

EAST BEDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2016, 6:00pm at East Bedlington Community Centre, Bedlington.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

D Burton

E. Dickson

J Dobie

D Graham

K Grimes

Nichola Hogarth

Alex Wallace

IN ATTENDANCE:

Parish Clerk, Assistant Parish Clerk, County Councillor J Gobin, PC Neil Nevens and 4 members of the public.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair welcomed all present. He explained that the open session was their opportunity to raise questions and make comments in connection with the business to be conducted as they were excluded from doing so once the business had commenced.

A resident supplied copies of correspondence with Network rail concerning litter and maintenance of the rail track at Bedlington Station and referred to anti- social behaviour whilst operatives were responding to his request. The Chair thanked him for his efforts and requested that the correspondence be circulated to all members.

The Chair invited the clerk to give an update in relation to agenda item 15.1 as he anticipated that the public may wish to ask questions. In response the clerk advised that the restoration project had been signed off by the Big Lottery, a pre-contract meeting had taken place and that works would commence on 18th July 2016. He advised that the facilities available at 15, Station Street were inadequate in terms of office space and staff welfare and it had therefore been necessary to agree to the erection of site porta cabins in Station Walk. The clerk advised that it was not clear whether it would be possible to keep the park open whilst the construction works were being carried out. In response to further questions he referred to the financial impact, however, this was a business management decision taken by the trustees of the Centre.

CO40/16 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Councillors Andy Watson, A. Allman, (Work Commitments, A Stewart (Holidays) and Councillor Allan Douglas (illness).

RESOLVED

That the apologies for absence be accepted.

CO41/16 2.MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th June 2016 be agreed as a true record.

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CO42/16 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair referred to minute CO29/16 in relation to the Council not being in a position to submit an application to the Coastal Communities Fund and of his desire to participate in future rounds. The assistant clerk advised that once members had identified a project that is in keeping with the Council's priorities and meets the criteria set she would then be able to gather evidence in support of a bid.

Councillor Grimes referred to minute CO28/16 and enquired as to whether a letter had been sent to Paul Hedley. The confirmed that this had been done.

RESOLVED

That the matters arising be noted.

CO43/16 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & DISPENSATIONS

There were declarations of interests.

CO44/16 5. POLICE REPORT

PC Nevens advised that due to rationalisation of the force Inspector Grant Dawson is now taking over Blyth, Bedlington and Cramlington neighbourhood teams allowing for more effective use of resources. It was noted that Inspector Oakley had now moved on to a new role in the 24/7 Team.

Referring to his previous report he advised that a Criminal Behaviour order had been obtained in respect of one individual who has committed a number of offences. He advised that the order came with a number of injunctions and a mandatory requirement to engage with the Youth Offending Team.

PC Nevens that there had been a break in at the Railway Tavern resulting in a broken window and 2 arrests with a third individual escaping by diving through a window. Councillor Dickson thanked PC Nevens for the action he had taken in respect of obstruction to the footpaths in East Sleekburn Village but unfortunately advised that the problem had reoccurred.

RESOLVED

That the police report be noted.

CO45/16 6. CORRESPONDANCE

With reference to item 856 the Chair advised that internal demolition works had commenced and that all demolition works would be complete by August. Referring to item 868 he expressed his disappointment that no young person had come forward to participate in the Tall Ships regatta. Councillor Graham referred to item 874 in connection with a robbery at Bedlington Station. The clerk advised that this related to CCTV footage provided to the Police by the Parish.

RESOLVED

(1)

CO46/16 7. CLERKS REPORT

The clerk advised the following;

- Flower beds adjacent to the Station platform would be planted up with summer bedding within the next few days
- Hanging baskets would be in place next week
- 3 panes of glass had been replaced at Cambois Beach Shelter

The clerk also advised that Councillors had been invited to a VIP area at the Northumberland Live Ch'n initials...

event that would take place in Gallagher Park on Saturday 16th July from 12:00 noon until 9:00 pm. He further advised that Cambois Gala would take place on Saturday 27th August from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm.

RESOLVED

(1) That the Clerks report be noted.

CO47/16 8. INVOICES & PAYMENT VOUCHERS

PAYMENT REFERENCE	DETAILS	AMOUNT £
V033	SJ Purvis (Fencing Cambois Allotments)	4,024.80
V034	Komplan Scotland Ltd (North Blyth Play Area)	26,509.09
V035	Mick Doherty Painter (Street Furniture)	350.00
V036	Mick Whitfield (Play Area Maintenance)	60.00
V037	R & L Keenleyside (sundry hardware items)	17.20
V038	Ashington Allotment Association (compost)	49.50
V039	Cars (Jerry cans)	48.00
V040	Azure -bedding for tubs	137.58
V041	Northumberland County Council - payroll June 16	6543.44
V042	M Doherty – Painter (street furniture)	475.50
DBB	Bank Charges	18.30
V043	R Thornton – Expenses (paint and replacement panes of polycarbonate)	209.87
V044	Came & Company - Building Insurance	2222.64

RESOLVED

That the schedule of invoices and payment Vouchers be approved.

CO48/16 9. FINANCIAL POSITION / BANK RECONCILIATION.

The clerk referred to the bank reconciliation at appendix C.

RESOLVED

That the Council approves the bank reconciliation and notes the cleared balance at 30th June of £171,665.24

CO49/16 11. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

A confidential report was circulated to members. The Clerk advised that careful management of cash flow could delay the need to borrow from the PWLB until October. This would result in further savings of circa £4,000 which would offset the additional costs associated with the move.

RESOLVED

That the Council notes the budget monitoring report.

CO50/16 12. SMALL GRANTS

There were no applications to consider.

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CO51/16 13. REPLACEMENT BUS SHELTER (BEDLINGTON STATION)

Members debated the case for a replacement shelter adjacent to the Monsoon Takeaway taking account to an objection made by one resident and responses received in returned Parish Plan questionnaires. At the request of the Chair the Clerk had explored options with a supplier and had obtained an indicative price of circa £8,000, however, he advised that there was no existing budget provision in place. At this point the Chair suspended the meeting to allow County Councillor Jeff Gobin to announce his offer to fund a new shelter up to a maximum of £10,000. He then reconvened the meeting to allow members to conclude their deliberations.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Council agree in principle to a replacement shelter**
- (2) That County Councillor Gobin's offer of funding for a replacement shelter be formally acknowledged and gratefully accepted.**
- (3) That the design and procurement arrangements be determined by the Allotments and Environment Working Group.**

CO52/16 14. MATTERS FOR DECISION

14.1 Financial Training Clerks & Councillors – 8th September, Shotton Hall, Peterlee – (£24 - £30 per delegate).

RESOLVED

That any members interested in the training to contact the clerk and that the course details be circulated to members.

CO53/16 15. OUTSIDE BODIES

- 15.1 East Bedlington Community Centre – The clerk submitted a written progress report.
- 15.2 Bedlington Forum – The Chair suspended and then reconvened the meeting to allow Brian Oliver (Chair of Bedlington Forum) to provide a brief update
- 15.3 Gallagher Park Steering Group – The clerk gave a verbal update and in response to Councillor Graham's enquiry confirmed that no financial arrangements had been discussed.

RESOLVED

That the delegates reports are noted.

CO54/16 16. AOB

There was no other business.

DATE & TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council meeting will be held at 6.00pm Tuesday 5th September 2016 (venue to be advised).

Meeting Closed 7.25 pm.

Signed by the Chairman: Date:

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