

**Minutes of an electronic meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held via ZOOM on
Tuesday 7 July 2020**

PRESENT:

Councillor Steve Aynsley
Councillor John Batey
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 Councillors Bill Crosby, Russ Wallace, 22 members of the public.

		ACTION
	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting by advising that the first 15 minutes are dedicated to public questions but that the public are not permitted to participate during the Council business that follows.</p> <p>He advised that he was aware that the larger than normal audience was due to the Planning application in connection to Watson’s Yard and he assured residents that their comments would be taken into account when the matter was considered later on the agenda.</p> <p>A total of 5 residents raised their concerns in connection with the Watson’s Yard planning application. In response to question relating to the re-opening of public libraries the Chair advised that the Council had not yet been notified of a date.</p>	
CO60/20	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ASBSENCE</p> <p>Apologies were noted from Councillors Allan Douglas (illness), Helen Bradford and Lynda Mason (work commitments)</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the Parish Councillors apologies be accepted</p>	
CO61/20	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2 June and a Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24 June were presented to the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 2 June 2020 be agreed as a true record.</p> <p>(ii) That the minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting held on 24 June 2020 be agreed as a true record.</p>	
CO62/20	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	

CO63/20	<p>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</p> <p>Councillor Hedley declared an interest in agenda item 10.3 (Air Cadets) and advised he would not take part in the decision making.</p>	
CO64/20	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>There was no Police report</p>	
CO65/20	<p>NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS</p> <p>No written reports had been received.</p>	
CO66/20	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the correspondence be noted.</p>	
CO67/20	<p>CLERK'S REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk advised that,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A site visit in connection with the planning application relating to Watson's Yard had taken place. • He had responded to NCC in relation to the Town Centre reopening risk assessment and that his comments had been acknowledged. • An election had been called in respect of the vacant position in Sleekburn Ward but that this would not take place until May 2021 due to the Coronavirus • Play areas and outdoor gyms were eligible to be re-opened from 4th July but that risk assessments and safety arrangements would need to be in place. • Annual Rospa reports had been received and that their recommendations would be incorporated into the play area re-opening risk assessments • East Bedlington Community Centre was eligible for re-opening, but this was a decision for the Centre Trustees to take and that COVID 19 safety precautions would need to be in place. In view of this he suggested that the Awards Night in August be re-scheduled to a later date. • There had been a good response to the virtual garden competition • Several planters had been restocked following theft/vandalism <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Clerks report be noted.</p>	
CO68/20	<p>FINANCE REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the new style of reports produced by the Realtis accounting system which provided greater detail for members</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>(i) That the schedule of receipts and payments be approved.</p> <p>(ii) That the cleared balances as at 31 July 2020 of £265,956.18 be noted.</p> <p>(iii) That the budget report be noted</p> <p>(iv) That the balance sheet be noted</p> <p>(v) That the schedule of virements be noted</p>	

CO69/20	<p>SMALL GRANTS & DONATIONS</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the request for a donation to Bedlington Freemasons for a Freemasons Meals on Wheels scheme be rejected.</p> <p>(ii) That correspondence be hand delivered to the Freemasons informing them of the Council's decision and the Service provided by Northumberland Communities Together.</p> <p>(iii) That the application from Barnesbury Cycle Club for £250 be approved</p> <p>(iv) That the application from 2522 Bedlington Squadron for £250 be approved.</p>	Clerks
CO70/20	<p>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</p> <p>Members considered a schedule of planning applications and notices of determination. They discussed at length application 20/01768/FUL (Change of use to recycling facility at Watson's Yard on Barrington Road). In reaching their decision members considered the objections of 65 residents and those of Public Protection. They considered the likelihood of odour and noise pollution emanating from the site and the increased amount of traffic that would result should planning permission be granted.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the determinations in relation to 20/00982/FUL, 19/04958/FUL, 20/0156/FUL, 20/00028/FUL be noted</p> <p>(ii) That the council offer no objections to applications 20/01641/FUL and 20/01747/FUL</p> <p>(iii) That the Council objects to application 20/01768/FUL on the material considerations of,</p> <p>a) Impact of odour pollution</p> <p>b) Impact of noise pollution</p> <p>c) Impact of Highway Safety on the residents and on Barrington Road.</p> <p>In respect of application 20/01768/FUL a named vote was called by Councillor Stewart.</p> <p>Councillors Alex Wallace, John Batey, Allan Stewart, Paul Hedley, Mike Trimming, Keith Scantlebury and Steve Aynsley were unanimous in reaching their decision.</p>	Deputy Clerk Deputy Clerk
CO71/20	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the minutes of the Services Working Group 16 June 2020 be received.</p> <p>(ii) That the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Working Group 24 June 2020 be received.</p>	
CO72/20	<p>MATTERS FOR DECISION</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the report issued by Government in relation to the re-opening of play areas and outdoor gyms and commented on some impractical directives contained therein.</p>	

	<p>He referred to a report of the Association of Play Industries which had been prepared after consultation with the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government.</p> <p>This document offered more workable alternatives and placed a shared onus of responsibility on parents and equipment users. The Clerk further advised that a COVID 19 risk assessment is mandatory, and that the Council would have to display clear notices and instructions for safe use before the facilities could be re-opened.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That members agree in principle to the reopening of play areas and outdoor gyms by 1 August 2020 subject to risk assessment, safety inspections and all safety notices being in place.</p> <p>(ii) That the clerk submits a further report to the Services Working Group on 21 July.</p>	Clerk
CO73/20	Councillor Stewart requested at 19:25 that Standing Orders be moved to allow the completion of the business.	
CO74/20	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Councillor Wallace referred to a document he had shared with the Members detailing the award of £24m to the North of Tyne Authority towards affordable house building on brownfield sites. He referred to a meeting held with County Councillor Richard Wearmouth almost 12 months previous where delegates of the Parish Council had raised their desire to see progress for affordable housing in Cambois.</p> <p>He added, that with the promise of 10,000 jobs to be created at Northumberland Business Park, it would be disappointing to see vehicles leave the area every day rather than homes being developed to house a local workforce and contributing to the local economy.</p> <p>Councillor Aynsley supported his comments and thanked him on behalf of the Council for raising awareness at an early juncture. He added development was important to improve infrastructure and retain the school in Cambois.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk write again to Councillor Wearmouth as Head of Advance Northumberland, the Leader of the County Council, and the North of Tyne Authority reinforcing the Member's keenness to develop brownfield sites within our Parish and to request an opening of dialogue.</p>	Clerk
CO75/20	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council will be a virtual meeting to be held on Tuesday 1 September 2020 6pm.</p>	

Signed:

Date: