



**Minutes of a meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 October 2021  
at East Bedlington Community Centre**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor John Batey  
Councillor Helen Bradford  
Councillor Bill Crosby (Chairman)  
Councillor Dawn Crosby  
Councillor Keith Grimes  
Councillor Paul Hedley  
Councillor Keith Scantlebury  
Councillor Allan Stewart (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Jayne Todd  
Councillor Rebecca Wilczek (County Councillor Bedlington East ward)

**In attendance:** Jenny Tindale – Deputy Clerk,  
PCSO Bev Sellars, PCSO Laura Miller  
3 members of the public

		<b>ACTION</b>
	<p><b>PUBLIC SESSION</b> A resident of the Parish requested a further update on the installation of a proposed play area at Burnside Estate. The Chairman advised this would be given in the Clerk's report.</p>	
<b>CO61/21</b>	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies were received from Councillor Alan Stovell (holiday) and Clerk (Ron Thornton) Annual Leave. <b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That the apologies be noted.</b></p>	
<b>CO62/21</b>	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b> The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7 September were presented to the meeting. <b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 September 2021 be agreed as a true record.</b></p>	
<b>CO63/21</b>	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</b> A member referred to CO55/21 Gallagher Park Live - Clerks report. The Deputy Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place and the representative from West Bedlington Town Council had indicated</p>	

	<p>that they were not able to commit to a full partnership in 2022 but would like to make a commitment to joint funding an event in 2023. The WBTC representatives recognised that the event is valued by the residents of West Bedlington and have made an offer of support which requires ratification by their Full Council. The matter would be referred to the Events Working Group. It was noted that East Bedlington Parish Council have set a ceiling of £20,000 towards the event and any further funding required for the event would need to be met from external sources.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That the matters arising be noted</b></p>	
<b>CO64/21</b>	<p><b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS &amp; REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</b></p> <p>There were no disclosures or requests.</p>	
<b>CO65/21</b>	<p><b>POLICE REPORT</b></p> <p>The Neighbourhood PCSO's officers advised that reported crime had reduced and added that the calls to incidents in the Parish had greatly reduced. A full report is to be circulated electronically to members. It was also reported that work is still underway behind the scenes to address concerns raised by residents and traders.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That the advice provided by the Police a be noted.</b></p>	
<b>CO66/21</b>	<p><b>NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS</b></p> <p>A written report from County Councillor Alex Wallace had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That the NCC Councillors report be noted.</b></p>	
<b>CO67/21</b>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>A member referred to item 151. An invitation to the launch of the Offshore Wind Turbine Training Facility, attended by himself, the Chairman and Councillor D Crosby. It was noted that the facilities would prove to be a vital resource for those seeking work in the industry.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) A letter of thanks be sent to Port of Blyth.</b></li> <li><b>(ii) The correspondence be noted.</b></li> </ul>	<b>Deputy Clerk</b>
<b>CO68/21</b>	<p><b>CLERK'S REPORT</b></p> <p>The Deputy Clerk gave an overview report on recent events. She advised,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Parish Council had been successful in securing a grant of £8,000 towards the delivery of a play area on the Burnside Estate. The grant offer is conditional that the works are</li> </ul>	

