to keep such fun to ourselves, so we've created a host of holiday workshops for you to enjoy too...!!

Don't miss out on this wild experience!

To secure your place, contact us at:
Footprints on the Moon, Plessey Woods Country Park
Tel: 07432103446 FB: FOTM2015

Email: info@footprintsonthemoon.co.uk
Web: www.footprintsonthemoon.co.uk

“Don't tell me the sky is the limit when I know there are footprints on the moon”

Inspiring families to enjoy the great outdoors

ALL STARS
cricket

Big Moments

All Stars Cricket gives children the chance to play, learn great skills and meet new friends!

Bedlington CC
Hirst Head, Bedlington, NE22 5QH
6.00pm - 7.00pm, Fridays (May 24th - July 12th)
Contact: dleason@taylorfoods.co.uk
Register at alisterscricket.co.uk

Includes Personalised Kit!

Bedlington FC & West Bedlington Town Council
invite you to

EASTER & SUMMER FOOTBALL COACHING

Led by FA Level 1 and UEFA B Coaches

AGES 7-12 BOYS & GIRLS

WK1 - APRIL 8TH -11TH 10-3PM
WK2 - JULY 29TH, 30TH 31ST & AUG 1ST 10-3PM
WK3 - AUG 26TH, 27TH 28TH & 29TH 10-3PM
Meadowdale Academy
Hazelmere Avenue, Bedlington NE22 6HA

£20 FOR ALL 4 SESSIONS EACH WEEK
With 30 places available early booking is recommended,
contact us via Facebook @BedlingtonFC to secure a place

We will require payment in full with your booking

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

GLASS PAINTING WORKSHOPS

FREE ADMISSION!

THEMED GLASS PAINTING WORKSHOPS

- Easter
- Mothers' Day
- Fathers' Day
- Halloween
- Christmas
- and many more!

Contact: info@classonaglass.co.uk or call
07707073634
to book your space

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

BEDLINGTONSHIRE GOLF CLUB

Try GOLF this summer FOR FREE!!

**Family Sessions @
Bedlingtonshire Golf Club
Starting on 22nd July for 6 weeks
(6.00pm starting time)**

Golf Clubs included!

**To book email the family name and numbers to
professional@bedlingtongolfclub.com**

Exciting developments planned for Gallagher Park!

Gallagher Park, right in the heart of our town, is a fantastic place for all of the community but we want to make it even better by improving the park's play facilities.

For those of you who have visited the park you will know that the current equipment is less than ideal and we are working collaboratively with partners to help change this.

Northumberland County Council have agreed to provide some funding towards a new play area. Bill Crosby and Russ Wallace, 2 of our local Councillors, have also contributed £5,000 each towards

the funds and Friends of Gallagher Park have donated £2,000 as well. This gives us a really good basis to start building a play park that meets the needs of our children. However, we want to make the park even more attractive to visitors and as wide a range of children as possible and we are looking to additionally fund the purchase of a bespoke piece of equipment which will help channel our children's inquisitiveness, sense of adventure and celebrate our local heritage.

We need your help. Friends of Gallagher Park are seeking to raise £32,000 to purchase and install a bespoke play equipment, something like the train pictured here. We have set

up a Crowd Funding page (www.gofundme.com/play-park-at-gallagher-park or check out our website for the link) and need the support of the community in raising these funds to help turn our ambition into a reality. A train or something similar is ideal to celebrate our town's rail heritage as the first railway tracks were built here in Bedlington and forged from the old Iron Works at Furnace Bank.

Gallagher Park was created in the mid-1980s following the reclamation of the former colliery sites of Dr Pit and Bedlington A Pit. The park has football pitches, a BMX track, wonderful walking trails and fantastic views to name just a few of its assets.

Friends of Gallagher Park are a non-profit organisation ran by volunteers to help improve and promote

the park. We organise litter picks, have funded park benches and the information boards that have recently been installed in the park. We are also about to plant wildflowers in the park to further enhance the beauty and support local wildlife. We are always looking for volunteers and support so please do come along to our meetings which are on the first Monday of every month at Gallagher Park Pavilion at 6:30pm. We also have a Facebook and Twitter page so come and check out what we are doing or why not look on our website at www.gallagherpark.co.uk.

Your support in helping us raise these funds will directly improve the facilities we provide to the town and our children whilst also enhancing the attractiveness of Bedlington to visitors.

Friends of Gallagher Park



Summer Club 2019
Tuesday 26th – Saturday 31st August
9.30-12.30
The Salvation Army
Hartford Road West
Bedlington
01670 829356
bedlington@salvationarmy.org.uk
For children 6 and over (year 2)
Crafts, sports, Bible study, games & lunch included
£10 for all week
Please note places are limited and MUST be booked in advance

Reg charity no 214779 and in Sco SC009359

Bedlington Man Remembered..

Thanks to the efforts of West Bedlington Town Council, the name of Bedlington soldier, John Shotton, will soon appear on the war memorial in Front Street... a century after he was killed!

Born at Choppington, John lived at Netherton Colliery and then at 7 Third Street in Bedlington. He was a big man, standing over 6 feet tall and presumably he was a strong man for he worked initially as a miner in Netherton Colliery and then served as a Police Constable with Northumberland Constabulary.

In December 1915 John enlisted in the Army and was posted into the Life Guards with whom he went to the battlefields of France. He fought in



the trenches for almost three years, transferring at some stage to the Irish Guards, and he was killed in action on 20th October, 1918 - just three weeks before the end of the war. John is buried in Vertain Communal Cemetery in Northern France.

John Shotton was obviously a brave man. He faced danger throughout his adult life, as a miner, as a policeman and as a soldier in the First World War. A true son of Bedlingtonshire who deserves to be remembered.

And also...

Armed Forces and Veterans Day will be celebrated on Saturday, 29th June when, at 1130 am, ex-service veterans will join the Mayor for a Flag - Raising Ceremony at the war memorial in Front Street. This will be followed by a buffet reception and concert in the community Centre at 12 noon. All ex-service men and women are invited to this event.

Town Twinning: Wansbeck - Schalksmuhle Friendship Society

**12th October 2018,
Eighteen guests from
our twin town of
Schalksmuhle, in North
Rhine Westfalia, Germany
were welcomed.**

After a tour of Wales, our friends from Schalksmuhle arrived in Bedlington, members of our friendship group were at the Golf Club to welcome them, along with the Mayor of West Bedlington Town Council Christine Taylor. There were 18 visitors from Schalksmuhle which as readers may recall has been twinned with Bedlington and Wansbeck area now since 1970.

We didn't give them much chance to recover however as our programme for their visit started 9.30 next day when we all travelled by coach to Kelso and a visit to Floors Castle. From there we travelled to Boulmer, for a traditional fish and chip meal at the Fishing Boat Inn. The day was filled with renewing old friendships, making new ones and some of our newer members had the opportunity to

experience twinning in action for the first time.

Next day, Sunday, we again boarded the coach and travelled via coast through Whitley Bay and Tynemouth, we learnt a lot of the history of our region courtesy of a German speaking guide who then took us on a walking tour of Newcastle highlighting the cultural, industrial and historical side of the City. After lunch we then travelled to the Royal Northumberland Yacht Club in Blyth for an evening of music, by North Tyne Accoustic, and a Buffet meal. The day was interesting and educational and the evening turned out to be a great success sharing it all with old friends, music, good food, and wine.

By this time it was Monday and we all had a free day to spend with our guests, this was followed by our Farewell Party, which traditionally is a Ceilidh and buffet with short speeches and present exchanges from the Chair of our Friendship Society and the Schalksmuhle Chair of their Friendship Society.

This celebration was held in East Bedlington Community Centre also

on this occasion some of our local Councillors and the Chair of East Bedlington Parish Council, Keith Grimes expressed their pleasure at meeting our visitors from Schalksmuhle. The Ceilidh was, as usual, a big success and the excellent caller managed to successfully direct the dancing and encouraged us all to participate in a very lively Ceilidh.

Since this successful visit we have had press reports from Schalksmuhle describing the long friendship between our two regions and in particular this latest visit.

Our group are planning a return visit to Germany in 2020, in the meantime the Schalksmuhle-Wansbeck Friendship Society meet every other month at Netherton Social Club, should you be interested in learning more, no obligation, please ring Muriel Thompson, secretary on 01670 820511 for further information. There is no requirement to speak German, so language isn't an obstacle.

The Society would like to thank both West Bedlington Town Council and East Bedlington Parish Council for their support.

New Play Area - 20 Acre Playing Field

Following representation from local residents West Bedlington Town Council is working towards the provision of a new play area for younger children on the 20 Acre Playing Field.

This bold new project will look to provide an exciting and inclusive environment for our younger residents (under 12 years of age) whilst encouraging and supporting learning through play. The new equipment will be inclusive and provide

scope for disabled members of the community to use and enjoy.

The play equipment specification will aim to promote the following play uses - Swinging, Sliding, Climbing, Bouncing, Balancing, and Spinning and will include the installation of appropriate safety surfaces.

Alongside the new play equipment the Council also intends to reinstate the mini football posts and pitch that have recently been removed by the County Council. The intention of the project will be to enclose the newly installed mini football posts and pitch with a fence to prevent entry by dogs.

The timescale for the completion is still uncertain



a number of issues are still to be resolved, primarily planning approval needs to be obtained, but the Council hopes that, all being well, the project could be completed ahead of the summer school holidays.

The Council has already obtained some funding to assist with the cost of the project and County

Councillor Russ Wallace has indicated that he would also like to contribute financially from The County Council's member's small claims scheme.

Please see the plan above as an indication of where the proposed play area and mini football pitch will be situated.



2522 (Bedlington) Squadron Royal Air Force Air Cadets

The RAFAC is a youth organisation for 12 to 18 year olds who have an interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force.

What kind of things do we do...?
Flying, Gliding, Duke of Edinburgh, Sport, Archery, Shooting, Charity Events and Fund raising, Community Engagement, RAF station visits...& much more.



Do you want to find out more... then why not come along for a chat...Challenge yourself...!

We are situated on Waverley Drive, Bedlington NE225HD.

We are open on Monday & Thursday evenings from 7 to 9.30pm for further information contact Flt Lt W Booth at oc.2522@aircadets.org



Thank you West Bedlington Council for your help and support supplying funding for Air Cadet Projects.

