

On Thursday 13th April 2023 at 6.30pm.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Northumbria Police provided a verbal update to the meeting of recent crime in Bedlington before taking questions from Councillors and members of the public. The Council thanked Inspector Daniels and Sergeant Morton for their report and attendance.

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

- A resident asked for an audio recording of the meeting. The Clerk will arrange to send a copy to the resident.
- Northumberland County Councillor Robinson commented on the Council's response to Northumberland County Councils (Highways) B1331 Nedderton to Bedlington 50mph speed reduction proposal (reduce to 30mph) and asked the Council if it would consider updating its response to support a 40mph suggestion that was more likely to be acceptable to Northumberland County Councils (Highways). Through the Chair the Council accepted the suggestion of County Councillor Robinson and instructed The Clerk to submit an update to Northumberland County Council (Highways).

PART A - ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Min Ref		Attendance / Apologies and Declarations of Interests.	Determination
23/70		In Attendance	Councillors Crosby, Hedley, Taylor, Thompson, D Wallace, and R Wallace (Chair). Town Clerk Steven Young, and 6 (Six) members of the public.
23/71	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.	i. Apologies for absence from Councillors Hogg and Todd were NOTED . ii. There were no dispensations for absence for this meeting.
23/72	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.	Councillor R Wallace made a declaration of interest in relation to agenda item Part B 2b Bedlington Food Banks re The Bedlington Food Bank – Councillor Taylor to take the chair for this agenda item. ii. No dispensations 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
23/73	a.	To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 9th March 2023.	RESOLVED that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 9th March 2023 are APPROVED as a true record.
23/74	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 the last meeting held on 9th March 2023.

2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

		Matters for Discussion / Decision	Determination								
23/75	a.	<p>Rural/Market Towns Group – Subscription. The Council are asked to discuss and decide upon the option to renew its current subscription but on a paid for basis. (The Town Council’s free membership of the Rural Market Towns Group is due to expire at the end of April 2023 after an extended six-month period of free membership. A paid subscription for the remainder of the financial year 23/24 would for this year be £121.82 + normally recoverable VAT. (details distributed to members).</p>	<p>RESOLVED to continue with a paid subscription for 1 year and review thereafter.</p>								
23/76	b.	<p>Funding of Bedlington Food Banks - Review.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council are requested to discuss, review, and decide upon any financial support to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bedlington Salvation Army. ii. Bedlington Food Bank (Previously Matthew Project). iii. Wansbeck Valley Food Bank. 2. The Council are requested to discuss and determine next review dates for the funding of Food Banks. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bedlington Salvation Army. ii. Bedlington Matthew Project. iii. Wansbeck Valley Food Bank. <p>Any approved funding would be in respect of a S137 payment.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RESOLVED to continue with monthly payments of £500 for each of the 3 Food Banks. 2. RESOLVED to next review contributions in 6 months. 								
23/77	c.	<p>Internal Audit The Council are asked to NOTE the Internal Audit Report (17th March 2023). Report distributed to members.</p>	<p>RESOLVED to NOTE the report submitted.</p>								
23/78	d.	<p>External Meetings To receive feedback from Councillors from any external meetings since the date of the last Council meeting.</p>	<p>Councillor Thompson provided a verbal update in relation to a “Bedlington Borderlands” meeting herself and Councillor Hogg, attended. The Town Clerk reminded members that it still needed to consider any “Community Benefit” proposals following a meeting with the Solar Farm developer.</p>								
23/79	e.	<p>Services Committee.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any recommendations from The Services Committee for decision by full Council. 2. The Services Committee Chair (Councillor Hogg) will provide a verbal report of any meeting decisions. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No recommendations for this meeting. 2. In the absence of The Chair Councillor Hogg , The Town Clerk provided a verbal report of the last services committee meeting decisions. 								
23/80	f.	<p>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.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Ref.</th> <th style="width: 55%;">Description</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Response Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>23/00993/FUL</td> <td>Proposed gate piers and small wall to join up to existing gate piers and wall of site A. Location Blossom View 60B Station Road Stannington Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6NN</td> <td>13th April 2023.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref.	Description	Response Due Date	23/00993/FUL	Proposed gate piers and small wall to join up to existing gate piers and wall of site A. Location Blossom View 60B Station Road Stannington Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6NN	13th April 2023.	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Determination</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">No Comment.</td> </tr> </table>	Determination	No Comment.
Ref.	Description	Response Due Date									
23/00993/FUL	Proposed gate piers and small wall to join up to existing gate piers and wall of site A. Location Blossom View 60B Station Road Stannington Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6NN	13th April 2023.									
Determination											
No Comment.											

		Note: recent notified planning decisions and other planning applications (where comments have not been requested) are shown in PART C for information only).	
23/81	g.	<p>Other Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion).</p> <p>1. Any Recommendations from Other Working Groups for decision by full Council.</p> <p>2. Any Other Items from Working Groups) – The Working Group Chair will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group.</p>	<p>1. None for this meeting.</p> <p>2. Councillor Taylor provided a verbal report of an update form a meeting with other Councillors and the Council’s Community Events Planning in relation to Easter events – a follow up meeting is planned for the near future when consideration of the Christmas Lights Switch On Event will be discussed.</p>

PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR TO BE NOTED

Matters for Information or To Be Noted					
23/82		<p>RESOLVED to NOTE</p> <p>Section’s a, b and c. Correspondence, Consultations and Invitations and the actions taken for each detailed below.</p> <p>Section d, Schedule of payments and receipts</p> <p>Section e, Other planning applications</p> <p>Note section f is not part of the agenda and is included for information only.</p>			
	a.	Correspondence.			
		Ref	From	Brief Description	Action Taken
		65	Resident	“Attendance Numbers to Clear The Matter Up”	Noted + Circulated + Replied
		66	Community Action Northumberland	CAN Enews 3 March 2023	Noted + Circulated
		67	Northumberland County Council	PlayZones - Bedlington	Noted + Circulated
		68	Resident	“Attendance Numbers to Clear The Matter Up” Follow Up	Noted + Circulated + Replied
		69	SENUG	Northumberland line opening Finally Confirmed	Noted + Circulated
		70	Resident	“Attendance Numbers to Clear The Matter Up” Follow Up	Noted + Circulated + Replied
		71	Royal Horticultural Society	"It's Your Neighbourhood Awards" 2023	Noted + Circulated
		72	SENUG	SENUG DELIGHT AS NORTHUMBERLAND LINE GETS FINAL APPROVAL - TRAINS BY SUMMER 2024	Noted + Circulated
		73	Rural/Market Towns Group	Request to commence a “paid for” subscription	Noted + Circulated + Added to Agenda
		74	NCC Elections	Voter ID Leaflet PDF	Noted + Circulated
		75	NORTHERN POWERGRID	WE’RE WATCHING A WEATHER FRONT AND ARE PREPARED TO RESPOND ACCORDINGLY	Noted + Circulated
		76		Newsletter Volume 12 - March 2023	Noted + Circulated
		77	Bedlington Food Bank	Note of Thanks for Donation	Noted + Circulated
		78	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs March 10, 2023	Noted + Circulated
		79	Northumberland County Council	Great British Spring Clean 2023	Noted + Circulated
		80	SENUG	Newsletter 40: Northumberland Line - Re-opening Announcement Special	Noted + Circulated
		81	Northumberland County Council	Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council	Noted + Circulated

82	Rural Services Network	Rural Market Town Group of the Rural Services Network.	Noted + Circulated
83	Northumberland Line Project Team	Northumberland Line - proposed changes to level crossings & TROs	Noted + Circulated
84	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs March 17, 2023	Noted + Circulated
85	Community Action Northumberland	CAN Enews 17 March 2023	Noted + Circulated
86	NCC Cultural Services	PlayZones Site Visit Schedule	Noted + Circulated
87	Resident	Note of thanks for improving access to bus shelter on Choppington Road, Bedlington.	Noted + Circulated
88	NALC	Enews March 2023	Noted + Circulated
89	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs March 24, 2023	Noted + Circulated
90	Northumbria Police	Neighbourhood Alert – Anti Social Behaviour	Noted + Circulated
91	Northumberland Communities Together	PlayZones consultation update	Noted + Circulated
92	NCC Cultural Services	PlayZones Draft results from the Community Engagement.	Noted + Circulated
93	Electric Car Guide	New green resource for West Bedlington residents	Noted + Circulated
94	NCC Cultural Services	PlayZone Site Information Forms	Noted + Circulated
95	Northumbria Police	News from Northumbria Police - A dedicated operation to tackle the anti-social and illegal use of 4x4 vehicles and off-road bikes reaped fantastic results over the weekend.	Noted + Circulated
96	Northumberland Line Project Team	Northumberland Line Newsletter - March	Noted + Circulated
97	Community Action Northumberland	CAN Enews 31 March 2023	Noted + Circulated
98	Northumberland County Council	Latest Northumberland News and Jobs March 31, 2023	Noted + Circulated
99			Noted + Circulated
100			Noted + Circulated

b.	Consultations.		
	From	Description	Details
	Northumberland County Council - Highways	B1331 Nedderton to Bedlington 50mph	Before 31 st March 2023 – Response Whilst the Town Council would welcome any speed restriction scheme along this stretch of road we would strongly request the speed limit is reduced to 30mph for the whole stretch of road (To prevent drivers speeding up and then having to slow down) We feel it would be safer to simply reduce the speed limit throughout."

c.	Invitations.		
	From	Event	Response Details
	NCC Cllr Jeff Watson - Cabinet Member for Healthier Lives	NCC Filming Friendly Seminar - 10 March	RSVP by 9am on Wednesday 8 th March.
	NCC CLIMATE CHANGE TEAM	The Carbon Literacy Project is hosting a webinar on Monday 20 March at 10:30 am to mark the launch of the new Parish, Town and Community Councils Toolkit Course.	Open to all online

d.	<p>Schedule of Payments and Receipts. Details of payments and (receipts) to be noted since last Council update. All payments gross of VAT.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="284 136 1551 981"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Amount £. p</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Widescope Web Design</td> <td>153.96</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security Limited</td> <td>83.04</td> <td>CCTV Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Morrisons Bedlington</td> <td>990.51</td> <td>Easter School Giveaways</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DL Maintenance & Repair</td> <td>556.66</td> <td>Bus Shelter Repairs</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northumberland County Council</td> <td>24,110.19</td> <td>Service Level Agreement Costs</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bedlington Food Bank</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>Food Bank Donation</td> <td>S137 payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bedlington Salvation Army</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>Food Bank Donation</td> <td>S137 payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wansbeck Valley Food Bank</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>Food Bank Donation</td> <td>S137 payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Talk Talk Business</td> <td>48.54</td> <td>Telephone + Internet</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security Limited</td> <td>809.64</td> <td>CCTV Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security Limited</td> <td>403.20</td> <td>Play Area Gate Locking Service</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security Limited</td> <td>83.04</td> <td>CCTV Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Bede's Catholic Primary School</td> <td>1,500.00</td> <td>Pupils Fund Application</td> <td>S137 payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whitley Memorial CE First School</td> <td>1,500.00</td> <td>Pupils Fund Application</td> <td>S137 payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northumberland County Council</td> <td>3,947.84</td> <td>March Payroll Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Groundworks UK</td> <td>4,500.00</td> <td>Return of unused Neighbourhood Planning Funding</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wireless Logic Limited</td> <td>539.14</td> <td>CCTV Sim Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malcolm Wilkinson</td> <td>90.00</td> <td>Internal Audit Fees</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northumberland Scouts County Scout Council</td> <td>300.00</td> <td>Community Chest Application Funding</td> <td>S137 payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Defib Machines Limited</td> <td>210.00</td> <td>Defibrillator Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security Limited</td> <td>83.04</td> <td>CCTV Charges</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee	Amount £. p	Description	Notes	Widescope Web Design	153.96			Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges		Morrisons Bedlington	990.51	Easter School Giveaways		DL Maintenance & Repair	556.66	Bus Shelter Repairs		Northumberland County Council	24,110.19	Service Level Agreement Costs		Bedlington Food Bank	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment	Bedlington Salvation Army	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment	Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment	Talk Talk Business	48.54	Telephone + Internet		Reay Security Limited	809.64	CCTV Charges		Reay Security Limited	403.20	Play Area Gate Locking Service		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges		St Bede's Catholic Primary School	1,500.00	Pupils Fund Application	S137 payment	Whitley Memorial CE First School	1,500.00	Pupils Fund Application	S137 payment	Northumberland County Council	3,947.84	March Payroll Charges		Groundworks UK	4,500.00	Return of unused Neighbourhood Planning Funding		Wireless Logic Limited	539.14	CCTV Sim Charges		Malcolm Wilkinson	90.00	Internal Audit Fees		Northumberland Scouts County Scout Council	300.00	Community Chest Application Funding	S137 payment	Defib Machines Limited	210.00	Defibrillator Charges		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges	
Payee	Amount £. p	Description	Notes																																																																																						
Widescope Web Design	153.96																																																																																								
Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges																																																																																							
Morrisons Bedlington	990.51	Easter School Giveaways																																																																																							
DL Maintenance & Repair	556.66	Bus Shelter Repairs																																																																																							
Northumberland County Council	24,110.19	Service Level Agreement Costs																																																																																							
Bedlington Food Bank	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment																																																																																						
Bedlington Salvation Army	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment																																																																																						
Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	500.00	Food Bank Donation	S137 payment																																																																																						
Talk Talk Business	48.54	Telephone + Internet																																																																																							
Reay Security Limited	809.64	CCTV Charges																																																																																							
Reay Security Limited	403.20	Play Area Gate Locking Service																																																																																							
Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges																																																																																							
St Bede's Catholic Primary School	1,500.00	Pupils Fund Application	S137 payment																																																																																						
