



Minutes of an electronic meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held via ZOOM on
Tuesday 2 February 2021

PRESENT:

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,
Neighbourhood Inspector Phil Patterson and 3 members of the public

		ACTION
	<p>PUBLIC SESSION There were no questions from the public.</p> <p>Prior to the formal business of the meeting the Chairman paid tribute to the achievements and resolve of Captain Sir Tom Moore who had passed away earlier in the day, aged 100 years.</p> <p>The Chairman also welcomed back Councillor Hedley from his period of illness.</p>	
CO166/20	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ASBSENCE Apologies were noted from Councillors Allan Douglas and Steve Aynsley (illness), RESOLVED: (i) That the Parish Councillors apologies be accepted.</p>	
CO167/20	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 January and of a Special Council Meeting held Wednesday 27 January 2021 were presented to the meeting. RESOLVED: (i) That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 January 2021 be agreed as a true record. (ii) That the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 be agreed as a true record</p>	
CO168/20	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES There were no matters arising.</p>	

CO169/20	<p>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</p> <p>There were no requests.</p>	
CO170/20	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>Inspector Patterson updated members on the latest crime statistics covering the four-week period leading up to the meeting. He confirmed that crime had continued in a downward trend in all measures and was at a lower rate than in the previous twelve months. In providing members with actual crime numbers and percentage reductions, he quantified the very real threat of drugs and organised crime. Referring specifically to a drugs raid in Bedlington Station where a substantial quantity of Class B psychoactive drugs were discovered packaged as sweets and specifically aimed at children and young people along with a room dedicated to growing cannabis. He warned that the THC content of one bar of “chocolate” could be as high as the equivalent of 50 joints of cannabis. He urged members to inform the community and encourage residents to report drug dealing. He confirmed that the policing of Covid restrictions continued to be one of education and engagement. Where it was clear members of the public had blatantly ignored the advice and guidance, penalties will be imposed. Members thanked Inspector Patterson for his report.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Police report be noted.</p>	
CO170/20	<p>NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS</p> <p>There were no written reports form NCC Councillors.</p>	
CO171/20	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>A member enquired as to whether a letter had been sent to Network rail. The Clerk responded that it had not yet, been sent.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the correspondence be noted. (ii) That the Clerk contact NCC regarding feedback to residents. 	Clerk
CO172/20	<p>CLERK’S REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk circulated a written report updating members on most recent events.</p> <p>In adding to the report, he confirmed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) only 4 plot holder rents were outstanding. Reminders would be issued, and the matter discussed further at the Services Working Group. (ii) The work to repair the Cambois MUGA is scheduled to take place on Thursday 4 February weather conditions permitting. (iii) The parish precept has been set at £277,038. <p>RESOLVED: That the Clerk’s Report be noted.</p>	

CO173/20	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Council support application 20/04291/FUL.</p>	
CO174/20	<p>FINANCE REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk presented a suite of reports including a schedule of Receipts & Payments; Bank Reconciliation; Budget and Balance Sheet</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the,</p> <p>(i) Schedule of receipts and payments be approved.</p> <p>(ii) Cleared balances as of 28 January 2021 of £215,126.47 be noted.</p> <p>(iii) Budget report be noted.</p> <p>(iv) Balance sheet be noted.</p>	
CO17520	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the draft minutes of the Services Working Group held 19 Jan 2021 be received.</p>	
CO176/20	<p>MATTERS FOR DECISION</p> <p>Members discussed the issue of meat vouchers and recognised the importance to meet the needs of our diverse community within the constraints of delegated powers. The Deputy Clerk appraised members of developments in relation to school uniforms and the work currently being undertaken by Choppington Parish Council's Engagement Officer, Caroline Ball.</p> <p>Members considered the Draft Private Housing Strategy 2021-2023 consultation and commented positively on the document. It was agreed due to the short time scale to respond to the consultation, that members should put forward any comments or observations to the Clerk to formulate a response.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(I) That a meat voucher scheme administered through the Matthew Project foodbank at an estimated cost of £2000 be approved.</p> <p>(II) That the Council replace the remaining 3 cast iron heritage bins at an approximate cost of £1,200 plus installation.</p> <p>(III) That the Council approves the disposal of obsolete cast iron bins held in storage.</p> <p>(IV) That approval be given to the Clerk to respond to the Draft Private Housing Strategy 2021-2023 consultation upon receipt of members comments and observations.</p>	Clerk

<p>CO177/20</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Coastal Summit – A member raised concern that the Parish may have been excluded from a forthcoming Coastal Summit. The Deputy Clerk advised that she understood an invitation had been received inviting the Clerk and Chair to attend however no date had been included.</p> <p>Cyber Scams – A member highlighted a cyber scam he had received via Google and urged members to be aware of potentially dangerous documents circulating online.</p> <p>Additional bins at Cambois A member advised that Ken MacDonald, the NCC Gypsy, Roma, Traveler Liaison Officer had arranged for additional wheelie bins in two of their car parks to help address concerns raised by members of the public regarding additional waste generated by visitors to the area.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the matters be noted.</p>	
<p>C0159/20</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Tuesday 2 March 2021 at 6pm via ZOOM Virtual Conferencing.</p>	

Signed:

Date: