



Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8 October 2015 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

PRESENT:

Councillors: M Robinson (Chair) K Dalton J Dobie D Graham
P Hedley (from 8.00pm) A Hogg C Taylor J Tyler (until 8.30pm)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Town Clerk S Young
12 Members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS

- A presentation was made by Ross Lively in support of possible sponsorship.
- A presentation was made by Fiona Wardlaw in support of a Community Chest Application from Credit Union South East Northumberland.

OPEN SESSION

- A member of the public asked if the Town Council could offer any assistance to resolve parking issues she was encountering at Red House Farm estate.
The Chair sympathised with the resident's problems and advised that although there was nothing directly the Town Council was able to do to resolve the issues that the Town Council could endeavour to bring all concerned parties together in a meeting to see if a way forward could be provided.
- A member of the public expressed their concern about the condition of the wall at the junction of Church Lane / Front Street West and more specifically about the inadequacy of the safety barriers currently in situ.
The Chair confirmed that he, The Town Clerk and other concerned residents had already contacted the appropriate parties and that Northumberland County Councils Planning Enforcement has been requested to deal with the issue.
- A member of the public informed the Town Council that further hedging had been removed by the developer at the Slayley Court Development to accommodate a further house and that the site was now encroaching upon the adjacent cycle path.
A further member of the public reaffirmed that was the case and that the developer was opening advising potential purchases of new property on the development that further hedges would be removed to accommodate the building of new houses.
The Chair acknowledged the issue and stated that this again was a matter for the Planning Enforcement Team of Northumberland County Council.
- A member of the public asked about the provision of public toilets at the former Tesco site.
The Chair confirmed that he had already requested that any new future use at the site makes provision for accessible public toilets.

Chairman's initials

C187/15 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor S Tyler.

Resolved to accept the apologies received.

C188/15 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

Resolved that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meetings of 10th September 2015 are approved.

C189/15 - 3. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk advised that he was still awaiting a reply in respect of arranging a meeting with Northumberland County Council and residents regarding parking issues.

C190/15 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

C191/15 - 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair provided updates on the following matters:

- Following a restructuring and re-evaluation Leading Link will no longer provide events such as the Councils Winter event or the Big Event.
- The Councils Youth Council and initial team building training sessions.
- Planning Pre Application protocols.
- The recent Town and Parish Council Conference and workshop sessions on Neighbourhood Planning, Providing for Everyone and Raising The Game (Coun. Dalton)
- Refurbishment of play areas project.
- Bus Shelter renewal programme.
- Members were reminded to always inform The Clerk in advance of any potential investigative work / requests for quotes to prevent a duplication of effort and to ensure that any new work is in line with the Councils overall corporate plan and budget requirements.
- A meeting with NCC Locality Team where he requested responses to several current issues effecting the town.
- Website presentation to Events and Communications working group.
- Initial discussion with the job centre to host a jobs fair for the town.
- Requested a meeting with the Head of NCC Planning about the Bedlington Conservation Area and its protection.
- The NCC Core Strategy roadshow hits Bedlington Community Centre on 10th November 2015 and everyone is encouraged to visit and contribute to the consultation process.
- Congratulations to Bedlington in Bloom on retaining a Silver Gilt in this year's Northumbria in Bloom Awards very well done to all concerned. The Bedlington in Bloom gardening presentations take place on Wednesday 14th October 2015.

C192/15 - 6. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS

- a. Finance and Governance – no meeting, nothing to report
- b. Events and Communication working group – Councillor Graham provided an update on proposals for future Council funded events. The publication dates of the Residents newsletter is to be added to the next meeting agenda.
- c. Services Committee – Councillor Taylor provided an update on the response received from the Allotment Associations and circulated draft minutes of the services committee meeting of 24th September 2015 for information.

