

**Minutes of an electronic meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held via ZOOM on
Tuesday 5 May 2020**

PRESENT:

**Councillor Steve Aynsley
Councillor John Batey
Councillor Helen Bradford
Councillor Paul Hedley
Councillor Keith Scantlebury
Councillor Allan Stewart
Councillor Mike Trimming
Councillor Alex Wallace**

In attendance: Ron Thornton – Clerk, Jenny Tindale – Deputy Clerk, County Councillor Bill Crosby, County Councillor Malcolm Robinson, County Councillor Russ Wallace (part) and 1 member of the public.

		ACTION
CO8/20	<p>PUBLIC SESSION There were no matters raised during the public session</p>	
CO9/20	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ASBSENCE Apologies were noted from Councillors Douglas and Greensitt (illness) and Councillor Mason (work commitments)</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(I) That the Parish Councillors apologies be accepted</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(II) It be noted that County Councillor Jeff Gobin had submitted apologies as he was unable to participate due to having no broadband access.</p>	
CO10/20	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 3 March and Monday 23 March were presented to members.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(I) That the minutes of the full council meeting held 3 March be agreed as a true record.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(II) That the minutes of the emergency meeting held on 23 March 2020 be agreed as a true record.</p>	
CO11/20	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES There were no matters arising</p>	
CO12/20	<p>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION Councillor Batey, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk declared an interest in agenda item 16 (i)</p>	

CO13/20	POLICE REPORT There was no police report.	
CO14/20	NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS No written reports had been received. Councillor Crosby had no actions to report and could offer no further information in relation to Covid-19 support other than that which had already been published by NCC.	
CO14/20	CORRESPONDENCE RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted.	
CO15/20	CLERKS REPORT The Clerk reported on recent changes to legislation under the Coronavirus Act 2020. He advised that, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was now legal to hold remote meetings • The minimum number of meetings to be conducted during a year was now 3 with no requirement to hold an annual meeting in 2020 • Public inspection date restrictions had been relaxed and there was now no requirement to include the first 10 days in July within the 30 working- day inspection period • The deadline date for submission of the AGAR had been changed to 1 September 2020 and for publication of the Audited AGAR to 1 November 2020. He reported that, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Accounts and AGAR had been completed and were with the Internal Auditor • It was his intention to present the Accounts for approval to the next Parish Council meeting • Annual ROSPA checks were due to be carried out in June • Ground maintenance activity was continuing as normal and that summer floral displays were scheduled for mid - May • Publicity for a virtual Garden Competition had taken place, and finally • The year-end VAT return had been submitted to HMRC 	
CO16/20	SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS RESOLVED: That the receipt of the first half- year precept be noted.	
CO17/20	INVOICE PAYMENTS & VOUCHERS RESOLVED: That the schedule of invoices and payment vouchers be noted	
CO18/20	FINANCIAL POSITION RESOLVED:	

	That the bank reconciliation be approved and the cleared balances of £297,550 as at 27 April be noted.	
CO19/20	<p>BUDGET MONITORING REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk advised that it was too early in the year to predict with any accuracy the likely outturn for 2020/21. However, an attempt had been made to forecast the impact of the Coronavirus outbreak on planned activity and to estimate funds that might not otherwise have been available.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Budget Monitoring Report be noted</p>	
CO20/20	<p>SMALL GRANTS & DONATIONS</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That donation made under delegated authority be noted:</p> <p>a) Matthew Project £1,500 b) Wansbeck Valley Food Bank (£1,500) c) Bad Apples North East £200</p> <p>(ii) That the application submitted by Blyth Star Enterprise be deferred to the Clerk to seek further information and that delegated authority be made to the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman to make an award subject to new information.</p>	Clerk / Chairman
CO21/20	<p>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</p> <p>Councillor Batey declared a personal interest in application 20/00564/COU</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(I) That determinations in relation to 20/0032/FUL, 20/00046/FUL, 20/00564/COU be noted</p> <p>(II) That the council offer no objections to applications 19/04958/FUL, 20/00745/COU, 20/01156/FUL, 20/01178/FUL</p>	
CO22/20	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <p>It was clarified that further discussion on a replacement bus shelter at the Bank Top would be referred to the next Services Working group.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Services Working Group 16 March be received.</p>	
CO23/20	<p>MATTERS FOR DECISION</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p>	

	<p>(i) That the support package for East Bedlington Community Centre be withdrawn and referred to a single agenda special council meeting to be held as soon as possible and in full compliance with the protocols in Standing Order 37.</p> <p>(ii) That membership of NALC be renewed at a cost of £1035</p> <p>(iii) That an extended leave of absence be granted to Councillor Allan Douglas on the grounds of ill health for a period of six months.</p> <p>(iv) To note the exercise of delegated authority to purchase ZOOM Professional (virtual conferencing software license) at a cost of £9.99 plus VAT per month.</p>	
CO24/20	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Councillor Aynsley suggested some improvements to the Parish website whilst Councillor Hedley referred to an NCC matter that was causing concern to a resident of Grange Park.</p> <p>It was agreed that,</p> <p>(i) Councillor Aynsley should with liaise with the Deputy Clerk, and</p> <p>(ii) Councillor Hedley should raise his matter with County Councillor Gobin</p>	Deputy Clerk Cllr Hedley
C025/20	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council will be a virtual meeting to be held on 2 June 2020 6pm.</p>	

Signed:

Date: