

## Minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held

via internet conferencing Zoom Meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81672744897>

Meeting ID: 816 7274 4897 On Thursday 8th October 2020 at 6.30pm.



WEST BEDLINGTON  
TOWN COUNCIL

### QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

- A resident reported a damaged litter bin – The Clerk confirmed he had already arranged for a replacement of the bin close to Nedderton Village, Bedlington.
- A resident expressed his disappointment and dissatisfaction at the Town Councils continued award of dispensations to absent Councillors for their non-attendance at virtual council meetings. The chair noted the residents view and responded that the decision to award a dispensation was one that was provided for within legislation and was a decision for the Council and the Council alone.

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

Min Ref		Attendance / Apologies and Declarations of Interests.	Determination
VM 082		<b>In Attendance</b>	Councillors Crosby, Graham, Hedley, Henderson, Hogg, Taylor (Chair), Thompson and Trimming. Town Clerk Steven Young , County Councillor Wallace and 5 (Five) members of the public.
VM 083	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 were received and <b>NOTED</b> from Councillor Tyler. County Councillors Crosby and Robinson submitted apologies for this meeting ii. Councillor Tyler was <b>AWARDED A DISPENSATION</b> for their absence from the meeting.
VM 084	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. There were no declarations of interest submitted for this meeting. ii. There were no dispensations to determine 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
VM 085	a.	To sign as a correct record the minutes of West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020.	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 are <b>approved as a true record.</b>
VM 086	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 West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020.

## 2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

		<b>Matters for Discussion / Decision</b>	<b>Determination</b>
VM 087	a.	<p><b>2019/20 Annual Governance &amp; Accountability Return (AGAR).</b> The Council are asked to approve and accept the external auditors' certification of the Annual Return of Accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2020. (There were no matters which came to the attention of the Auditor that required the issuing of a separate additional issues report).</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED TO APPROVE</b> and <b>ACCEPT</b> the external auditors' certification of the Annual Return of Accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2020 The notice of conclusion has been published on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020.</p>
VM 088	b.	<p><b>Youth Leisure Provision - Family Palates at Bedlington Community Centre</b> The Council are asked to discuss and decide upon a proposal to provide family palates sessions during October 2020 if Co-vid 19 restrictions allow. (Proposal circulated to members).</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED TO APPROVE</b> a proposal to provide family palates sessions during October 2020 if Co-vid 19 restrictions allow.</p>
VM 089	c.	<p><b>Funding Request - Northumberland Community Bank</b> The Council are asked to discuss and decide upon a funding support request from Northumberland Community Bank. Any award would be in respect of (Details distributed to members). Any approved funding would be in respect of a S137 payment</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED not</b> to support this funding request.</p>
VM 090	d.	<p><b>War Memorial – New Handrail Design.</b> The Council are requested to discuss and decide upon a submitted design for a handrail for the steps leading to the War Memorial. (Design distributed to members previously).</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED to APPROVE</b> a submitted design for a handrail for the steps leading to the War Memorial.</p>
VM 091	e.	<p><b>Funding of Bedlington Food Banks - Review.</b> The Council are requested to discuss, review, and decide upon any future continued financial support to i. Bedlington Salvation Army ii. Bedlington Matthew Project and iii. Wansbeck Valley Food Bank.</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> to continue to provide financial support to all three (3) Bedlington Food Banks. Monthly payments of £1,000 to continue to be made. Payments must be used for the provision of food bank stock / services and continued support will be subject to a monthly review.</p>
VM 092	f.	<p><b>Local Transport Plan 2021/22</b> The Council are requested to discuss and decide what are its top three highways and transport priority issues for its area, so that they can be considered for inclusion in the LTP Programme for 2021/22. This consultation is part of the annual review of LTP Priorities. (Details distributed to members) Deadline for a response is 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020.</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> The Councils top three highways and transport priority issues for its area, that can be considered for inclusion in the LTP Programme for 2021/22 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attlee Bank / Bedlington Bank safety improvements.</li> <li>○ Schaulksmuhle Road Morrisons / Lidl Roundabout Road Safety and Pedestrian Crossing Improvements</li> <li>○ Speed reduction measures for Hotspur Avenue, Windsor Gardens, Acorn Avenue and Demesne Drive Bedlington.</li> </ul> <p>Further <b>RESOLVED</b> to include an additional priority within the submission of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Improvements to residents parking in all streets in close proximity to Meadowdale Academy, Bedlington.</li> </ul>

