

## Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016, 6.00 pm at St Johns Parish Hall.

### PRESENT

Councillors;

Andy Allman

Derek Burton

Eddie Dickson

Joe Dobie

Allan Douglas

David Graham

Allan Stewart (Vice Chair)

Alex Wallace (Chair)

### IN ATTENDANCE

Parish Clerk, Assistant Parish Clerk, County Councillor Jeff Gobin, PCSO Wayne Turnbull and 8 members of the community.

### OPEN SESSION

#### Presentation – Lee Paris – Active Northumberland

Lee Paris from Active Northumberland confirmed that the new community facilities at Bedlington Community High School will be opening in October. He added that the facilities will include a cardio gym a four court sports hall, a dance studio and a 3G pitch. The facility will be a Sporting Club rather than a Leisure Centre and will be available to the public for use after 5pm, at weekends and during school holidays. He confirmed that there had been issues with the siting of the 3G pitch and reported that it would be located elsewhere within the curtilage of the school grounds.

A member of the public raised concerns regarding speeding traffic on Rothesay Terrace, especially in the early hours of the morning and enquiring into the potential of a speed camera. Responding the Clerk advised that this was a problem along Station Street too. PCSO Wayne Turnbull gave information on how local people could get involved in Community Speedwatch. The chairman indicated that County Councillor Jeff Gobin was in attendance and would be able to raise this matter with the appropriate department.

#### CO62/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Keith Grimes (leave) and Nichola Hogarth (work commitments)

### RESOLVED

**That the apologies for absence be accepted.**

#### CO63/16 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A typographical error was raised with reference to Rev Ian Hennebry's surname

### RESOLVED

That correction be made to Rev Ian Hennebry's name and that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016 then be signed as a true record.

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#### **CO64/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Councillor Stewart referred to the public session and his attendance at Rev Hennerbry's inauguration. He reported that the event was well received and had been well attended.

Councillor Stewart also referred to minute CO54/16 Replacement Fencing Khan's Car Park. He commented that since the council had agreed to fund repairs further damage had been caused to the fence and in his opinion making good these damages would set a precedent. The Clerk responded advising that only the agreed works would be completed later in the week and that the council had taken the decision to make these repairs in the interests of public safety. No further works would be entered into without the agreement of the Council.

#### **CO65/16 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

**There were no declarations of interests.**

#### **CO66/16 POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Turnbull provided an update on Bedlington crime statistics. There was a noted rise in all crime except youth disorder. He reported that the offender who had been issued with a CBO was back in front of magistrates as he had breached his bail conditions.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the police report be noted.

#### **CO67/16 CORRESPONDENCE**

Councillor Stewart requested to receive prior notice of all correspondence and suggested that each councillor should receive a copy of all the correspondence. Councillor Douglas disagreed and felt that the existing system worked in his opinion and should individual Councillors require further information they should contact the Clerks for further information or visit the office and read the correspondence. The Clerk advised that any Councillor is at liberty to view the correspondence at any time. Information received which is time sensitive or requires a response between meetings is currently emailed to all Councillors as a matter of course. Councillor Stewart felt the matter needed more consideration.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That the process for dealing with correspondence be referred to the Corporate Strategy Working Group**
- (ii) That the correspondence be noted.**

#### **CO68/16 CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk gave an update on the following:

- Bus shelters as identified in phase 1 & 2 of the Parish's renewal programme were now on order and an 8-week lead in time had been advised. The Ravensworth Terrace site will be the first to be installed and work will then start on the Cambois peninsula working back to Bedlington Station. A full site survey has been undertaken and risk assessed. Following the survey it had been established that it is necessary to replace several of the hard standings in order that they meet DDA guidelines.
- The replacement bins for Bedlington Station town centre have been ordered and a 2-3 week lead in time has been advised.

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- A provisional installation date of 24<sup>th</sup> October had been advised for the proposed play area in Cambois, Wembley. It was noted however that NCC are still to complete the land transfer.
- Gifts have been selected for presentation by the Shalksmuhle Society during the town twinning visit.
- Work to repair the damaged fencing in the car park to the rear of Station Walk will be completed by the end of the week.
- The Clerks and Councillors had attended the official opening of Bedlington Community High School which had been a very enjoyable evening.
- The Garden Competition Presentation have taken place and all certificates and trophies distributed.
- A meeting had been held with Daniel Wilkinson regarding the possibility of the parish taking part in a proposed documentary featuring examples of positive regeneration in Northumberland. The Community Centre Trustees have already agreed to participate.
- A consultation regarding the removal of BT public phone boxes was highlighted.
- An explanation was given regarding the Government Finance Settlement 2016/17 with reference to the proposal to potentially introduce capping to all parish councils.