	<p>completed before October 2022, that residents report the play area facilities have improved access to play and have contributed to healthy lifestyle choices and that there is a reduction of reported anti-social behaviour on the Burnside Estate in the same timescale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCC have cut down the wildflower beds which will encourage germination from existing seed heads and will prepare the ground for planting of new seed in the spring. The additional wildflower seed has been ordered and it is expected that the work will take place in March 2022.</li> <li>• There has been further vandalism in Jennings Field a with an arm of the Saturn equipment removed and a toddler swing cradle detached from anchor bolts. The pieces of equipment have been removed and will be replaced when replacement parts are received.</li> <li>• An estimate for emergency repairs to 15 Station Street has been received. The Clerk is satisfied that the sum quoted £3,000 is as expected for the works required and will be instructing the contractor to carry out the works as soon as possible. The Vice-chairman remarked that the Parish Council should seek other storage facilities and not renew the lease on this building once the repairs have been undertaken.</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p><b>(i) That the Clerk’s Report be noted.</b></p>	
<p><b>CO69/21</b></p>	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b>  <b>That Members,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) Note the determinations as listed in appendix B.</b></li> <li><b>(ii) Support the observations noted in appendix B.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>CO70/21</b></p>	<p><b>FINANCE REPORT</b></p> <p>The Vice Chairman presented a suite of reports including a schedule of Receipts &amp; Payments; Bank Reconciliation; Budget and Balance Sheet.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b>  <b>That the,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) Schedule of receipts and payments be approved.</b></li> <li><b>(ii) Cleared balances of £373,679.04 as of 30 September 2021 be noted.</b></li> <li><b>(iii) Budget, Income &amp; Expenditure and Balance Sheet reports be noted.</b></li> </ul>	

<p><b>CO71/21</b></p>	<p><b>WORKING GROUPS</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That the minutes of the,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) Budget Working Group held on 15 September be received.</b></li> <li><b>(ii) Planning &amp; Economic Regeneration Working Group held 21 September be received.</b></li> <li><b>(iii) Finance &amp; General Purposes Working Group held on 22 September be received.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>CO72/21</b></p>	<p><b>MATTERS FOR DECISION</b></p> <p>A member introduced a new proposal in respect of 12.1 (restart payment to Bedlington Station Primary) to include Cambois Primary. It was noted that no official request had been received from Cambois Primary School and proper notice had not been given to the Clerk regarding the matter. The new proposal could not be tabled as an agenda item.</p> <p>Councillor Todd suggested that the Headteachers be invited to a meeting to discuss the referral of service users to existing provision in the Community.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Stewart and seconded by Councillor Hedley that the matter be referred to the Services Working Group and then to Finance Working Group for a recommendation. A vote was taken 7 votes for the deferral; 2 votes against; 1 abstention.</p> <p>An amendment to 12.4 (Cambois Allotment rents) of an increase in rents of £5 was proposed by Councillor Hedley and seconded by Councillor Wilczek. A named vote was requested by Councillor Stewart: <b>In favour:</b> Councillors, Hedley, Wilczek, Batey, Stewart.  <b>Against:</b> Councillors Grimes, Bradford, D Crosby, W Crosby, Todd, Scantlebury</p> <p>A vote was then taken on the recommendation of the Finance &amp; General Purposes Working Group of an increase of £10 per year.  <b>In favour:</b> Councillors Grimes, Bradford, D Crosby, W Crosby, Todd, Scantlebury  <b>Against:</b> Councillors, Hedley, Wilczek, Batey, Stewart.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) The decision not to restart payment of £75 per Month in lieu of FareShares provision to Bedlington Station Primary School be deferred to the Services Working Group then referred to Finance &amp; General Purposes WG.</b></li> </ul>	

	<p>(ii) The Council approve the recommendation of the Finance &amp; General Purposes Working Group to purchase a selection box and gift voucher for each pupil attending a primary school in the Parish at a cost of circa £5,000 and that this is funded from the Hardship Fund.</p> <p>(iii) Councillor John Batey be appointed to represent the Parish on a joint working group with NCC Road Safety, Highways, Bedlington Academy and NCC Councillors to explore road safety in and around Bedlington Academy.</p> <p>(iv) The recommendation of the Finance &amp; General Purposes Working Group be approved, and Cambois Allotment rents be increased by £10 per annum.</p>	
<p><b>CO73/21</b></p>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>The Deputy Clerk alerted members attention to the opening of a Welcome Hub starting on Friday 8 October in East Bedlington Community Centre.</p> <p>Councillor Hedley raised awareness of the activities taking place during October at the former Cambois Welfare Institute.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the information be noted.</p>	
<p><b>CO74/21</b></p>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>Tuesday 2 November at 6:30 pm, Parish Meeting, East Bedlington Community Centre</p>	

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** .....