



**WEST BEDLINGTON**  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 6.30 pm at Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.**

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

**COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT:** J Tyler.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk S Young, Northumberland County Councillor Robinson and 5 (Five) members of the public.

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were presentations for this meeting from:

Reiverdale Scout Group in support of their Community Chest application Agenda Item 14.

**OPEN SESSION**

- A resident asked the Town Council who had granted permission for the removal of trees at the proposed Town Centre Development site and conveyed his utter disappointment at the actions of Northumberland County Council for allowing the trees to be removed. The Chair was in complete agreement and replied that this was a matter that needed to be addressed directly with Northumberland County Council. The Chair invited the only Northumberland County Councillor present to make representation on behalf of the Town Council and residents, to which County Councillor Robinson agreed he would do.
- A resident advised of the removal of hedgerow at the new housing development on Choppington Lane, Bedlington and highlighted the dangerous site entrance that was a "accident waiting to happen". Again the Chair was in complete agreement and replied that this was a matter that needed to be addressed directly with Northumberland County Council. The Chair invited the only Northumberland County Councillor present to make representation on behalf of the Town Council and residents, to which County Councillor Robinson agreed he would do.
- A resident stated their disappointment at the level of up to date communication provided to residents by their County Council elected representatives.

**C045/20 - 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies for absence for this meeting from Councillor Tyler.

The apologies for absence were **NOTED**.

**C046/20 - 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 are approved as a true record of the meeting.

Chairman's initials

### **C047/20 - 3. MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Trimming asked in relation to C027/20 Chairs Update that in light of recent information provided through social media if the response provided by Active Northumberland to the Chair could now be considered as been “misleading” at the very least? The Chair was in agreement and shared member’s frustration about always coming up against commercially sensitive explanations for not been fully informed. The Chair once again asked the Northumberland County Councillor present if he would make further representation to Advance Northumberland on behalf of residents and the Town Council.

### **C048/20 – 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of interest for this meeting.

### **C049/20 - 5. CHAIRS UPDATE**

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

### **C050/20 – 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

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

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

### **C051/20 - 7. COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS**

- a. Finance, Governance and Communication - Councillor Taylor – No meeting to report upon.
- b. Events Working Group – Councillor Graham reminded members of the Events Working Group that the next scheduled meeting was Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 starting at 4.30pm.
- c. Services Committee – Councillor Hogg – highlighted a few matters included within the Draft minutes of the Services Committee meeting held 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 with had been distributed to Councillors.
- d. Neighbourhood Planning Group - Councillor Hogg – No update for this meeting.

**RESOLVED To ACCEPT** all committee / working group reports

### **C052/20 - 8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

- a. **Revision to Adopted Policy – Policy No.23 Flag Flying Policy.**
  - i. The Council after review **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the revision to its Flag Flying Policy. (Draft revised policy circulated to members).
  - ii. The Council **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the purchase of an additional Union Flag at an estimated cost of not more than £25.
- b. **Youth Leisure Proposal 2020.** The Council **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** a proposal to provide BMX / Skateboard Workshops / Displays as part of the Councils Youth Leisure programme for 2020. The event is to take place in the week commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- c. **Approval to use Council Name and Logo in Testimonial – Came & Company.** The Council **APPROVED** a request from its Insurance Broker Came & Company to provide a testimonial of their service incorporating the use of the Councils name and logo.
- d. **Bedlington Market.** The Council **DECLINED** a proposal to request Northumberland County Council to withdraw Bedlington Market from the Market Place due to lack of interest from vendors and looking unsightly. Councillor Hogg requested that members voting be recorded in the meeting minutes. Councillors voting to accept the proposal: Graham, Hogg and Thompson. Councillors voting against the proposal: Crosby, Hedley, Henderson, Taylor and Trimming. The Clerk was instructed to invite the Markets Manager to a meeting with Council members to discuss the current and future plans for the market.

### **C053/20 – 9. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Chairman’s initials

#### **C054/20 - 10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

a. **Feedback**

- I. **Town / Parish Liaison Committee** – (Councillor Taylor): no meeting to report upon.
- II. **NALC** – (Councillor Hogg):
- III. **Friends of Westlea Cemetery** – (Councillor Hogg): verbal update given.

**All verbal reports accepted.**

#### **C055/20 - 11. CLERK'S REPORT**

There was no Clerks report for this meeting.

#### **C056/20 - 12. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

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

#### **C057/20 - 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.

#### **C058/20 - 14. COMMUNITY CHEST / PUPILS FUND APPLICATIONS**

- a. Community Chest applications.
- i. Reiverdale Scout Group - **RESOLVED** to award £500.

#### **C059/20 - 15. RESIDENTS' NEWSLETTER**

Deadline for content is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – no extensions.

#### **C060/20 – 16. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN 2020**

The Clerk confirmed he had sent twenty six (26) invitations to reciprocates of the Councils funding over the last two years asking them to make brief presentations to residents at the meeting.

#### **C061/20 – 17. ACCOUNTS / BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT / FINANCIAL UPDATE**

No update for this meeting.

#### **C062/20 – 18. POLICE REPORT**

The Police report distributed to members was **NOTED**.

#### **C063/20 - 19. EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There was no exempt business for this meeting.

#### **C064/20 – 20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Hedley – For Information – Northumberland Healthwatch survey and engagement event at Bedlington Community Allotment.