Resolved to accept all committee / working group reports

Chairman's initials

C193/15 - 7. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

- a. Resolved to amend the date of the next Council meeting to 19th November 2015.
- b. Resolved to approve the payment of the Clerks training session on 20th October 2015.
- c. Resolved to approve the payment of a gift of thanks.
- d. Resolved to seek a quote to construct a westward footpath along Schalksmuhle Road opposite Police Station.
- e. Resolved to pay £1500 to West End School in respect of its Pupils Fund application for 2015/16.
- f. Resolved to assist with any public appeal in support of a permanent memorial to Michael Longridge, but not to directly provide a memorial.

Councillor Hedley joined the meeting at 8.00pm

- g. Resolved – the Clerk is instructed to write a letter to St Benet Biscop High School Bedlington in support of the Wansbeck Netball Club to see if there is any possibility of retaining training facilities there.
- h. Resolved to approve the quote from NCC in relation to the provision, erection, dismantling and service of Christmas Lights amounting to £8841.87 net of vat.
- i. Resolved to accept the recommendation of the Events and Communications working group in respect of a Christmas Switch on Event and procure Entertainment Unlimited to provide an event at the cost of £2450 plus associated costs for market stall installation and Santa presents. It was further resolved to purchase a larger Christmas tree (35ft high) at a cost of £1145.
- j. Resolved to renew NALC membership at a cost of £1206.23
- k. Resolved to investigate the capital and revenue costs associated with a power supply to Attlee Park.
- l. Resolved to award £500 to Credit Union South East Northumberland in respect of their Community Chest Application.
- m. Resolved to adopt the drafted policy in relation to Zero Tolerance on any acts of vandalism to West Bedlington Town Council assets.
- n. Resolved to investigate the potential costs associated with additional community policing to deter anti-social behaviour.
- o. Resolved to approve the cost (£450) of team building days for members of the Councils Youth Council.

Councillor J Tyler left the meeting at 8.30pm

C194/15 – 8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Council were informed of the following correspondence:

Ref.	Sender	Description	Action
187/15	Choysez	Letter of thanks	Noted and Circulated
188/15	Northumberland Community Development Network	Newsletter	Noted and Circulated
189/15	Brian Gell	Enquiry – Memorial to Michael Longridge	Noted, Circulated and added to Agenda
190/15	Northumberland News	Autumn newsletter	Noted and Circulated
191/15	NCC	South East Area Committee 16/9/2015 Agenda	Noted and Circulated
192/15	LMAPS	PREVENT Awareness Week	Noted and Circulated
193/15	Bedlington Community Allotment	Heritage Open Day	Noted and Circulated
194/15	NALC	E News	Noted and Circulated
195/15	NCC	Review of Public Conveniences	Noted and Circulated
196/15	NCC	Pre Application and Section 106 processes	Noted and Circulated
197/15	Wansbeck Netball Club	Request for Support	Noted, Circulated and added to Agenda
198/15	St Benet Biscop Academy	Parent Parking	Noted and Circulated

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199/15	Northumberland CVA	2015 - 2016 Training Programme	Noted and Circulated
200/15	NALC	National Developments update	Noted and Circulated
201/15	NCC Planning	Neighbourhood Planning Workshop Notes	Noted and Circulated
202/15	Morpeth Cage Bird Society	Letter of thanks for Community Chest Award	Noted and Circulated

West Bedlington Town Council has been requested to give their opinion on the following consultations:

Owner	Description	Where and When
NCC	Homeless Strategy for Northumberland	On Line 30 th Oct 2015

The following invitations have been received:

Date	From	Description	Comments
4 th Oct 2015	St Cuthberts Church	Rev Twomey Final Service	To All Councillors
30 th Sept 2015	T&PLWG	HMEP Review	T&PLWG Reps Only
10 th Nov 2015	Planning Strategy	Consultation Meetings	To All Councillors
na	VCS Assembly	Invitation to Join	To All Councillors
5 th Oct 2015	Bedlington Community Allotment	Autumn Meeting	To All Councillors

Resolved that all correspondence, consultations and invitations have been properly received and actioned.

