

To: **ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

You are hereby summonsed to attend the meeting of **WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL** to be held at **Bedlington Community Centre**, Front Street West, Bedlington.

On Thursday 9th November 2023 at 6.30pm.

The agenda for the meeting is set out below.

Steven Young - Town Clerk

1st November 2023



WEST BEDLINGTON
TOWN COUNCIL

PRESENTATIONS

- 2552 Bedlington Squadron Air Training Corps. have been invited to support their Community Chest Application (Agenda item Part B 2).

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

- The Chair will invite members of the public present to put questions and bring matters to the attention of the Council.
- This question time will last for a period of up to 15 minutes overall (which may be extended if the Chairman deems it necessary)
- To give every member of the public a fair chance of asking a question, the number of questions asked by any individual person may be limited at the Chairs discretion. The above covers both verbal and written submissions.
- Any member of the public who speaks should first state their name and address.
Please note that Members of the Public are not permitted to speak after question time is completed.

PART A - ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Attendance / Apologies and Declarations of Interests.	
a.	Apologies for Absence. i. To receive and note any apologies for absence from Councillors. ii. To consider and determine any dispensations for absent Councillors.
b.	Declaration of Interests. 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. Members are reminded that if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature, they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room. Any member needing clarification should contact the Town Clerk.

PART B – MATTERS FOR DECISION

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

Details of Meeting or Delegated Decisions	
a.	To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 12th October 2023.
b.	To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting that are not included as agenda items.

2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

Matters for Discussion / Decision	
a.	Bedlington Terrier Christmas Light. The Council are asked to discuss and decide upon a request from a resident for the procurement of a new Christmas Street Light. The resident has created a new light design featuring the outline of a Bedlington Terrier and requests the Council to have a Christmas Street Light made and installed. (Request and design distributed to members).

b.	Consultation – Request from East Bedlington Parish Council. The Council are asked to consider a request from East Bedlington Parish Council to support and assist with a joint parish residents’ consultation about the future use of the North Station Building at Bedlington Station. (Request distributed to members).							
c.	Community Chest Application. The Council are requested to discuss and decide upon: 1. A Community Chest Application from 2552 Bedlington Squadron Air Training Corps. (Application distributed to members).							
d.	Request for support – Climate and Ecology Bill. The Council are requested to discuss and decide upon a request from Zero Hour (distributed to members) to 1. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill. 2. Inform local residents and inform local press/media of this decision. 3. Write to the Local MP to inform them that this motion has been passed and urge them to sign up to support the CE Bill—or thank them for already doing so; 4. Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the CE Bill, expressing the Councils support (councils@zerohour.uk).							
e.	Finance Report. The Council are requested to discuss and NOTE the finance report up until 31 st October 2023. (Report distributed to members).							
f.	Internal Audit Report The Council are asked to NOTE the Internal Auditors Report of 1 st November 2023. (Report distributed to members).							
g.	Bedlington Community Centre – Insurance Renewal. The Council is asked to discuss and decide upon insurance quotes for risks associated with its ownership of Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington, (Quotes Comparison distributed to members).							
h.	Budget Setting Meeting Schedule The Council are requested to discuss and approve the DRAFT schedule of meetings for the 24/25 budget and precept requirement. (Draft schedule of meeting distributed to members).							
i.	Chairs Update and any Reports from External Meetings. i. The Chair will make any relevant announcements and provide updates to members. ii. To receive feedback from Councillors from any external meetings since the date of the last Council meeting.							
j.	Services Committee. 1. The Services Committee seek an approved spending budget from the Councils Reserves in respect of the following new projects / items of expenditure. i. Purchase of new flower containers for Front Street, Bedlington. ii. Purchase of “Feature Shrub Plants” for floral displays (to help reduce the ongoing cost of annual bedding plants). iii. Purchase of new seats and new groundworks to improve the gravel area (site of old public toilets) 2. The Services Committee seek an approved financial commitment to ensure provision for the planting and replanting of the new Flower Containers is provided for with future years in year budgets. 3. The Services Committee Chair will provide a verbal report of any meeting decisions from the most recent Services Committee meeting.							
k.	Planning Working Group Planning Applications – Considered by Planning Working Group - Where Comments Have Been Requested. After considering any recommendation of its Planning Working Group, The Council are asked to discuss and decide if it wishes to make any comments in relation to the Planning applications received for comment.							
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref.</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Response Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>23/02205/RENE</td> <td>Construction of a solar farm and battery energy storage facility (BESS) together with all associated work, equipment and necessary infrastructure. Location Land South Of Broadway House Farm Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland</td> <td>Approval of Councillor Hogg to represent at Strategic Planning Committee - Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth NE61 2EF at 4pm on 7 November 2023.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Ref.	Description	Response Due Date	23/02205/RENE	Construction of a solar farm and battery energy storage facility (BESS) together with all associated work, equipment and necessary infrastructure. Location Land South Of Broadway House Farm Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland	Approval of Councillor Hogg to represent at Strategic Planning Committee - Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth NE61 2EF at 4pm on 7 November 2023.
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	Note: recent notified planning decisions and other planning applications (where comments have not been requested) are shown in PART C for information only).							

i.	Other Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). 1. Any Recommendations from Other Working Groups for decision by full Council. i. Non for this meeting. 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.
m.	Bank Reconciliation i. The Council are asked to APPROVE a checked bank reconciliation of £355,517.17 at 31st October 2023 and a Deposit Account Balance of £101,159.59 as of 31st October 2023.

PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR TO BE NOTED

Matters for Information or To Be Noted				
a.	Correspondence.			
	The Council are requested to accept all correspondences and the actions noted in respect of each.			
	Ref	From	Brief Description	Action Taken
	215	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs October 6, 2023	Noted + Circulated
	216	North of The Tyne Mayor	Mayor’s Question Time: How can devolution help us get to net zero?	Noted + Circulated
	217	Community Action Northumberland	CAN Enews 13 October 2023	Noted + Circulated
	218	Bedlington Food Bank	Letter of Thanks	Noted + Circulated
	219	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs October 13, 2023	Noted + Circulated
	220	Resident	Freedom of Information Request – Event Data	Noted + Circulated + Acknowledged
	221	Northumberland Association of Local Councils	OCTOBER 2023 ENews	Noted + Circulated
	222	Resident	Bedlington Terrier Christmas Light	Noted + Circulated + Added to Current Agenda.
	223	Zero Hour	Support for Climate and Ecology Bill	Noted + Circulated + Added to Current Agenda
	224	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs October 20, 2023	Noted + Circulated
	225	NCC Climate Team	Environment and Climate Fund	Noted + Circulated
	226	East Bedlington Parish Council	Consultation Support and Assistance	Noted + Circulated + added to current Agenda.
	227	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs October 27, 2023	Noted + Circulated
	228	Northumberland Line	Newsletter - October 2023	Noted + Circulated
	229	Northumberland County Council	Rough Sleeper Estimate the night of 14/15 November	Noted + Circulated
	230	Northumberland County Council	Amended TTRO 135418038 A192 Shields Road Bedlington	Noted + Circulated
	231	Northumberland County Council	Amended TTRO 135421767 A192 Plessey Checks to Harford Bank Cramlington	Noted + Circulated
b.	Consultations.			
	From	Description	Details	
c.	Invitations.			
	From	Event	Response Details	
	None For This Meeting			

d.	Schedule of Payments and Receipts. Details of payments and (receipts) to be noted since last Council update. All payments gross of VAT.			
	Payee	Amount £. p	Description	Notes
	Champions UK Plc	10,500.00	Summer 2024 Summer Music Event Deposits	
	Goggle	15.99	Annual Subscription	
	Defib Machines Limited	588.00	New Defibrillator	
	Defib Machines Limited	438.00	New Defibrillator Cabinet	
	GTSE	11.45	Cable Ties For Lamppost Poppies	
	Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges	
	Dr Pit Welfare Bowls Club	500.00	Community Chest Funding Award	
	Talk Talk Business	55.26	Telephone + Internet	
	Mazars LLP	756.00	External Audit Fee	
	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	55.00	Remembrance Wreaths	
	House of Hamilton	540.00	Christmas Giveaways	
	Reay Security Limited	809.64	CCTV Charges	
	Reay Security Limited	432.00	Play Area Gate Opening / Closing	
	Bedlington Salvation Army	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137
	Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137
	Wireless Logic Limited	539.14	CCTV SIM Charges	
	Strettle of Newcastle Ltd	1,200.00	War Memorial Inscriptions	
	Northumberland County Council	3,950.86	Payroll Costs	
	Northumberland Association of Local Councils	90.00	Clerk Training Courses	
e.	Other Planning Applications Where comments have not been requested.			
	Ref.	Description		
		None For This Meeting		
f.	Planning decisions notified to West Bedlington Town Council by Northumberland County Council.			
	Ref.	Description	Decision	
	23/03012/PRUTPO	Tree Preservation Order Application: T1 Beech - crown thin by 25-30%, removing crossed and damaged limbs and deadwood. T2 Oak - remove x3 scaffold limbs. G1 - mixed species, overhanging from woodland - pull encroaching, overhanging limbs back to property boundary Location Fairway Lodge Fairway Rise Hartford Hall Estate Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AG	PERMIT	
	23/03100/FUL	Proposed single storey rear extension; two storey side extension; front porch; conversion of loft space. Location Simonside Netherton Road Nedderton Village Northumberland NE22 6AT	withdrawn	
	23/01831/FUL	Demolition of existing sixth form centre and construction of new sixth form centre upon unused area of hard standing to South of main academy building. Location St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy Ridge Terrace Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6ED	GRANTED	
g.	Police Report. There is no police report for this meeting. The next scheduled regular report is for December 2023 meeting.			
h.	Matters for Information Only – 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.			
i.	Date of Next Meeting. Thursday 14th December 2023 at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington. The agenda for this meeting to be issued on Wednesday 6th December 2023.			

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.

Matters for Discussion / Decision / Information	
a.	None For This Meeting.

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCILLORS: Bill Crosby, Paul Hedley, Cath Henderson, Adam Hogg, Christine Taylor, Victoria Thompson, Jane Todd, Diane Wallace, Russ Wallace.