



**Minutes of a meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 September 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 Alan Stovell
Councillor Jayne Todd
Councillor Rebecca Wilczek (County Councillor Bedlington East ward)

In attendance: Ron Thornton – Clerk, Jenny Tindale – Deputy Clerk,
NBM Lisa Hindmarsh; PCSO Bev Sellars
3 members of the public
Sally Barston, Steve Coxon, Mike James, Sharon Henderson - NSL

Presentation : North Sea Link – Members received a presentation on the final stages of the North Sea Link project. Mike and Sharon would be remaining with the project on completion. A presentation was made to the Parish Council of a framed caricature depicting the route of the cable. The Chairman thanked all NSL officers present for the support to various projects in the parish, in particular the work undertaken in schools.

		ACTION
	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>A resident of the Parish requested an update on the installation of a proposed play area at Burnside Estate, he also requested confirmation of how the Parish Council intended to prevent ASB.</p> <p>The Clerk outlined the steps which needed to be taken subject to external funding being approved. It was noted that the equipment will be designed for children 12 years old and under. Children of this age require parental supervision therefore residents will be expected to police ASB.</p>	
CO48/21	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ASBSENCE</p> <p>There were no apologies.</p>	

CO49/21	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 July were presented to the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 July 2021 be agreed as a true record.</p>	
CO50/21	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>A member referred to CO45/21 (<i>Small Grants & Donations</i>). It was confirmed that this would be an agenda item for Full Council in October 21.</p>	
CO51/21	<p>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</p> <p>There were no disclosures or requests.</p>	
CO52/21	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Officers confirmed that they were fully aware of the levels of ASB and shared the frustrations of residents and traders. They are visiting the businesses currently being targeted daily. Arrests are being made; however, juvenile offenders are now processed through the Youth Justice System (formally YOT). The importance of reporting incidents through the correct channels was also stressed. Members of the public were urged not to publicise incidents on social media or send emails as officers may not be on duty. It was also noted that Northumbria Police are currently seeking to recruit Special Constables.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the advice provided by the Police a be noted.</p>	
CO53/21	<p>NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS</p> <p>There were no written reports submitted.</p>	
CO54/21	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>A member raised a query regarding item 97.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (i) That a copy of correspondence item 97 be forwarded to all members.</p>	
CO55/21	<p>CLERK'S REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk gave an overview report on of recent events. He advised,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On progress in respect of the installation of bins, memorial, and heritage seats, • That he was in receipt of the external auditor's report (which would be discussed at the Finance WG to be held 	

	<p>on 22 September and that the second half year's precept payment had been received,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the installation of the Charles Saint blue plaque and of a highly successful unveiling ceremony, and exhibition that had taken place in the Community Centre • That a lease agreement had been signed in relation to Kings & Queen's Play Area, • That a positive response had been received to the Councils proposal for a joint funded Gallagher Park Live event in 2022, • That a walk about had taken place in the town centre in connection with Borderland's funding opportunities and that NCC Officer's had proposed 14th September for a full member briefing, • That a joint meeting with West Bedlington & Choppington had taken place to discuss common interests, • That demand for meat vouchers continued to be low, possibly due to intervention by NCC's Communities Together initiative, and finally, • That there had been no further progress in relation to the Railway Buildings. <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the Clerk's Report be noted. (ii) That a briefing on the Borderland's Funding be received on 14 September at 6:30pm 	
CO56/21	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>RESOLVED That.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Members noted the determinations as listed in appendix B (ii) Members support the observations noted in appendix B 	
CO56/21	<p>FINANCE REPORT</p> <p>The Vice Chairman presented a suite of reports including a schedule of Receipts & Payments; Bank Reconciliation; Budget and Balance Sheet.</p> <p>RESOLVED That the,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Schedule of receipts and payments be approved. (ii) Cleared balances of £394,241.38 as at 3 September 2021 be noted. (iii) Budget, Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet reports be noted. 	
CO57/21	WORKING GROUPS	

	<p>RESOLVED: That,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The minutes of the Services Working Group held 17 August 2021 be received. (ii) The minutes of the Planning & Economic Regeneration Working Group held 24 August be received. (iii) The minutes of the Events Working Group held on 25 August be received. (iv) The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Working Group held on 3 September be received. (v) The minutes of the Staffing Committee held on 3 September be received. 	
CO58/21	<p>MATTERS FOR DECISION RESOLVED: That,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The Clerks working week be reduced to 3 working days from 1 October 2022 (ii) The Deputy Clerk be authorised to approach NCC with a view of reinstating LMAPS. (iii) A Briefing on Borderlands from NCC be received on 14 September 2021 at 6.30pm. (iv) To accept an invitation for the Full Council to meet with the Leadership of NCC. (v) The Parish Council enter into a 12 month contract with Highlights PR at a cost of £100 per month. (vi) Councillors D Crosby, B Crosby and K Grimes be elected to represent EBPC on a joint Gallagher Park Live working group with WBTC. (vii) That Councillors Bill Crosby and Keith Grimes be elected to represent EBPC on the Bedlington Town Board. (viii) The Council approve a budget of £20,000 for the Planning & Economic Regeneration Working Group, to be funded from free reserves. (ix) The Council approves the appointment of Hugh Massey Architects to carry out preliminary surveys and architectural work to support the development of business plans. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Deputy Clerk NCC</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
CO59/21	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>There were no items of urgent business.</p>	

CO60/21	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 5 October at 6:30 pm, Parish Meeting, East Bedlington Community Centre	
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Signed:

Date:

DRAFT