Whitley Memorial CE First School	1,500.00	Pupils Fund Application	S137 payment																																																																																						
Northumberland County Council	3,947.84	March Payroll Charges																																																																																							
Groundworks UK	4,500.00	Return of unused Neighbourhood Planning Funding																																																																																							
Wireless Logic Limited	539.14	CCTV Sim Charges																																																																																							
Malcolm Wilkinson	90.00	Internal Audit Fees																																																																																							
Northumberland Scouts County Scout Council	300.00	Community Chest Application Funding	S137 payment																																																																																						
Defib Machines Limited	210.00	Defibrillator Charges																																																																																							
Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges																																																																																							
e.	<p>Other Planning Applications Where comments have not been requested.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="284 1081 1551 1218"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref.</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>23/01042/DISCON</td> <td>Discharge of condition 5 (External Materials) and 6 (Demolition, Construction and Remediation Method Statement) on approved application 21/00460/LBC. The Beeches Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5EL</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref.	Description	23/01042/DISCON	Discharge of condition 5 (External Materials) and 6 (Demolition, Construction and Remediation Method Statement) on approved application 21/00460/LBC. The Beeches Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5EL																																																																																				
Ref.	Description																																																																																								
23/01042/DISCON	Discharge of condition 5 (External Materials) and 6 (Demolition, Construction and Remediation Method Statement) on approved application 21/00460/LBC. The Beeches Church Lane Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5EL																																																																																								
f.	<p>Planning decisions notified to West Bedlington Town Council by Northumberland County Council.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="276 1279 1543 1641"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref.</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Decision</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>23/00214/FUL</td> <td>Single storey lean-to side extension. Location 20 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH</td> <td>GRANTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23/00293/FUL</td> <td>New Shop Front Location 48 Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AB</td> <td>REFUSED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/04452/FUL</td> <td>Change of use: paddocks to storage yard including extension to workshop and planting trees along south side of site so yard will be hidden from public view. Location Bedlington Lane Farm Hartford Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AA</td> <td>WITHDRAWN</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23/00195/FUL</td> <td>Retrospective single storey, rear extension Location 60 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH</td> <td>GRANTED</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref.	Description	Decision	23/00214/FUL	Single storey lean-to side extension. Location 20 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH	GRANTED	23/00293/FUL	New Shop Front Location 48 Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AB	REFUSED	22/04452/FUL	Change of use: paddocks to storage yard including extension to workshop and planting trees along south side of site so yard will be hidden from public view. Location Bedlington Lane Farm Hartford Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AA	WITHDRAWN	23/00195/FUL	Retrospective single storey, rear extension Location 60 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH	GRANTED																																																																									
Ref.	Description	Decision																																																																																							
23/00214/FUL	Single storey lean-to side extension. Location 20 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH	GRANTED																																																																																							
23/00293/FUL	New Shop Front Location 48 Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AB	REFUSED																																																																																							
22/04452/FUL	Change of use: paddocks to storage yard including extension to workshop and planting trees along south side of site so yard will be hidden from public view. Location Bedlington Lane Farm Hartford Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AA	WITHDRAWN																																																																																							
23/00195/FUL	Retrospective single storey, rear extension Location 60 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH	GRANTED																																																																																							
23/83	<p>g. Police Report. The verbal Police report was NOTED by the Council. The next scheduled regular report is for June 2023 meeting.</p>																																																																																								

23/84	h.	<p>Financial Update / Bank Reconciliation.</p> <p>Bank Reconciliation</p> <p>I. The Council are asked to note a checked bank reconciliation of £212,266.96 as of 31st March 2023 and a Deposit Account Balance of £100,643.93 as of 31st March 2023.</p> <p>Note re Bank Reconciliation– In accordance with revised Statement of Internal Controls Councillor J Todd as the nominated member has independently verified the monthly bank reconciliation.</p> <p>The Council NOTED the bank reconciliation.</p>
23/85	j.	<p>Date of Next Meeting.</p> <p>The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be its Annual Meeting on Thursday 11th May 2023 at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.</p> <p>The agenda for this meeting to be issued on Wednesday 3rd May 2023.</p>

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
	No Exempt Business For This Meeting

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCILLORS:

Bill Crosby, Paul Hedley, Adam Hogg, Christine Taylor, Victoria Thompson, Jayne Todd, Di Wallace, and Russ Wallace.

Signed by Chair

Date