



WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a West Bedlington Town Council Services Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25 February 2016 at 6.00 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

PRESENT:

Councillors: C Taylor (Chair), K Dalton, D Graham, P Hedley, A Hogg, M Robinson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Town Clerk: S Young

3 members of the public in attendance.

S019/16 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dobie.

Resolved to accept the apologies received.

S020/16 - 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on 28 January 2016 are approved.

S021/16 - 3. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Hedley confirmed that residents at Hartford Bridge will welcome the installation of a new public seat at the bus stop.

Councillor Hedley also asked if residents at Hartford Bridge could have a new bus shelter installed. The Chair confirmed the request would be added to a future meeting agenda for consideration.

S022/16 - 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Hogg declared an interest in Agenda Item 5 - Allotments.

S023/16 – 5 ALLOTMENTS

In accordance with his declaration of interest Councillor Hogg left the meeting for this agenda item.

The Chair Councillor Taylor provided a verbal update to the Committee about further meetings she held with both Allotment Associations with regard to the assignment of new leases.

Resolved to make a payment of £3,000 to Ridge Terrace Allotment Association in

Chairman's initials

consideration of their assignment to a new lease, making repairs the boundary fence and the removal of a derelict shed.

The Chair advised that to date no agreement with Dr Pit Allotment Association had been reached and that she would distribute to committee members a draft reply to the latest correspondence received.

S024/16 – 6. ATTLEE PARK

There was no further update to report

S025/16 - 7. BUS SHELTERS

The Chair and Clerk provided verbal updates with regard to the progress of the first stage of the Bus Shelter Renewal Project.

The Chair was able to confirm that new shelters will be in place this week at Netherton Lane near Red House Farm Estate, Netherton Lane / Link Avenue junction, and two shelters on Choppington Lane outside Willow Vale and opposite Chester Court.

The Committee then considered the already installed slimmer shelters.

Resolved that the shelter on Ridge Terrace is to be turned 180 degrees to protect users from been splashed by passing traffic. The shelter must be positioned a statutory distance away from the kerb edge and accordingly the site could not accommodate a wider shelter.

Resolved that the shelters at Netherton Lane outside William Allan Homes and both the shelters on Glebe Road would have wider end panels fitted to help protect users better.

The Clerk will also enquire about the additional cost of providing an extra panel to the front of the shelters.

Resolved to request that the County Council improve the ground conditions at the shelters on Netherton Lane and Ridge Terrace.

S026/16 - 8. PUBLIC SEATS

Councillor Hogg reported the poor condition of the seat near the Westlea play area.

S027/16 - 9. LITTER BINS

Resolved to replace the post mounted bin at the bus shelter on Hirst Villas with a ground mounted bin subject to the approval of NCC regarding its siting.

Resolved that Councillor Hogg will make a request to Arch to provide a litter bin at the rear of the Market Tavern.

Resolved that the existing cast iron open bin situated in Nedderton Village is retained for future use once a new replacement bin has been installed.

S028/16 – 10. PLAY AREAS

Resolved that the Mayor and Clerk are to progress the removal of the play equipment at the Grange Play area when they meet with representatives of the County Council.

Resolved to purchase new opening / closing signs for Meadowdale Play Area that more accurately reflect the times provided for in the current SLA with the County Council for the opening and locking of the gates.

S029/16 – 11. FINANCIAL REPORT

Resolved to accept the financial report provided by the Clerk.

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S030/16 – 12. ASSET MANAGEMENT

Councillor Hogg advised that he would provide a summary of Council assets at the next committee meeting. .

S031/16 – 13. STREET LIGHTING RENEWAL

Resolved for that the Clerk is to contact Northumberland County Council for urgent feedback to the Street Lighting Renewal issues raised at a meeting he and the Mayor attended with County Council representatives.

Resolved that Councillor Hogg be delegated to contact the Street Lighting Renewal contractor directly to progress the issues previously identified.

S032/16 – 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following matters were considered as urgent business (notification for all was received later than the issue of the agenda meeting and all require a response before any scheduled Committee or Full Council meeting.)

ADDITIONAL GRASS CUT

Resolved that at this time not to order an additional grass cut for spring.

PLANNING

Ref.	Description	Response Due
16/00445/FUL	Demolition of rear of existing Tesco store - Location Former Tesco Market Place Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5TN	8th March 2016
16/00067/PRE APP	Demolish existing building and build 4no. Georgian style detached houses Location Howard House Netherton Colliery Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6BB	10th March 2016
15/03944/FUL	Construction of two 4 bedroom dwellings Location Land South West Of 21 Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland	Planning & Rights of Way Committee - Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth, at 2pm on 8 March 2016.

Resolved to comment as follows:

16/00445/FUL the Committee wished to oppose the application on the basis that it was unable to make an informed decision about the site without knowing what the future plans of the site are after demolition.

16/00067/PREAPP the Committee had no view on the Pre Application but wished to register its interest in the application for future applications.

15/03944/FUL Councillor Taylor was delegated to attend the Planning Appeal meeting and represent the Councils views.

INFORMATION

Councillor Robinson reaffirmed that many of the issues discussed at the meeting relating to Northumberland County Council had already been discussed directly with representatives from the County Council.

S033/15 – 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Services Committee will be held on Thursday 24th March 2016 at 6pm in Bedlington Community Centre.

Chairman's initials

Approved by the Chair

24 March 2016