



WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14th November 2019 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

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

COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT: D Crosby, J Tyler.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk S Young, Northumberland County Councillor Robinson and 10 (Ten) members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS

There were presentations for this meeting from:

- Bedlington Brass Community Trust in support of their funding application Agenda Item 14.

OPEN SESSION

- A resident thanked the Council for inviting the resident who had been acknowledged by the Council at its previous meeting for taking it upon themselves to collect litter and clean up untidy areas of the town, to switch on the town's Christmas Lights.
- A resident reported damage to a bus shelter on Netherton Lane. The Clerk will arrange for a repair.
- A resident asked when the double yellow lines would be painted at Bedlington Market place to discourage indiscriminate parking. The Chair replied that numerous requests had been already made to Northumberland County Council with many assurances that the work would be completed imminently returned in reply. The Clerk will send a further request to Northumberland County Council's Highways Manager.
- A resident advised the Council that the loss of the parking provision at the location of the Town Centre Development had led to many car users receiving parking tickets from Northumberland County Council parking attendants. Northumberland County Councillor Robinson offered to enquire into the matter on behalf of the resident.

C221/19 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence for this meeting from Councillors Crosby and Tyler.

The apologies for absence were **NOTED**.

C222/19 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 10th October 2019 are approved as a true record of the meeting.

Chairman's initials

C223/19 - 3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2019.

C224/19 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest for this meeting.

C225/19 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE

Council Chair Councillor Taylor provided a verbal update on the matters summarised in Appendix F.

C226/19 – 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATES

County Councillor Robinson provided a brief verbal update on some of the matters they had been dealing with over the last month.

County Councillors Crosby and Wallace had previously submitted their apologies for this meeting.

C227/19 - 7. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS

- a. Finance, Governance and Communication - Councillor Taylor – No meeting to report upon.
- b. Events Working Group – Councillor Graham provided a brief verbal update in relation to preparations for the Christmas Lights Switch On event on Saturday 30th November 2019.
- c. Services Committee - Councillor Hogg for the benefit of residents present, highlighted some of the matters included within the Draft minutes from the Services Committee meeting held on 24th October 2019 which had been distributed to members.
- d. Neighbourhood Planning Group - Councillor Hogg provided a brief update in relation to the response to the Council's submission of SE / SEA reports for consultation to Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency.

RESOLVED To ACCEPT all committee / working group reports

C228/19 - 8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

- a. **Sports Facility Proposal.** This item was removed from the agenda. The Clerk advised that the Council no longer had an option on the land earmarked for the development.
- b. **Gallagher Park Live 2020.**
 - i. **DEFERED** a decision in relation to making a financial contribution to East Bedlington Parish Council in support of Gallagher Park Live 2020 until the outcome of agenda item 8b ii (below) was completed.
 - ii. **RESOLVED** to explore the possibility of a full 50/50 partnership between the two respective councils. (West Bedlington Town Council and East Bedlington Parish Council). The Clerk was requested to reply positively to the request and seek an understanding of what was proposed in relation to the partnership.
- c. **Remote Access Software. RESOLVED** to purchase and configure "remote access software" (to enable the Clerk to access the Councils records remotely). The cost of purchase and configuration is to be capped at a maximum of £200.

C229/19 – 9. CORRESPONDENCE

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

C230/19 - 10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- a. **Feedback**
 - I. **Town / Parish Liaison Committee** – (Councillor Taylor) – no meeting to report upon.
 - II. **NALC** – (Councillor Hogg) – no meeting to report upon. Councillor Taylor (if available) is to deputise for Councillor Hogg (who is unavailable) at the next scheduled meeting
 - III. **Friends of Westlea Cemetery** – Councillor Hogg provided a brief verbal update in relation to the meeting held on 7th November 2019.

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IV. **Town Regeneration Meeting – Councillor Hogg** provided a brief verbal update in relation to the meeting held on 3rd October 2019.

All reports accepted.

C231/19 - 11. CLERK'S REPORT

RESOLVED to ACCEPT and NOTE the Clerk's Report for this meeting (Appendix B).

C232/19 - 12. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

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

C233/19 - 13. PLANNING

- a. **RESOLVED NOT TO COMMENT** on the planning applications considered at this meeting as per Appendix D.

Note: recent notified planning decisions are shown in Appendix E for information only.

C234/19 - 14. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS

a. Community Chest Applications considered at this meeting:

- i. Bedlington Brass Community Trust. . **RESOLVED** to award £500.
- ii. Bedlington Station Sea Angling Club. **WITHDRAWN** The application was withdrawn ahead of the meeting.
- iii. Superstar Soccer Community Group. **RESOLVED** to award £400

b. Funding requests considered at this meeting:

- i. Bedlington Community Centre for the facilitation / hosting of an Empowering Community Event featuring various local volunteer groups. **RESOLVED** to award £160
- ii. Amy and Hannah Lott for athletics equipment. **RESOLVED** to award £470.

C235/19 - 15. RESIDENTS' NEWSLETTER

No further updates for this meeting.

C236/19 – 16. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN 2020

No further updates for this meeting.

C237/19 – 17. ACCOUNTS / BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT / FINANCIAL UPDATE

- i. **Internal Audit Report. RESOLVED to Note and Approve** the Internal Audit report of 9th October 2019. (Distributed to members).
- ii. **Budget Setting Planning. RESOLVED to APPROVE** the schedule of 2020/21 budget setting meetings. (A suggested schedule is distributed for member's information).

C238/19 – 18. POLICE REPORT

There was no Police Report scheduled for this meeting.

C239/19 - 19. EXEMPT BUSINESS

There was no exempt business for this meeting.

C240/19 – 20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Councillor Hogg – Neighbourhood Planning Group – next meeting date Monday 18th November 2019.
- Councillor Hogg – Video Recording of Council Meetings.
- Clerk – Advance Ticket Sale Arrangements for Ice Rink
- Clerk – Councillor feedback to confirm that land for sports facility is no longer available.

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C241/19 - 21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting of the Council will be held on **Thursday 12th December 2019** at 6.30pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.

C242/19 - 22. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.51pm

Signed by the Chair

12th December 2019

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

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

a) Correspondence:

| Ref | From | Summary | Action |
|------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 223/19 | NALC | NALC News 2 October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 224/19 | Bedlington Resident | Schalksmuhle Road Parking Issues | Noted and Circulated |
| 225/19 | Friends of Furness Bank | Minutes of Meeting 25 th Sept 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 226/19 | NALC | Local Govt. Finance – No referendum principles | Noted and Circulated |
| 227/19 | Ian Lavery MP | Child Poverty Report | Noted and Circulated |
| 228/19 | SLCC | Planning in Northumberland Meeting Notes 30 th September 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 229/19 | November Club Morpeth | New Fairy tales For Northumberland | Noted and Circulated |
| 230/19 | Northumberland County Council | Local Area Council Meeting 16 th October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 231/19 | NALC | NALC Member Update 8 October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 232/19 | Friends of The Earth Yorkshire | 20 Climate Actions For Town and Parish Councils | Noted and Circulated |
| 233/19 | Northumberland County Council | Charter and Who's Who | Noted and Circulated |
| 234/19 | Plantscape UK | Solar Christmas Trees | Noted and Circulated |
| 235/19 | SENUG | Newsletter 33 | Noted and Circulated |
| 236/19 | Northumberland County Council | Westlea Cemetery Update | Noted and Circulated |
| 237/19 | Northumberland County Council | Northumberland News and Events - Autumn | Noted and Circulated |
| 238/19 | Barnesbury Cycling Club | Track Upgrade Update | Noted and Circulated |
| 239/19 | NALC | NALC Member Update 17 October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 240/19 | NALC | NALC Enews 17 October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 241/19 | Ashington Town Clerk | Death of Former Wansbeck Councillor Isobel (Bel) Davidson | Noted and Circulated |
| 242/19 | NALC | NALC Member Update 22 October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 243/19 | Newcastle University | Nowhere To Go - Update | Noted and Circulated |
| 244/19 | East Bedlington Parish Council | Request to submit joint letter of concern to Northumberland County Council re Town & Parish Council Charter | Noted, Circulated and request for further information sent. |
| 245/19 | East Bedlington Parish Council | Gallagher Park 2020 | Noted, Circulated, Acknowledgement Sent and Added to Agenda |
| 246/19 | Northumberland County Council | Bedlington Market Place Double Yellow Lines | Noted and Circulated |
| 247/19 | NALC | NALC Member Update - Purdah and General Election 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 248/19 | Northumberland Cancer Awareness | Cancer Presentation | Noted and Circulated |
| 249/19 | NALC | NALC Enews 31 October 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 250/19 | Bedlington Resident | Copy of FOI request made to Northumberland County Council – Loss of Car Parking | Noted and Circulated |
| 251/19 | SLCC | News Bulletin – MPs and Remembrance Commemorations | Noted and Circulated |
| 252/19 | NALC | NALC Member Update - Remembrance Commemorations and General Election 2019 | Noted and Circulated |
| 253/19 | What3Words | Company Introduction | Noted and Circulated |
| 254/19 | Bedlington Resident | Note Of Congratulations To Council - Shadow Soliders | Noted and Circulated |
| 255/19 | Bedlington Resident | Request For Recognition Of Resident In Neighbouring Parish. | Noted, Circulated and Replied. |