Voice
Peter Donegan

Greatest Showman Show

Haus of Gaga

Harriet Povey

Sebby Mercury

SHOWADDYWADDY
Present

BEDLINGTON'S

2 DAY FAMILY FESTIVAL

A GREAT TIME FOR ALL THE FAMILY

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 2019 1PM TILL LATE

SUNDAY 16TH JUNE 2019 1PM TILL 7PM

FREE ENTRY
Venue: The 20 Acres Field
(next to the Golf Course, Bedlington)

**BRING A BLANKET PACK A PICNIC AND
GET READY TO BE ENTERTAINED**



WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL

Whats on Saturday 15th

Whats on Sunday 16th

Glen Townsend

Glen Townsend

Sofi Johnson

Laura Scott

The Greatest Showman Show

Frankie's Café

The Strutt Dance School

Harriet Povey

Soul Funktion

Sebby Mercury

Haus of Gaga

Showaddywaddy

Live from The Voice

The Peter Donegan Band

The Dog Show 11:00am Saturday 15th June

Fairground for all ages, Food And Beverages, Free Entertainment*

Free Activities for Kids - Face Painting, Circus Skills, The Magic Show, The Arts & Crafts Pod

*although we have no intentions of doing so we reserve the right to change the performers without notice

HAVE

YOUR

SAY!

The future development of Bedlington (Consultation)

The Council would like to place on record its gratitude and thanks to those residents and organisations who returned our initial consultation relating to the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for West Bedlington.

Although the number of returns was disappointing the quality of those returned was very high and very useful in informing the Council of the concerns and aspirations of residents.

We are about to embark on the next stage in the consultancy process and would encourage all residents to play their part. Details of what happens next and how you can get involved in The Neighbourhood Plan are detailed on the next page.

West Bedlington Neighbourhood Plan

We need your views to help shape the future of your Parish!

West Bedlington Town Council is leading the preparation of a neighbourhood plan for the area.

What is a neighbourhood plan?

The opportunity for local communities to prepare a neighbourhood plan was introduced in 2011. It enables people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens. Neighbourhood plans are prepared by the local communities through their town and parish councils, rather than being prepared by Northumberland County Council.

The West Bedlington Neighbourhood Plan will be used to make decisions on planning applications, giving it genuine influence on the future of our area. Plans can include a range of policies, including those which:

- guide new development;
- conserve and enhance the environment; and
- support the provision of community facilities.

Plans can also include community actions, which could be delivered by the town council as well as other local groups and organisations.

What has happened so far?

Following a number of periods of early engagement on issues for the West Bedlington Neighbourhood Plan, the town council has prepared a draft vision and objectives for the plan and are now seeking the views of the local community and other stakeholders.

How can I get involved?

The draft vision and objectives for the neighbourhood plan are included in this article. It also provides information on the types of planning policies and other issues the neighbourhood plan could look to address.

The town council is launching this next round of community engagement on the plan at the Annual Meeting of the Town on Wednesday, 17 April 2019 between 6pm and 8pm. The launch event is to be held at Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington, NE22 5TT. It is a drop-in event so you can come along at any point during the 2 hours.

If you can't come along, please have a look at the town council's website and Facebook page which will contain details of all of the information displayed after the event.

You can submit comments in the following ways:

- By attending the launch event on 17 April 2019;
- By completing the form within this article and sending it to us at: West Bedlington Town Council, Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington, NE22 5TT, or...
- By completing the form available on our website and emailing it to us at westbedlingtontowncouncil@gmail.com

Your feedback will be used to help inform the preparation of a draft neighbourhood plan, the town council therefore need comments to be sent back by Wednesday 1st May 2019.

Draft vision

The draft vision sets out what the West Bedlington Neighbourhood Plan intends to achieve over the plan period to 2036, it will inform all of the draft policies and community actions contained within the emerging plan.

By 2036 West Bedlington will comprise a sustainable and cohesive community. There will be an appreciation of the importance of the heritage of the area, which is vital to its sense of place, as well as giving local communities a sense of belonging.

Improvements will have been made to the local environment, employment opportunities, services and facilities which will enhance the quality of life of residents. Communities will be well-connected, via sustainable transport routes to major employment opportunities as well as and greater services and facilities beyond the plan area.

The important environmental and historic character of the area will have been maintained and enhanced by ensuring new development is of an appropriate scale and design, as well as reflecting the rural setting of the plan area. Important green spaces will be protected for the benefit of future generations.

Draft objectives

To deliver the vision, four draft objectives have been developed. The objectives clearly relate to the issues identified through early engagement. The draft planning policies and community actions contained within the plan will deliver the objectives.

Objective 1 - Quality of life

Ensuring new development is sustainable, contributes positively to the built, historic and natural environment of the plan area. New development will achieve a balance between development and protecting important green spaces.

Objective 2 - Community well-being

Building on the strong sense of community across the plan area and recognising the diverse needs of existing and future residents. Supporting the provision of different types of housing that people can afford and meet identified needs, including those of an ageing population. Ensuring the local community have access to the services and facilities they need.

Objective 3 - Local economy

Supporting both existing and the creation of new employment opportunities across the plan area, as well as protecting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the town centre.

Objective 4 - Accessibility

Promoting access to sustainable modes of transport, to connect local communities to the services and facilities which they require. Whilst ensuring the environmental quality of the plan area is protected by effectively managing traffic.

Draft planning policy themes

Draft areas for potential planning policies have been identified under each of the relevant objectives.

Quality of life

Sustainable development:

- Overarching policy setting out what the presumption in favour of sustainable development means within the plan area;
- Promoting good quality design in new development to ensure new development reflects the character, scale, layout, mass, materials etc of the area;
- Manage the location of new development and identify what development can take place in the open countryside.

Natural environment:

- Protecting/ enhancing green infrastructure assets;
- Protecting/ enhancing biodiversity;
- Identification of areas of local green space and protected open space.

Built and historic environment:

- Listed buildings;
- Conservation Area.

Community well-being

Housing:

- Supporting infill development within the settlement boundary;
- Rural exceptions site policy – To identify when development could take place outside the settlement boundary

Community services and facilities:

- Protection and enhancement of community services and facilities

Local economy

- Support for employment development;
- Enhancing the vitality and viability of the town centre.