VM 093	<p>g. <b>Events</b></p> <p>I. <b>Christmas Tree Competition.</b> The Council are asked to discuss and decide upon a proposal to hold a Christmas competition involving wooden Christmas trees for the children to make. Cost approx. £1,500. Councillor Thompson.</p> <p>II. <b>Remembrance Service + Parade.</b> The Council are asked to approve the cancellation of this year's Remembrance Sunday Service + Parade due to Covid 19 restrictions.</p> <p>III. <b>Remembrance Service + Parade.</b> The Council are requested to approve the press release / public notice in relation to the cancellation of this year's Remembrance Service + Parade. (Draft Distributed to members).</p>	<p>I. <b>RESOLVED</b> to hold a Christmas competition involving wooden Christmas trees for the children to make at an approximate cost of £1,500.</p> <p>II. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the cancellation of this year's Remembrance Sunday Service + Parade due to Covid 19 restrictions.</p> <p>III. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the press release / public notice in relation to the cancellation of this year's Remembrance Service + Parade.</p>								
VM 094	<p>h. <b>Planning Applications – Where Comments Have Been Requested.</b></p> <p>The Council are asked to discuss and decide if it wishes to make any comments in relation to the Planning applications received for comment.</p> <p>Note: recent notified planning decisions and other planning applications (where comments have not been requested) are shown in PART C for information only).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="263 952 890 1288"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="263 952 450 1014">Ref.</th> <th data-bbox="450 952 740 1014">Description</th> <th data-bbox="740 952 890 1014">Response Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="263 1014 450 1288">20/02770/FUL</td> <td data-bbox="450 1014 740 1288">Proposed single storey refurbishment with single storey extension to western and southern elevations Location 22 Centurian Way The Chesters Bedlington NE22 6LD</td> <td data-bbox="740 1014 890 1288">13th October 2020.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref.	Description	Response Due Date	20/02770/FUL	Proposed single storey refurbishment with single storey extension to western and southern elevations Location 22 Centurian Way The Chesters Bedlington NE22 6LD	13th October 2020.	<table border="1" data-bbox="917 952 1501 1288"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="917 952 1501 1014">Determination</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="917 1014 1501 1288">No Comment</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Determination	No Comment
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Determination										
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**PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR TO BE NOTED**

Matters for Information or To Be Noted										
VM 095	<p><b>RESOLVED to NOTE</b>                      Section's a, b and c. Correspondence, Consultations and Invitations and the actions taken for each detailed below.                      Section d, Schedule of payments and receipts                      Section e, Other planning applications                      Note section f is not part of the agenda and is included for information only.</p>									
a.	Ref	From	Brief Description	Action Taken						
	244	NCC Youth Team	Art Projects for Bedlington	Noted + Circulated + Replied						
	245	NALC	Covid-19 in Northumberland	Noted + Circulated						
	246	NALC	NALC Enews 9 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
	247	NCC Economy and Regeneration Service	Response to Questions Raised at Regeneration Meeting	Noted + Circulated						
	248	NALC	NALC Member Council Update 10 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
	249	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Notice of Conclusion of Audit	Noted + Circulated + On Agenda						
	250	NCC Economy & Regeneration Service	Community Chest Scheme	Noted + Circulated						
	251	NCC Strategic Transport and Employability Team	Love to Ride Northumberland	Noted + Circulated						
	252	NALC	NALC Member Council Update 15 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
	253	NALC	North East Local Lockdown	Noted + Circulated						
	254	NALC	NALC Member Council Update 21 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
	255	NALC	NALC Enews 22 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
	256	Northumberland Community Bank	Request for Support	Noted + Circulated + On Agenda						
	257	NCC Highways	TTRO 118226595 U6548 Hassop Way, Bedlington	Noted + Circulated						
	258	NCC Highways	TTRO 118210549 U6539 Deanery St/Bishops Meadow, Bedlington	Noted + Circulated						
	259	NCC Youth Team	Detached Youth Work Increasing Provision	Noted + Circulated						
	260	Bedlington Salvation Army	Note of Thanks for Funding Support	Noted + Circulated						
	261	NALC	Northumberland Parish Elections May 2021	Noted + Circulated						
	262	NALC	NALC Member Council Update 24 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
	263	Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	Letter of thanks for Funding Support	Noted + Circulated						
	264	NALC	NALC Enews 30 September 2020	Noted + Circulated						
b.	<p><b>Consultations.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>From</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Details</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>None For This Meeting</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				From	Description	Details		None For This Meeting	
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	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
		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges	
		Live4Soccer	570.95	Mini Goal Posts	
		Northumberland County Council	-125,125.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Year Precept Payment	
		Amazon.uk	20.48	Web Camera	
		Northumberland County Council	496.80	Covid 19 Play Area Signs	
		Northumberland County Council	3,400.27	Payroll Costs	
		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges	
		J Milburn	450.00	Summer Pilates / Arts	
		UNITY, Parent Support Services (NE) Limited	600.00	Summer Pilates / Arts	
		DL Maintenance & Repair	140.00	Play Area Repairs + Sign Fixings	
		Society Of Local Council Clerks	227.00	Clerks Annual Subscription	
		DL Maintenance & Repair	260.00	Play Area Repairs	
		Talk Talk Business	40.74	Telephone + Internet	
		Zen Internet Ltd	5.39	Website Hosting	
		PKF Littlejohn LLP	720.00	External Audit Fee	
		Amazon uk	16.99	Mobile Handset	
		1p Mobile	30.00	Phone Top Up Cost	
		Northumberland County Council	2,021.46	Environmental Enforcement Officer Costs	
		Northumberland County Council	3,400.27	Payroll Costs	
		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges	
		Broxap Limited	889.20	Benches For Play Area	
		Broxap Limited	647.88	Litter Bins	
		Broxap Limited	289.14	Litter Bin	
		Northumberland County Council	150.00	Anti-Litter Campaign Signs	
		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges	
		Bedlington Community Centre	7,500.00	Annual Office Rent	
		Bedlington Salvation Army	1,000.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment
		Matthew Project	1,000.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment
		Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	1,000.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment
		Reay Security Limited	809.54	CCTV Charges	
VM 096	e.	<b>Other Planning Applications</b> Where comments have not been requested.			
		<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Description</b>		
		20/02712/DISCON	Discharge of conditions 6 (Boundary Treatments), 8 (Phase 2 Contamination Report), 10 (Ground Gas Measures), 12 (Materials), 13 (Foul And Surface Water Drainage Scheme), 18 (Car Parking Details), 19 (Intrusive Site Investigation Report) and 21 (Landscape Design) pursuant to planning permission 17/01163/OUT   Land To North West Of Blue House Farm Cottages Netherton Colliery Northumberland		
		20/02713/DISCON	Discharge of Conditions 3 (Gas Ground Verification Report), 8 (Car Parking Details), 13 (Construction Method Statment), 18 (Intrusive Site Investigation Report), 19 (Coal Mining Mitigation Report) pon approved planning application 20/00397/FUL   Building To North West Of 1 Blue House Farm Cottages Netherton Colliery Northumberland		
VM 097	f.	Planning decisions notified to WBTC by NCC.			
		<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Decision</b>	
		19/04714/FUL	Demolition of caretaker flat and erection of 4 storey extension to rear Baedling Manor Care Home (as amended 16.04.2020) Location Baedling Manor Front Street West Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5TT	GRANTED	
		20/02206/FELTPO	Tree Preservation Order application: Horse chestnut (008) - crown thin by 15-20%, target prune branch off building by 2.5 metres and crown reduce	PERMIT	