#### RESOLVED

- That the parish respond to the consultation regarding the Government Finance Settlement 2016/17 with regards to capping
- That the clerks report be noted

#### CO69/16 INVOICES & PAYMENT VOUCHERS

PAYMENT REFERENCE	DETAILS	AMOUNT £
V83	Ian Balance - Window Cleaner	156.00
V84	Keenleysides - Hardware	14.31
V85	Friends of East Meets West Black Belt Academy	300.00
V86	Total Business Group Ltd - photocopier	6.92
DBB	NCC - Precept 2nd half payment	0.00
V87	Society of Local Council Clerks - subscriptions	177.00
V88	Andrew Thornton – travel expenses	292.50
V89	Community Action Northumberland - donation	100.00
V90	R Thornton - Expenses	110.71
V91	Birch Landscapes – grounds maintenance	1224.00

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V92	Northumberland County Council - payroll September	6393.47
DBB	Bank Charges	22.40
V93	Marty's – garden competition trophies	100.00
V94	BDO LLP – external audit fee	480.00
V95	Total Business Group Ltd - photocopier	25.37
V96	Marty's Service Centre - gifts - Shalksmuhle	117.00

**RESOLVED**

**That the schedule of invoices and payment vouchers be approved.**

**CO70/16 FINANCIAL POSITION / BANK RECONCILIATION**

The clerk referred to the bank reconciliation.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Council approves the bank reconciliation and notes the cleared balance at 30<sup>th</sup> September of £161,836.66**

**CO71/16 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

The Clerk referred to the budget monitoring report that had been circulated at the meeting. He drew attention to the projected year- end balance which had been adjusted to reflect the expenditure approved at the last meeting.

**RESOLVED**

**That the budget monitoring report be noted.**

**Councillor Andy Allman declared an interest in agenda item 12.1**

**CO72/16 SMALL GRANTS & DONATIONS**

The Council considered an application from Bedlington Community High School for support towards a Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch.

**RESOLVED**

**That the application be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Working Group for scrutiny.**

**CO73/16 APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANNUAL RETURN 2015/16**

The clerk circulated the annual return and confirmed that the public copy had been duly displayed.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Annual Return 2015/16 be approved and accepted.**

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**CO74/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Reference	Proposal	Location	Status	Comments
16/01816/FUL	Two storey side extension with conservatory to rear	65 Wood Lane Bedlington NE22 5RD	consultation	The Council has no objections based on the information presented
16/02443/FUL	Demolition of Existing Outhouse, with new 2 Storey Side Extension and Extension of the Lounge to the Rear	28 Hudson Avenue Bedlington NE22 5NS	Determination notice	Granted
16/02542/FUL	Proposed side two storey extension; provision for 2 parking spaces	24 Dene View West Bedlington NE22 5NP	Determination notice	Granted
16/02816/CCM	Change of use to waste management and transfer station	Former Pharmaceutical Company West Sleekburn (Glaxo)	Delegated response: Comments submitted by 30/09	<b>No objection based on the information provided.</b>

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the council's comments be filed in respect of application 16/01816/FUL
- (ii) That the determinations and delegated response be noted.

**CO75/16 COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

The Clerk reported that there had been no call for an election and that the Council were able to co-opt to fill the vacancy left by Councillor Andy Watson. A written expression of interest had been received from Mr Peter Angus. A further expression of interest was made from the floor from Mrs Linda Mason. Mr Angus was nominated by Councillor Wallace and Mrs Mason was nominated by Councillor Douglas. A ballot of members was taken which resulted in a tie – 4 votes for each candidate. A second ballot resulted in the same result. The Chairman gave a casting vote.

**RESOLVED**

**It was resolved that Mrs Linda Mason be co-opted as a parish councillor.**

**C076/16 MATTERS FOR DECISION**

16.1 To Agree in principle to the Councils participation in Northumberland Live (Bedlington) 2017 Subject to scrutiny of the Finance Working Group and its recommendations to be presented to the November meeting.

16.2 To consider a request for an additional bin to be located in the vicinity of the tunnel leading to Cambois beach.

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- 16.3 Invitation to attend opening of Port of Blyth Phase 2 Education and Community Hub.
- 16.4 Invitation to attend Northumberland CVA AGM at the Corn Exchange, Morpeth Town Hall, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016, 5:30pm
- 16.5 Laying of wreaths Remembrance Day services.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) **The Council agree in principle to participation in Northumberland Live (Bedlington) 2017 and that suggested contribution toward the event be subject to scrutiny of the Finance & General Purposes Working Group and that its recommendations be presented to the November meeting.**
- (ii) **That the request for an additional bin to be located in the vicinity of the tunnel leading to the beach at North Blyth be referred to the Allotment & Environment working group for recommendation to be presented to the November meeting.**
- (iii) **That any councillor wishing to attend the opening of Port of Blyth phase 2 Education and Community Hub inform the Clerks.**
- (iv) **That any councillor wishing to attend the Northumberland CVA AGM at Morpeth Town Hall, 18<sup>th</sup> October inform the Clerks**
- (v) **That wreaths be laid a Cambois and Bedlington. Councillors Stewart and Wallace to officiate.**

#### **CO77/16 OUTSIDE BODIES**

Written reports were received from delegates on outside bodies

- 17.1 East Bedlington Community Centre – circulated at the meeting
- 17.2 Bedlington Steering Group – report circulated
- 17.3 NALC – report circulated.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the reports from delegates be noted.**

#### **CO78/16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no other items of urgent business

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council will be Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 6.00pm venue to be confirmed.