

**Minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held at Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.  
On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 6.30pm.**



**WEST BEDLINGTON  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**PRESENTATIONS.**

- There were no presentations for this meeting.

**QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

- 2 members of the public were present. No questions were put forward on the night.

**PART A - ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.**

Min Ref		Attendance / Apologies and Declarations of Interests.	Determination
23/293		<b>In Attendance</b>	Councillors, Crosby, Hedley, Hogg (Chair), Taylor, Thompson, Todd and R Wallace. Acting Town Clerk Gillian Turner, two (2) members of the public.
23/294	a.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> i. To receive and note any apologies for absence from Councillors. ii. To consider and determine any dispensations for absent Councillors.	i. Apologies for absence from Councillors Henderson, Thompson and D Wallace, were <b>NOTED</b> . ii. There were no dispensations for absence for this meeting.
23/295	b.	<b>Declaration of Interests.</b> i. Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest, (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest), they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 12th July 2012. ii. To consider any requests for dispensations.	i. No declarations were made on the evening.  ii. No dispensations were given for this meeting.

**PART B – MATTERS FOR DECISION**

**1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS / SUMMARY OF DELEGATED DECISIONS**

		Details of Meeting or Delegated Decisions	Determination
23/296	a.	To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024.	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024 are <b>APPROVED</b> as a true record.

23/297	b.	To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting that are not included as agenda items.	There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024.
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## 2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

		Matters for Discussion / Decision	Determination
23/298	a.	<p><b>Community Chest Applications</b></p> <p>Members are requested to discuss and decide upon the following two funding applications – forms attached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Toys, Snacks and Chats.</li> <li>ii. Cygnus Support</li> </ul>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> Members unanimously approved the following amounts:</p> <p>£500 £500</p>
23/299	b.	<p><b>Pupil Fund</b> – An application for funding has been received from Bedlington West End Primary School - details of project is attached, This application was submitted in November 2023, but due to the cancellation of the December meeting, was overlooked, but should be regarded as 2023/24 expenditure.</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> Members unanimously approved £1,500.</p>
23/300	c.	<p><b>Chairs Update and any Reports from External Meetings.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Chair will make any relevant announcements and provide updates to members.</li> <li>ii. To receive feedback from Councillors from any external meetings since the date of the last Council meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Council Chair (Councillor Hogg) provided a verbal update on recent events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northumbria Police operation</li> <li>• Tree updates</li> <li>• Borderlands initiative</li> </ul> <p>Full Report can be found at the end of these minutes.</p> <p>Cllr Taylor raised the issue that consultation with local residents should be carried out prior to any planting of trees to ensure that they are in the correct place and will not cause a nuisance re roots affecting properties and roads.</p> </li> <li>ii. None</li> </ul>

23/301	d.	<p><b>To Consider any issues which would normally have been taken to the Services Committee</b></p> <p>i. New Bus Shelter Choppington Road – quotation forwarded to developer, but no response received as yet.</p> <p>ii. There had been some recent storm damage reported to several bus shelters</p>	<p>It was noted that the shelter is now in situ, but another one is required on the opposite side of the road.</p> <p>The Acting Clerk has notified the contractor to initiate repairs.</p>
23/302	e.	<p><b>Other Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion).</b></p> <p>i. Any Recommendations from Other Working Groups for decision by full Council.</p> <p>ii. Any Other Items from Other Working Groups – Any feedback to the Council, any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by any working group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Events Group</b> – Cllr Taylor reported that positive feedback has been received re: the events held over the Easter holidays including; the lovely afternoon tea, Baby / Easter Disco and Magic Show. Future events, such as the bus trips to Alnwick Gardens and Edinburgh Zoo, craft classes, disco and a visit to Newcastle united are planned. The group is also finalising the summer festival and a D Day lovely afternoon tea.</li> </ul>	<p>i. None</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
23/303	f.	<p><b>Bank Reconciliation</b></p> <p>The Council are asked to APPROVE a checked bank reconciliation of £259,031.83 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and a Deposit Account Balance of £101,715.66 as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.</p>	<b>RESOLVED to APPROVE</b> the bank reconciliations as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
23/304	g.	<p><b>Annual Town Meeting</b> – to decide on the date for the meeting to be held in May 2024</p>	Members agreed to hold a <b>joint</b> Annual Town meeting and Annual Town Council meeting on 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
23/0305	h.	<p><b>Review of Parliamentary Polling Districts and Places</b> – members are presented with the maps obtained from NCC for consideration.</p>	<b>Members noted the details.</b>

## PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR TO BE NOTED

Matters for Information or To Be Noted					
23/306	a.	The Council are requested to accept all correspondences and the actions noted in respect of each.			
		Ref	From	Brief Description	Action Taken
		12/03	Northumberland County Council	23/04705/FULL – 6 Dixon Court	Noted
		15/03	Northumberland County Council	Review of Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places	Noted
		18/03	Northumberland County Council	24/00631/LPS – The Tower Church Lane	Noted
		25/03	Community Action Northumberland	CAN Enews March 2024	Noted

		25/03	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs 22/03/24	Noted
		25/03	NALC	Latest NALC Enews March 2024	Noted
		25/03	Northumberland County Council	Land SW 21 Front Street Article 13 to Chairman	Noted
		26/03	Northumberland County Council	Tree Preservation Orders in Existence	Noted
		27/03	Thriving Together	VCSE March Newsletter	Noted
		27/03	Resident	Support for Double Yellow Lines behind Wetherspoons	Noted
		27/03	Northumberland Line	Newsletter March	Noted
		01/04	W Lowry (Developers)	86-88 Front Street – Request to remove bollard and bin to allow works to commence	Noted
		01/04	Resident	Problems at Waverley Drive re Spoil and Rubbish on Road	Noted
		01/04	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs 28/03/24	Noted
		01/04	Northumberland County Council	24/00392/ADE Land 2 Ewart Drive - GRANTED	Noted
		01/04	Northumberland County Council	TTRO 138068284 Barrington Road Level Crossing – Notice of Road Closure	Noted

23/307	b.	<b>Consultations.</b>			
		<b>None for this meeting</b>			
23/308	c.	<b>Invitations.</b>			
		From	Event	Response Details	
		<b>None For This Meeting</b>			

23/309	d.	<b>Schedule of Payments and Receipts.</b> Details of payments and (receipts) to be noted since last Council update. All payments gross of VAT.			
		Payee	Amount £. p	Description	Notes
		Morrisons	64.00	Jelly Babies in Lieu of Eggs	
		Talk Talk Business	55.26	Telephone + Internet	
		House of Hamilton	2,534.00	Events Co-ordinator	
		Reay Security Ltd	83.04	CCTV Charges	
		Northumberland County Council	5,117.97	Payroll Costs March	
		Reay Security Ltd	417.60	Lock-ups at Meadowdale	
		Reay Security Ltd	809.64	CCTV Town Centre	
		Wireless Logic Ltd	539.14	CCTV SIM Charges	
		HMRC	-16,702.65	VAT Reclaim April 23 to Feb 24	
		Reay Security Ltd	83.04	CCTV Charges	
		Lloyds Bank Business Account	-112.18	Interest Received	
23/310	e.	<b>Other Planning Applications as per NCC Planning Portal</b>			
		Ref.	Description		
		24/00910/MISC	To install communications apparatus at Bedlington Telephone Exchange – Glebe Road		
		24/00866/NONMAT	Amendment to plots 134-136 and remove play area – Land South West of Glebe Farm		
		24/00631/LBC	Listed building consent to replace roof of outbuilding in rear garden – The Tower Church Lane		
23/311	f.	<b>Planning Decisions notified to West Bedlington TC by NCC</b>			
		Ref.	Description	Decision	
		24/00392/ADE	Advertisement consent re land South of 2 Ewart Drive, Fenwick Park	PERMITTED	
		24/00093/DISOCN	Condition 3 and 17 (External Lighting) Car Park Vulcan Place	PERMITTED	
		23/04708/FUL	Retrospective window in place of garage and extend bay window – 6 Dixon Court	PERMITTED	
		21/02583/DISCON	Discharge of conditions 6 and 7 re Swimming Pool St Benet Biscop Academy	DECIDED	
23/312	g.	<b>Police Report</b> – No report has been received.			

23/313	h.	<b>Matters for Information Only</b> – Any matters pertaining to the Council, that members would like to bring to the attention of other members and residents. For Information only no proposals or voting on these matters.  No matters for information were raised on the night.
23/314	i.	<b>Date of Next Meeting.</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> the date of the next meeting will be Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington. The agenda for this meeting to be issued on Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024.
23/315	j.	<b>Close of Meeting</b> The Chair closed the meeting at 7.35 pm with thanks to all in attendance.

**PART D – EXEMPT BUSINESS.**

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

		<b>Matters for Discussion / Decision / Information</b>	
23/316		Latest update re: the Clerk	A phased return to work has been agreed, commencing 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCILLORS:**

Bill Crosby, Paul Hedley, Cath Henderson, Adam Hogg, Christine Taylor, Victoria Thompson, Jayne Todd, Di Wallace, and Russ Wallace.

Signed by Chair

Date