Accessibility

- Active travel routes – Routes used by pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. They can include established pathways and cycle routes, public rights of way, bridle paths and paths of a more informal nature;
- Transport and new developments.

Draft community action themes

- Town enhancements;
- Opportunities to enhance access to leisure facilities
- Supporting existing local projects;
- Provision of facilities for older and younger people;
- Walking opportunities e.g. heritage walks/ health walks and improvements to existing paths;
- Public toilets.

Your feedback

Q1. Do you support the draft vision for the neighbourhood plan?
If you have any comments on the draft vision, or have answered 'no' please explain below.

Yes No

Q2. Do you support the draft objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan?
If you have any comments on the draft objectives or have answered 'no', please explain below.

Yes No

Q3. Do you support the draft planning policy themes?
If you have any comments, or have answered 'no' please explain below.

Yes No

Q4. Do you support the draft themes for community actions?
If you have any comments, or have answered 'no' please explain below.

Yes No

Q5. Do you feel the Neighbourhood Plan should identify any areas for development or protection e.g. for housing or employment or protected green space. If so, please explain why you feel the area/ site should be identified and also describe its location, it would be helpful if you could attach a map to your response.

Q6. Are there any other issues that you feel the Neighbourhood Plan should cover?

Please use additional pages if you would like to provide a fuller response.

Following the consultation the town council will establish a steering group to help guide the preparation of the neighbourhood plan. If you would like to be involved in the steering group please provide your contact details and let us know the reasons why you feel you should become a member.

Litter Bins in West Bedlington

Following representation from local residents West Bedlington Town Council has provided an additional eight (8) new litter bins this financial year.

In addition to the provision of new bins a significant number of old damaged or unfit for use bins have been replaced. A spate of vandalism resulted in the need to replace several others. All of which adds to the overall cost to residents for this locally important service.

West Bedlington Town Council is committed to providing the best possible litter bins it can for the use of diligent residents and visitors. To that end, The Council has been investigating a number of different types of litter bin to find the best balance between cost, durability and aesthetics. The intention is to replace existing bins with a new type of bin as and when a need for a replacement is required.

The new bin type will be more durable, though a little more costly than the existing bin type in the hope that they will be more vandal resistant and offer a longer life span.

Whilst West Bedlington Town Council is responsible for the provision, repair and replacement of litter bins throughout the Parish, the responsibility to empty those bins is Northumberland County Council's alone. Residents will no doubt already be aware of some of pressures both financial and shortage of resources the County Council is facing. This is also true of resources to empty litter bins throughout the parish (and others).

The Town Council provides 165 litter bins throughout the town / parish. Following discussions with The County Council's Neighbourhood Services Team the Town Council



has been informed that the County Council has now reached its maximum capacity with regard to emptying litter bins in West Bedlington.

What does that mean to residents and the Town Council in relation to requesting the replacement of existing or the provision of new additional litter bins? The Town Council is committed to maintaining its existing litter bins in the best possible condition they can be, so will always look to replace / repair any existing litter bin. The Town Council will also try to look favourably upon requests for any new additional bins where a need for one is demonstrated, however it must ensure that Northumberland County Council is able to empty any new bin. With the County Council already at its maximum capacity for this service the Town Council will have no other alternative but to rationalise the provision of any new bin (where a need is demonstrated) by replacing underused bin elsewhere in the town.

The Town Council will in conjunction with Northumberland County Council's Neighbourhood Services Team endeavour to identify underused bins which could potentially be relocated in the future should any demand elsewhere be identified. The Council would be interested to hear from residents if they can identify any existing litter bins that are either not used or used little or perhaps there are more bins in a specific location than is needed. Please contact us using our contact details available elsewhere in this issue.

Citizens Advice Northumberland is currently seeking new trustees to join our board to further strengthen our reach and impact into the communities of Northumberland, which last year supported 16,627 people with 37,889 issues.

**citizens
advice**

Who are Citizens Advice Northumberland?

We give people the knowledge and the confidence they need to find their way forward - whoever they are, and whatever their problem.

Life can be tough for everyone at times and the need for free, confidential, independent advice in the coming years will be more important than ever as we are set for a period of uncertainty, complexity and change.

2019 marks the 80th anniversary of our service and we're still reaching those in need of help 80 years on.

What are we looking for?

We are currently seeking new trustees to join our board to further strengthen our reach and impact into the communities of Northumberland.

In this round of trustee recruitment, we particularly welcome applications from people with specialisms in fundraising; communications and press; legal services or political strategy or previous experience of governance and board-level management, such as experience of chairing meetings, committee work and leadership skills exercised through a period change.

We would also encourage applications from individuals who would wish to hold an office within the charity as we will be looking to appoint a new Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer from within our number as the current incumbents' terms end over the course of 2019/20.

Further details of the role can be found at:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/support-us/volunteering/about-volunteering-with-citizens-advice/what-our-trustees-do/>

How to apply

For a full application pack or for any further information about the trustee roles, please contact janebrown@citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk 07384 510724



Bedlington Community Centre

Room Hire

We have a variety of spaces available to hire.

Meeting rooms downstairs:

The Phoenix £15 per hour

A multifunctional room accommodating up to 40 people.

The Shire £15 per hour

A multifunctional room accommodating up to 40 people.

Rooms upstairs: (Stair lift available)

The Green Room/Buffer room £10 per hour

Approximately 10 people can be accommodated around a table or long tables can be set out in a buffet arrangement around the room.