C195/15 - 9. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- a) Feedback from Councillor Representatives on external committees
- Town / Parish Liaison Committee (Councillor Robinson) – Nothing to report.
 - NALC – (Councillor Dalton) – Written report circulated
 - LMAPS – (Councillor Hedley) – Nothing to report.
 - Northumberland In Bloom – (Councillor Taylor) – Written report circulated
 - Summer Swimming Programme – (Councillor S Tyler) – Nothing to report
 - Red House Farm residents Group – (Councillor Hogg) – Written report circulated
 - Joint Meetings with East Bedlington Parish Council – Nothing to report
 - Gallagher Park Steering Group – (Councillor Dalton) – Nothing to report
 - Dr Pit Stakeholder Meetings – (Councillor Dalton) – Nothing to report
- Resolved to accept all reports.**

C196/15 - 10. CLERKS REPORT

Resolved to accept the Clerks written report (Appendix A).

C197/15 - 11. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

Resolved – To approve the schedule of payments and receipts (Appendix B)

C198/15 – 12. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Resolved to accept the Financial Update provided by the Clerk.

C199/15 - 13. PLANNING

Ref.	Description	Response Due
15/03055/FUL	Proposed change of use of grazed land to create an extension to existing hardstanding area - Bedlington Lane Farm Hartford Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AA	13 th Oct 2015
15/03175/FUL	Construction of first floor extension to provide additional bedroom and en-suite shower room, replacement of bay window and construction of fireplace and chimney stack - 9 Yewtree Drive Beaufront Park Bedlington Northumberland NE22 7LT	19 th Oct 2015
15/02982/FUL	Construction of a two storey side extension - 11 Link Avenue Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6DN	20 th Oct 2015

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The Council had no comment with regards to these applications.

C200/15 - 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Hogg – Informed the Council that he had received an abusive anonymous letter in the post and ask if any other Councillor received anything similar to inform him directly so that it could be supplied to the Police as part of their ongoing investigation.

Councillor Graham – From **C192/15** - The publication dates of the Residents newsletter.

Councillor Robinson – Sponsorship funding for Ross Lively.

C201/15 – 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

In accordance with **C193/15** the next meeting of West Bedlington Town Council will be Thursday 19th November 2015 at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre.

8:42pm The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Signed by the Chair

19th November 2015

Appendix A and B Form Part of this Agenda

Appendix A – Clerks Report (Agenda Item 10).

Services

- I need to set up a further meeting with NCC to finalise the SLA
- I have asked a couple of playground suppliers for their suggestions and prices for the refurbishment of Westlea and Meadowdale Play Area together with a cost for the removal of the equipment at The Grange Nedderton.
- I am awaiting a response from NCC legal department in relation to the transfer / non transfer of Westlea and Meadowdale Play Areas together with information relating to any obligations for The Grange Nedderton.
- I have ordered the seat for Choppington Lane and asked for a quote for the construction of a base and fixing
- I have ordered the litter bin for the entrance to Meadowdale estate and asked for a quote for the construction of a base and fixing
- I am waiting on a reply from NCC regarding the upkeep of the War Memorial surrounds, the maintenance of the new path to Atlee Park.
- The painter will start work on painting the railings at the top of Atlee Bank next week – I have requested some traffic management for the painting of the railings at Church Lane. and Im awaiting a reply.

Chairman's initials

- The extra grass cut (for October) will take place after NCC have completed the current final cut for September under the SLA.