			by 2 metres; Ash (810) - crown thin by 15-20%, crown reduce by 2 - 3 metres overall, remove excessive branch by 3-5 metres off adjacent crown off horse chestnut tree. Crown raise by 2.4 metres; Ash (811) remove overhanging branches from 12 oakdale; Ash (812) - fell poor specimen; Ash (813) - crown thin by 15%, tidy up tree; Birch (814) remove small secondary Stem Location 5 South Farm Nedderton Village NE22 6BH	
		20/02205/PRUTPO	Tree Preservation Order Application - Sycamore (800) - remove overhang of upper crown by 1 - 1.5 metres, remove lower stem 1.5 inches in diameter: Sycamore (801) - remove excessive overhang of upper crown by 1.5 metres, remove 1 x lower branch 2 inches in diameter: Field Maple (802) - trim back upper branches; Swedish white beam (803) - remove two lower branches of fence; Acer platanoides (804) - reduce upper crown by 1.5 metres and crown thin by 15-20%; Oak (805) - remove lower limb 6 inches in diameter to balance crown to their west and another 4 inches in diameter to the east; Oak (806) remove small branch on stem to balance crown: Pine (807) - tidy up snags, remove damaged and truncated limbs Location 11 Oakdale Nedderton Village NE22 6BE	PERMIT
VM 098	g.	<b>Police Report.</b> No Police Report for this meeting. The next report is scheduled for December 2020 meeting.		
VM 099	h.	<b>Financial Update</b> <b>Bank Reconciliation Counter Signatory – RESOLVED</b> to approve Councillor Trimming as the nominated member to counter sign the monthly bank reconciliation.		
VM 100	i.	<b>Meeting Close and Date of Next Meeting.</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> The next schedule meeting of West Bedlington Town Council will be on Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 6.30pm. Details to be advertised in advance.  <b>The Chair closed the meeting at 7.40pm</b> after firstly allowing members to report (for information only) any other business and updating the meeting on her attendance at The Town and Parish Council Liaison Meeting including Glass Recycling Trial for Bedlington, Northumberland Public Toilet Cleansing Programme, Plessey Wood Car Park Extension, County Council Winter Services, No County Council support for Community Events and Covid19 Dashboard.  Councillor Hogg – reported a misrepresentation of the Town Council planning application objection (St Bennet Biscops School) within an article published in The News Post Leader. Councillor Henderson – Reported a loose stepping stone at Meadowdale Play Area Councillor Graham – reported on a recent presentation to East Bedlington Parish Council about the Northumberland Rail Line.		

**WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCILLORS:**

Dawn Crosby, David Graham, Paul Hedley, Cath Henderson, Adam Hogg, Christine Taylor, Victoria Thompson, Mike Trimming, Jim Tyler.

**Signed by Chair**

**Date**