The Longridge Suite £20 per hour (includes Buffet room and Bar)

Large multifunction room accommodating up to 150 people.

The Bar

The fully licenced bar was completely refurbished in December 2017 and is included in the hire price of the Longridge Suite.

Contact Us

We look forward to hearing from you!

Website www.bedlingtoncommunitycentre.com

Email bedlingtoncommunitycenter@hotmail.co.uk

Facebook [bedlingtoncommunitycentre](https://www.facebook.com/bedlingtoncommunitycentre)

Telephone 01670 824141

Open times Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 - 1.30pm
Wednesday, Friday 9.30 - 11.30am

Additional information

A 25% Non-Returnable Deposit to be paid within 14 days of a Provisional Booking. Please note all balances are due 28 days before the event.

Prices are all inclusive of the use of tables and chairs.



**BEDLINGTON
COMMUNITY
NEEDS
YOU !!!!!!!**

New Trustees/Volunteers Welcomed

We are a voluntary organisation and relying heavily on the hard work and dedication of our small group of trustees and volunteers. No experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a good sense of humour. We're always looking for new people to help and support us.

Support can come in many forms: working in the bar, setting up rooms for events, helping with admin, marketing and hosting reception!

**Contact: 01670 824141
bedlingtoncommunitycentre@hotmail.co.uk**

Bedlington Community Centre Classes

As at Jan 2019

Monday

Pilates

9.30 - 10.30

Bedlington Singers Community Choir

7.30 - 9.00pm (Term time only)

Bedlingtonshire Local History Society

7.00 - 9.00pm (Last Monday of each month)

Tuesday

Bedlington Creatives

10.00 - 12.00am

Stretch and Tone

10.30 - 11.30am

Lilia Jane Tiny Tots (2/3 years)

4.30 - 5.00pm (Term time only)

Lilia Jane Mini Stars (4+ years)

5.00 - 6.00pm (Term time only)

Basics of Brass

6.00 - 6.45pm (Term time only)

Brass Band

6.45 - 8.30pm (Term time only)

WI

7.00 - 9.30pm (First Tuesday of each month)

Wednesday

Pilates

10.00 - 11.00am

Hartbeeps

13.00 - 15.00pm

Yoga

7.00 - 8.30pm

Thursday

Bedlington Ukulele Band

11.00 - 12.00am (Term time only)

Modern Jive

8.00 - 10.00pm

Bedlington Central Councillor Surgery

6.30 pm (First Thursday of each month)

Contact: Russ Wallace 07779 983775 or email russ.wallace@northumberland.gov.uk

Friday

Pilates

10.00 - 11.00am

Saturday

Pilates

10.30 - 11.30am

COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS

West Bedlington Town Council has a 'Community Chest' scheme which gives local voluntary groups and organisations a chance to bid for funding.

This might be to help establish a new group or to carry out extra activities that they wouldn't otherwise be able to do - e.g. sporting activities, arts, music or craft group, new equipment for a youth club - but these ideas will be coming from the community themselves.

To qualify for an award the applicant must be able to demonstrate clearly

that any funding from West Bedlington Town Council will benefit the Town, or residents of the Town.

Grant applications will be dealt with by the Full Council. In determining the validity of an application, the Council will refer to the following guidelines:

Applications will be considered for the following purposes:

1. For the purpose of purchasing equipment or materials either in part or in full.
2. For the purchase of services e.g. venue hire or transport that will enable group members to partake in a group trip or outing regardless of their incomes.

3. For running costs (but not wages) of a viable group that is experiencing a period of hardship.

4. For the provision of recreational activities and facilities.

5. For activities that raise the profile of the area.

Application forms are available from the Council's web page or from the Council's Office



SPRING & SUMMER 2019 at ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH



EASTER FAYRE

Saturday, April 6th

10:00am-1:00pm

Various stalls, including: home produce, raffle, tombola, white elephant, Easter egg & sweets tombola, grand prize draw, wine or water?

Refreshments throughout. Free entry.

CHURCH SERVICES

8:00am Sunday services :

Said Eucharist, Common Worship.

9:30am Sunday services each month :

First Sunday: All-age Morning Worship*

Second Sunday : Sung Eucharist

Third Sunday: All-age Holy Communion*

Fourth Sunday: Sung Eucharist

(Fifth Sunday - United Benefice Service—**check website to see which church this is at**)

(*Children especially welcome to attend all-age services)

Other Sunday services :

Baptisms, 11.15 am

Dates arranged at Friday Office Hour (6-7pm 1st and 3rd Friday of each month—see website for details.

9:15am Wednesday service :

Said Eucharist, Common Worship

Morning Prayer

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday 8.30 am

For the most up-to-date information on normal services, special services, booking baptisms and weddings, and all our social events see our website:

stcuthbertsbedlington.org.uk



MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

Saturday, May 4th 10:00am-12noon

Saturday, June 1st 10:00am-12noon

Refreshments and many stalls, including: Raffle, White Elephant, Toys & Games, Tombola, Cards

NOTE: **All** proceeds from the May coffee morning are for Christian Aid.



Cuthbert 950

FLORAL EVENT “The Glory of Summer”

Fri May 17th 3:00-5:00pm Sat May 18th 10:00am-5:00pm

Sun May 19th 12noon-5:00pm

As part of our *CUTHBERT 950* celebrations, come and see our church decorated throughout with beautiful flower arrangements. Refreshments throughout. Free entry.

Cuthbert 950

CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

Saturday, May 18th 6:00pm

Come and enjoy a relaxed social evening when the church is decorated for the Floral Event.

Ticket price £5 – Tickets from church or tel. 829631.



CHARITY QUIZ

Friday, June 14th

7:00pm

(doors open 6:30pm)

A fun, general knowledge quiz.

Tickets : £3.50 (u-16 £2)

(Tel :828493)

You are welcome to bring your own snacks and drinks



MILE OF PENNIES

Saturday, June 15th

10:00am-12:00noon

Come and join us for this fun annual event – help to add some coins to this year's design or just enjoy some refreshments and watch the design being made.

Free entry

Message from your Northumberland County Councillors



County Councillor Russ Wallace

Almost two years on, I remain increasingly aware of the privilege I have in being the Independent County Councillor for Bedlington Central.

I am proud to be a member of several County Council Committees. In particular the Children and Family Services Committee and our Local Area Council. I am also Vice Chair of the Town and Parish Council Liaison Group and a member of the Risk Assessment Panel.

However, it is supporting residents over issues they may have and, working with fellow Independent Councillors Bill Crosby and Malcolm Robinson, ensuring that Bedlington's voice heard at County Hall which is the most satisfying. We may not always get what we want but NCC certainly know Bedlington exists!

Local issues continue to dominate and these include road and pedestrian safety and the ongoing youth disorder problems that Bedlington continues to experience - along with neighbouring towns. The Bedlington Police Team ask that residents report every incident. This can be done easily and anonymously via <https://beta.northumbria.police.uk/our-services/report-an-incident/report-an-incident/>. Please support the Police Team by doing so.

Using the Small Schemes Fund allocated to all County Councillors I have appreciated collaborating with West Bedlington Town Council on a series of projects. These include the installation of grit bins, new bus shelters, traffic improvements and an exciting project to improve children's play facilities in the town. I can only praise the members and the officer of WBTC. They work tirelessly for the benefit of Bedlington.

I fully realise how important it is to be accessible to residents. I can be contacted at: russ.wallace@northumberland.gov.uk or 07779 983775 and I hold a surgery at Bedlington Community Centre at 6.30 pm on the first Thursday of every month. I also have a Facebook page which can be found at: <http://bit.ly/RussWallaceBedlingtonCentral> and publish a regular blog which can be found at www.cllrusswallace.wordpress.com

Finally, can I thank you for the support I receive from residents - it is much appreciated. I am confident that by continuing to work together we can make Bedlington an even better place to live.

Best wishes - and thank you for reading.



County Councillor Malcolm Robinson

Well another 6 months since the last WBTC newsletter to residents and lots to report again.

The work to give us a brand new play area at Plessey Woods has started and should be ready for Easter. Happy to pay for one of the new bus shelters along Schalksmuhle road so residents and shoppers can get out of the weather when waiting for their buses.

Interesting meeting with some of our young people as part of the Democracy Week, great questions! Both main road entrances into the town which are in my ward have been resurfaced as well as many sections repaired.

Main road footpath and fencing adjacent to the Green Letch have been done. At last the lights have been repaired heading up to Nethererton Village. New grit bins in place where residents asked for them.

Upgrades agreed on both the A1068 and the B1331. So some of the smaller things residents asked for and we needed in the ward.

Larger items such as our Town centre redevelopment, North of Tyne Authority, Borderlands Deal, enterprise zone investment at North Blyth, etc are mainly covered in my monthly blogs.

I was pleased to be able to speak to the Transport minister directly in support of re opening our main line rail link into Newcastle. The point I made is that this is actually a two way street and we need it to get people into our Towns, which will help regenerate them, it's not just to facilitate people leaving for their day jobs in Tyneside and beyond.

All the points raised seemed to be positively received. Please use the following to contact me I do try and be as accessible for residents as possible.





Bedlington Salvation Army Church and Community Centre

At Bedlington Salvation Army Church and Community Centre we work with the local community from the very young to the young at heart. Our weekday programme is non-stop, from Parent and Toddlers on a Monday morning to DV8 youth club, Messy Church or Family Film Club on a Friday evening.

Some of our programme operates on a membership basis to allow control of numbers for health and safety reasons, but most sessions are open to everyone.

Parent & Toddlers have 3 sessions a week; Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.15am. Groups are relaxed and friendly and run in accordance with EYFS guidelines in order to prepare the little ones for nursery and beyond. Please call for details.

The Monday afternoon ladies' group (Home League) is our meeting for ladies of all ages and offers a varied programme including guest speakers and afternoon outings. They meet between 2.00 and 3.00pm and everyone is welcome to come along and join in.

Our Lunch Club on a Wednesday serves up to 56 members with a main course, sweet and tea/coffee at 12.15pm. The cost for the meal is £3.50..the fellowship and friendly atmosphere is free!

The Over 60s group meet immediately after Lunch Club until 2.30pm. It is a relaxed meeting for both men and women with interesting talks, songs and fellowship and is open to anyone over 60.

Games Club play pool, dominoes and other games on a Wednesday afternoon. Again, this follows straight after Lunch Club and runs until 2.30pm. This is a free session and is open to everyone.

Age UK run a Chair Based Exercise session on a Wednesday afternoon from 2.30 until 3.30pm. Exercises are gentle and as the title suggests

performed sitting down. Eileen welcomes anybody of any age.

CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other) meet every other Thursday (2nd & 4th Thursday of each month) between 2.00 and 4.00pm. Members bring their handicrafts and share fellowship over tea/coffee and biscuits.

The Soup Spot on a Friday offers lunch to anyone who cares to drop in. We serve fresh, homemade soup with a roll followed by a pudding or a scone with a cup of tea or coffee. All we ask is for a minimum donation of £2 to cover our costs. Soup is served from around 11.45am until 1pm.

Straight after Soup Spot we have the Afternoon Film. Beginning at 1pm this is aimed at adults and our regular attenders enjoy the company as much as the show. Entry is free (but we never refuse a donation!).

Friday evenings vary. Two weeks of the month are DV8 Junior Club. This is open to children from Year 2 to Year 6 and offers a variety of games, events and outings. Children can be left with us from 6.00pm and must be collected by an adult at 7.30pm.

In between the DV8 weeks is Family

Film Club. A new, recent or classic children's film on the big screen at 5.30pm. The atmosphere is relaxed and we welcome families with children of any age. Entry is free. All we ask is that you buy your snacks (hot dogs, popcorn, chocolate & drinks) from us and don't bring your own. All items are 50p each. It helps cover our overheads and keeps the maths simple!

The last Friday of each month is Messy Church. Activities begin at 6.00pm with crafts and carry on with songs and games followed by a shared meal. This free session is open to all families who would like to join in. Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Sunday services are at 10.00am and 5.30pm. We have a mixture of worship styles, enhanced by contributions from both the children's and adult's choirs and brass bands. We pray, read Scripture, listen to Biblical teaching and respond to God's message. Morning worship includes our vibrant Sunday School for children. You are very welcome to join us and stay for refreshments after both services.

Wherever we do have to charge for activities the cost is kept to a minimum in order to keep the programme running, but no profit is made.

Our Food Bank supports local people in need with a 3-day emergency food parcel. We take referrals from several agencies such as Social Services, schools, Probation Service or the police. Our main referrer is NETS which can be accessed by anyone for assistance when they are in need. We accept donations of food whenever the centre is open and rely on the goodwill of the public and our congregation to be able to continue to offer this service. A food parcel will contain breakfast, lunch and dinner for each person in the household for three days. A typical bag will have cereal, UHT milk, soup/beans/noodles and tinned meat with tinned vegetables, pasta with sauce and rice with an accompaniment. If possible, we include tea/coffee, tinned puddings, biscuits and toiletries.

Anyone who would like information on any part of our programme please drop into the centre or give us a ring on 01670 829356. The office is usually open Monday to Friday between 8.00am and 4.00pm except Thursdays when times may vary.

Volunteers Needed - Do your bit and become a Defibrillator Guardian

A guardian is a loyal, responsible person who volunteers to carry out a regular cabinet and defibrillator inspection.

The inspection is non-technical and can be carried out without accessing the inside of the cabinet. A simple report of each inspection is completed and returned to the Ambulance Service via the Town Council office and this confirms to the Ambulance Service whether or not a defibrillator is operational.

Inspections should be carried out once a week, at any time convenient to yourself. All forms to report the inspection will be provided by the Town Council.

Throughout the country thousands

of guardians carry out regular checks. It is possible to have more than one guardian per cabinet to share the responsibility and time commitment.

This valuable service provides information ensuring high levels of governance are maintained and the Ambulance Service continue to offer instructions when a member of the public reports an emergency. Without the support of loyal guardians, many Public Access Defibrillators sites and initiatives would not be possible to operate.

If you wish to help in your community as a guardian and help ensure this valuable piece of emergency equipment is available at all times please contact us - our contact details are elsewhere in this newsletter.



2019 - 2020 BUDGET

	£	%
Administration		
Staff Salaries	30,087	
Ni Employers Contribution	3,250	
Pension Employers Contribution	6,050	
Contingency	0	
Clerks Training + SLCC	300	
Payroll Charge by NCC	24	
Travel / Subsistence	100	
Election Costs	10,000	
Sub- total Administration	49,811	20.2
Office Costs		
Office Rent	7,500	
Room Hire	500	
Telephone	420	
Internet	100	
Computer Software	300	
Postage	100	
Printing	350	
Stationery	100	
Sub Total Office Costs	9,370	3.8
Fees & Charges		
Audit - Internal	300	
Audit - External	700	
Legal Fees	500	
Subscriptions NALC	1,450	
Subscriptions General	50	
Advertising + Publicity	300	
Sub Total Fees and Charges	3,300	1.3
Members Expenses		
Councillor's Expenses	150	
Councillor Training	200	
Civic Expenses	100	
Annual Meeting of the Town	300	
Sub Total Members Expenses	750	0.3
Grants & Donations		
Community Chest	5,000	
Pupils Fund	4,500	
Sub Total Grants & Donations	9,500	3.8

Services Provided by West Bedlington Town Council

Allotments	0
Play Area Inspection SLA	2,247
Play Area Repairs + Maintenance	3,300
Play Area Replacement Provision	8,000
Bus Shelter SLA	2,889
Bus Shelter Repair + Maintenance	3,000
Bus Shelter Replacement Provision	4,000
Grass Cutting	4,000
Bedding Plants	14,445
War Memorial SLA	214
Litter Bins Repair + Maintenance	900
Litter Bin Renewals	1,000
Public Seating SLA	428
Public Seating Repair + Maintenance	1,000
Environmental	5,000
Environmental Enforcement Officer	8,000
Services Contingency	750
Library Newspaper	441
Grit Bins	1,000
Meadowdale Gates SLA	2,500
Front Street Blooms	1,500
Insurance	4,500
Newsletter	5,000
Defibrillator	500
School Art In Bus Shelters	2,000
CCTV	6,000
Road Speed Signs	2,500
Town Twining	750

Sub Total Services 85,864 34.8

Events Provided by West Bedlington Town Council

Remembrance Day	300
Christmas Tree	2,500
Existing Christmas Lights	8,000
Christmas Event	7,000
New / Upgraded Christmas Lights	7,000
Summer 2 Day Event	25,000
Youth / Leisure Support	7,500
Jobs Fair	500
Bedlington Terrier Show	100
Halloween / Fireworks	5,000
Joint Event with St Cuthberts Church	1,000
Armed Forces Day	1,000

Sub Total Events 64,900 26.3

Current + Future Projects

Joint Funding with County Coun Robinson	15,000
Northumberland Live Event	5,000
War Memorial improvements	3,500
Sub Total Projects	23,500 9.5

Total Expenditure 246,995 100.0

West Bedlington Town Council - 2019/20 Budget and Council Tax Charges

Your total Council Tax Bill (issued by Northumberland County Council) is made up of a number of different elements - Northumberland County Council (for the services provided by The County Council), The Police Authority (to help fund Policing), The Fire Authority (to help fund Fire and Rescue Services), Adult Social Care (to contribute towards the cost of adult social care) and finally your Town Council precept (to help fund the services funded by West Bedlington Town Council).

Some of the main services are shown in the panel opposite.

The Council has for the forthcoming year (2019 /200 resolved to increase its own annual budget from £242,297 to £246,995 - a summary of the various elements of the budget are shown below. In making this decision the Council has taken into account an estimated increase in the parish's Council Tax Base (simplified as been the total number of dwellings and the estimated charges for each of those dwellings). And in doing so has produced an increase in its available spending power without increasing the payment burden upon individual households. Effectively the increase in the Council Tax base and The Councils budget mirror each other resulting in no increase in the payment of the element of your Council Tax Bill attributed to West Bedlington Town Council and the provision of its services. Please note your Council Tax payment will increase if there has been any increase in any of the other elements that make up your overall Council Tax Bill, which are of course not within the control of West Bedlington Town Council.

West Bedlington Town Council is committed to delivering high quality, value for money services that do not overburden its residents financially through progressive and continuous year on year Council Tax increases.

The Council is in a strong financial position and has some reserves to call upon should they be needed to finance unexpected or new expenditure. The Council has no borrowing and no debt to repay and is obliged to restricting spending to remain within its own affordable financial controls and thus protect its residents from any undue Council Tax increases, wherever possible.

A summary of the budget for 2019/20 is shown on the previous page.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

You can attend Town Council meetings (usually the second Thursday of the month at Bedlington Community Centre at 6:30pm)

Before each Town Council meeting there will be a 15 minute open Session. The Chair will invite members of the public present to put questions to, or draw relevant matters to the attention of the Council prior to commencement of business. In order to give every member of the public a fair chance of asking a question, each person will be limited to two questions at each session and each question is limited to 3 minutes per person.

Alternatively you can at any time contact the Council office directly to discuss any Town Council matters. (Our contact details are shown at the end of this newsletter).



OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Allotments
- Bus Shelters
- Children's Play Areas
- Grit Bins - if the County Council won't supply the Town Council may supply
- Litter Bins - Provision of (not the emptying of)
- Public Seating
- War Memorial
- Christmas Lights
- Christmas Tree
- Notice board Provision
- Flower beds and bulb planting
- Town gateway features
- Additional grass cuts - The County Council cut the grass from April to October so we may pay for additional grass cuts outside of those months
- Support of Community Events

All other local Council Services (e.g. Housing, Refuse Collection, Council Tax and Housing Benefits), Public Toilets, Litter Bin Emptying etc are the responsibility of Northumberland County Council.

www.northumberland.gov.uk

Tel: 0345 600 6400

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS



David Graham

Central

32 Ravensworth Street, Bedlington, NE22 7JP
01670 828907
david.graham54@yahoo.co.uk



Christine Taylor

Central

3 High Ridge, Bedlington, NE22 6EF
07591 621 238
christine.taylor8@icloud.com



Dawn Crosby

Central

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07714 211 877
Dcrosby100@yahoo.com



Victoria Thompson

Central

55 Acorn Avenue, Bedlington, NE22 5SP
victoriawbtc@gmail.com



Mike Trimming

Park Road

71 Humford Way, Bedlington, NE22 5ET
01670 820047
mike.trimming@yahoo.co.uk



Catherine Henderson

West

16 Briardale, Bedlington, NE22 6EH
01670 827793
catherinehenderson4@sky.com



Paul Hedley

West

19 Shields Road, Hartford Bridge, Bedlington, NE22 6AN
01670 530566
angelahedleyzz@hotmail.com



Adam Hogg

West

14 North Ridge, Bedlington, NE22 6DE
adam.hogg.wbtc@hotmail.co.uk



Jim Tyler

Central

4 Hirst Villas, Bedlington, NE22 5QQ
01670 638210

Contact details for the Council Office



The Town Clerk is

Steven Young

You can contact Steven Young at the Town Council office:

Telephone
(01670) 457070

Email
westbedlingtontowncouncil@gmail.com

Post
**Bedlington Community Centre,
Front Street West, Bedlington,
Northumberland, NE22 5TT**

Office Opening times

The office is generally open Monday, Wednesday and Friday (9.30am - 5.00pm)

However and regrettably due to staffing levels we cannot guarantee any fixed opening times.

We would advise that in the first instance you contact us via telephone or email and we will endeavour to answer your query or if you prefer we can arrange an appointment at the office.