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b) Consultations:

| Owner | Description | Where and When |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Northumberland County Council | Public Spaces Protection Order for the control of dogs | By 6 th December 2019 to email dogcontrolconsultation@northumberland.gov.uk |

c) Invitations:

| Date | From | Description | Comments |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 4 th Nov 2019 | CAN | AGM | Open To All |
| 20 th Nov 2019 | Northumberland CAB | AGM | Open To All |
| 21 st Oct 2019 | Northumberland CC | Empowering Community Event | Open To All |
| 16 th Nov 2019 | Brass in Concert Championship | 43 rd Brass in Concert Championship Sage Gateshead | Open To All |

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

No further update for this meeting. I will provide an updated finance report in preparation for the 2020/21 Budget process. The Councils overall financial position remains strong and broadly in line with budgets.

Services

- a. Play Areas - : Awaiting a start date from the installer re the new 20 Acre Play Area.
A Noise Management Plan must be submitted before 17th January 2020 to fulfil the conditions of the planning consent.
- b. Litter Bins – Awaiting on quote to fix lock on litter bin alongside St Cuthberts Church.
- c. Bus Shelters – all displaced panels have been replaced.
- d. Public Seats – I have ordered 3 new seats for Millfield South as agreed.
- e. War Memorial – Additional inscription was in place ahead of Remembrance Sunday.
- f. Road Speed Reduction Signs – Maintenance Contract signed and paid – awaiting on invoice for share of purchase costs.

Events.

Remembrance Sunday + Parade – a concern has been registered with regard to the presence of first aid personnel at the event. I have contact the other organisations who deal with the organisation of the event to advise them of the concern and asked if it can be taken into consideration when planning future events.

Armistice Day 11th November 2019 – event was well supported by Bedlington schools and residents and I received lots of positive feedback from those in attendance.

Christmas Lights Switch on Events arrangements are underway. I'm hopeful members will agree a timetable for the sale of Ice Rink places to enable the ticket sales to be advertised in advance. An Event notice has been submitted and accepted, road closure application is still outstanding – I am awaiting confirmation of its acceptance.

Christmas Tree Delivery scheduled for 5am 21st November 2019.

Fence installation and Christmas Tree Light dressing Monday 25th November 2019

Projects

Sun Dial – No further update for this meeting. CCTV – System is now up and running.