Councillor Thompson – For Information – made the meeting aware of a potentially free advertising stream.

Councillor Hogg. Proposal for next meeting: the Council to write to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government regarding the poor performance / effectiveness of Northumberland County Councils Planning Department.

#### **C065/20 - 21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting of the Council will be held on **Thursday 9th April 2020** at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.

#### **C066/20 - 22. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman's initials

9th April 2020

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

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

**a) Correspondence:**

<b>Ref</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Action</b>
27/20	NALC	Member Council Survey Anti – Social Behaviour and Petty Crime	Noted and Circulated
28/20	Northumbria Police	Missing Person Alert	Noted and Circulated
29/20	Northumberland County Council	Public Spaces Protection Order for the Control of Dogs	Noted and Circulated
30/20	NALC	Member Council Update 5 Feb 2020	Noted and Circulated
31/20	BBC News Online	Flag Flying prince Andrew	Noted and Circulated
32/20	Northumberland CVA	South East VCS Network Meeting	Noted and Circulated
33/20	NCC Highways Delivery Manager	Update on Issues Raised	Noted and Circulated
34/20	NALC	Member Council Update 14 Feb 2020	Noted and Circulated
35/20	NALC	NALC Enews 14 February 2020	Noted and Circulated
36/20	TTRO 116431057	B1331 Stead Lane, Bedlington	Noted and Circulated
37/20	Northumberland County Council	Cramlington, Bedlington, Seaton Valley Local Area Council 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020.	Noted and Circulated
38/20	Advance Northumberland	Bedlington Town Centre Update	Noted and Circulated
39/20	County Councillor Crosby	Remembrance Bench Supplier Details	Noted and Circulated
40/20	NALC	Member Council Update 25 Feb 2020	Noted and Circulated
41/20	NALC	NALC Enews 25 February 2020	Noted and Circulated
42/20	Lindsey Jordan	Update Youth Development Worker	Noted and Circulated
43/20	Advance Northumberland	Response to Councils enquiry re validity of Tree removal at Town Centre Development Site.	Noted and Circulated

**b) Consultations:**

<b>Owner</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Where and When</b>
NCC Pension Fund	Funding Strategy Statement	To NCC Pension Fund By 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2020

**c) Invitations:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
16.3.20	Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	AGM	RSVP Directly
20.3.20 to 23.3.20	Bedlington Creatives	Festival of Arts Bedlington	RSVP Directly

Chairman's initials

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

No Clerks report for this meeting.

**Appendix C – Schedule of Payments and Receipts (Agenda Item 12).**

Payment 1st February 2020 to 29th February 2020. All payment GROSS of VAT.

Payee	Amount	BCC	Bloom	Dr Pit	Description
Reay Security Limited	83.04				CCTV Costs
Smart Office Systems Ltd	62.35				Printer Costs
Northumberland County Council	88.80				Play Area Signs
Alan Neal Graphics Ltd	1,440.00				Bus Shelter Art Work
Barnesbury Cycling Club	5,000.00				Funding Contribution
I Stage Group	540.00				Event Performer Deposit
I Stage Group	1,500.00				Event Performer Deposit
Talk Talk Business	40.74				Telephone + Internet
HMRC	(14,891.9)				VAT Refund
Front Street News And Post Office	27.60				Library Newspapers
Wireless Logic Limited	921.60				CCTV Sim Card Cost
Zen Internet Ltd	5.39				Internet Hosting
Northumberland Festival of Music	370.00				Community Chest Funding
Whitley Memorial CF First School	1,500.00				Pupil Fund Payment
Reay Security Limited	809.64				CCTV Costs
Northumberland County Council	200.00				Grit Bin Provision
Northumberland County Council	3,272.98				Payroll Costs

Chairman's initials

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

Ref.	Description	Response Due
19/04714/FUL	Demolition of caretaker flat and erection of 4 storey extension to rear Baedling Manor Care Home Location Baedling Manor Front Street West Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5TT	20th March 2020.

Other Applications.

Ref.	Description	Response Due
20/00410/DISCON	Discharge of Conditions 4 (phasing - infrastructure) and 12 (phasing - estate) relating to planning application 16/04731/OUT   Land South West Of Glebe Farm Choppington Road Bedlington Northumberland.	NA

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:

- John Goodwill Deceased
- Town Centre Development Site – frustration and disappointment re tree removal
- Choppington Road development – hedge removal
- Possible Leisure Facility at West Lea Bedlington.
- Easter Donations to local foodbanks
- Bedlington Festival of Art 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020
- Bedlington Mini Police Speed Camera Day
- Wansbeck Valley Food Bank AGM

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

Ref.	Description	Decision
19/02245/LBC	Listed Building Consent: Retention of existing double glazed timber Georgian windows to the front elevation Location Blue House Farm Blue House Farm Road Netherton Colliery NE22 6BD	WITHDRAWN
19/04734/FUL	Subdivision of existing A1 ground floor retail unit into two separate A1 retail units including formation of new main entrance door within existing shop front glazed screen Location Tallantyre Ltd 72 Front Street West Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5UA	GRANTED
19/04632/ADE	Fascia, projecting sign with shop name and logo, and window graphics (amended 24/02/2020) Location Former Classic Curtains 24A Front Street West Bedlington NE22 5UB	GRANTED

Chairman's initials