Events

- All arrangements are in place for Remembrance Day Service

General

- Awaiting on the Bank to update the Councils Cheque signatories

Outstanding Council Resolutions

- Social Media (Update of Facebook and Website) – Events and Communications Group
- Bedlington Market – Events and Communications Group
- Finalise SLA with NCC – Finance and Governance Group
- Provision of Public Conveniences – Services Committee
- Obtain running costs for Attlee Park Toilets – Services Committee
- Invitation to Air Cadets – Councillor Hedley
- Awaiting reply from ROSPA regarding clarity on safety report – Town Clerk
- Quotes for distribution of newsletter – Town Clerk

Appendix B – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 11)

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Description
Michael Dougherty	755.00			Painting of Railings
Bizzy Bees - cheque written back	-175.00			Cheque not cashed
Michael Dougherty	470.00			Painting of Railings
Tennyson Insurance Ltd	2,216.30			Insurance
Zen Internet Ltd	4.79			Internet Hosting
W L Straughan & Son Ltd	306.00			Construct Base and Fixing Public Seat
W L Straughan & Son Ltd	951.60			Construct Base and Fixing Litter Bins
R & L Keenleyside	364.69			Paint for Railings
Keith Fitzsimmons	-250.00			Donation - Terrier Show
Malcolm Wilkinson	85.50			Internal Audit
BDO LLP	480.00			External Audit
Michael Wood Design Limited	1,895.00			Newsletter
Broxap Limited	129.60			Seat Delivery
Broxap Limited	502.80			Seat Supply
Northumberland County Council	4,668.55			Payroll Costs
Choysez	396.00			Community Chest Award
Bedlington Juniors Football Club	200.00			Community Chest Award
Northern Construction Solutions Ltd		2,076.84		Final Retention Payment for Refurbishment Works
W L Straughan & Son Ltd	132.00			Construct Base and Fixing Public Seat
Jeff Dobson	840.00			Hire of Marquee for Terrier Show
WATBUS	175.00			Bus Service for Brass Band Concert
Viking Payments	49.44			Postage Stamps
Castle Morpeth Disability Association	200.00			Community Chest Award

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Morpeth & District Cage Bird Society	200.00			Community Chest Award
Talk Talk Business	30.00			Telephone and Internet
Zen Internet Ltd	4.79			Internet Hosting
R & L Keenleyside	8.10			Paint for Railings
K B Beattie	-2,000.00			Donation – Brass Band Concert
Aliceanne Smith	-130.00			Rent – Brass Band Concert
Lorna Beard	-500.00			Contribution towards Memorial Seat
Carnival Rides	-2,500.00			Rent and Donation – Street Fair
Bedlington Community Centre	150.00			Room Hire – Youth Band Night
J Smith & Sons	163.20			Seat Repairs
Northumberland County Council	-89,849.50			Precept Payment
Community Works	2,000.00			Terrier Show
Community Works	380.00			Newsletter Distribution
Community Works	768.00			Brass Band Concert
Northumberland County Council	2,461.71			Payroll
Crescent Printing Ltd	50.40			Event Tickets
Northumberland County Council	250.00			Brass Band Concert
Northumberland Brass Band Association	250.00			Brass Band Concert
Backworth Colliery band	250.00			Brass Band Concert
Jayess Newbiggin Brass Band	250.00			Brass Band Concert
Hexham Brass	250.00			Brass Band Concert
Ellington Colliery Band	250.00			Brass Band Concert
Mick Whitfield Building Services	59.00			Seat Repairs
Northumberland County Council	6087.03			SLAs
Viking Payments			190.80	Display Boards
Bedlington Community Centre	3,750.00			Office Rent

APPENDIX C – Planning decisions notified to WBTC by NCC - For Information Only

Ref.	Description	Decision
15/02228/FUL	Double storey extension to side of property. (as amended: 03/09/15) - 11 Nether Riggs Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5SJ	Granted
15/02516/FUL	Proposed ground floor extension - 4 Augustus Drive The Chesters Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6LE	Granted
15/02640/FUL	Resubmission of application 14/02658/FUL (Proposed works to extend sun room across the rear of the property) increasing the size of the sun room - Staddle Stones Farmstead Court Hartford Hall Estate Bedlington NE22 6AG	Granted

Chairman's initials