Admin

The office open / closing times over the Christmas / New Year Period

Monday 23rd December 2019 – Open

Tuesday 24th December 2019 to Sunday 29th December 2019 – Closed

Monday 30th December 2019 and Tuesday 31st December 2019 – Open

Wednesday 1st January 2020 and Thursday 2nd January 2020 – Closed

Friday 3rd January 2020 – Open.

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Appendix C – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 12)
Payment 1st October 2019 to 31st October 2019.

All payment GROSS of VAT.

| Payee | Amount | BCC | Bloom | Dr Pit | Description |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----|-------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Google gmail | 15.99 | | | | Annual Subscription |
| Groundworks UK | (7,300.00) | | | | Neighbourhood Plan Grant Funding |
| Morpeth Welding Ltd | 115.20 | | | | Litter Bin Repair |
| Haggs-Smp Ltd | 62.82 | | | | Play Area Repair |
| Northumberland County Council | 2,021.46 | | | | Environmental Enforcement Officer |
| Reay Security Limited | 809.64 | | | | CCTV Charges |
| Andrew Deptford | 222.00 | | | | Defibrillator Consumables |
| Malcolm Wilkinson | 90.00 | | | | Internal Audit Charges |
| Front Street News And Post Office | 36.40 | | | | Library Newspapers |
| The Poppy Appeal | 18.50 | | | | Remembrance Wreath |
| Bedlington Community Centre | 30.00 | | | | Room Hire Charges |
| Viking Payments | 37.40 | | | | Stationary |
| Michael Wood Design Limited | 2,595.00 | | | | Residents Newsletter |
| Northumberland County Council | 3,272.98 | | | | Payroll Costs |
| West End First School | 1,500.00 | | | | Pupils Fund Award |
| Zen Internet Ltd | 5.39 | | | | Internet Hosting |
| Talk Talk Business | 40.74 | | | | Telephone + Internet |
| Amazon | 67.30 | | | | Halloween Prizes |
| Amazon | 37.85 | | | | Halloween Prizes |
| OnlineMusicFilmsGames | 4.78 | | | | National Anthem Recording |
| Viking Payments | 38.81 | | | | Stationary |

Appendix D – Planning Applications Received for Comment. (Agenda Item 13).

| Ref. | Description | Response Due |
|-----------------|--|---------------------|
| 19/04253/FELTPO | Fell protected tree : T14 - Hornbeam (crown reduce by 1.5 meters and thin by 15-20% due to proximity to adjacent bungalow. Location 3 South Farm Nedderton Village NE22 6BH | 13th November 2019 |
| 19/04216/VARYCO | Variation of condition 12 (floorspace) pursuant to planning permission 17/00444/OUT in order to achieve a minor increase in the floorspace size of the foodstore element of the development. Location Car Park Vulcan Place Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5DN | 14th November 2019. |

Other Applications.

| Ref. | Description | Response Due |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| 19/04310/DISCON | Discharge of conditions : 3 (windows and doors), 4 (material), 5 (railings), 8 (external lighting), 11 (extraction system) and 14 (cleaning and maintenance) pursuant to planning approval 17/00609/FUL Bedlington Top Club Lairds House 40 Front Street West Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5UB | NA |
| 19/04397/MISC | Proposed CTIL 1No. COMMSCOPE ANTENNA at 13.09m, 1No. L21 ERS UNIT, 1No. ALIFABS MONITOR 12, CTIL 3No. C2(L08/U09) & 6No. C9(L18/LU21/L26), CTIL 1No. COMMSCOPE ANTENNA at 13.09m. Bedlington Telephone Exchange Glebe Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6JX | NA |

Chairman's initials

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 Chair provided a verbal report in relation to the matters summarised below:

Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade

Armistice Day – Act of Service.

Glebe Bank – painting of railings

New Christmas Lights Hartford Road

Christmas Lights Switch On Event

Double Yellow Lines at Bedlington Market Place

Attlee Park Fence Repair

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

| Ref. | Description | Decision |
|--------------|--|-----------------|
| 19/03499/FUL | Creation of play area. Location Land West Of 70 Millfield North Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland | GRANTED |

Chairman's initials