



**Minutes of a meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held on Tuesday 1 November 2022  
at East Bedlington Community Centre**

**PRESENT:**

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

**In attendance:** Jenny Tindale – Deputy (acting) Clerk & Responsible Officer,  
 4 Members of the Public

		<b>ACTION</b>
	<p><b>PUBLIC SESSION</b></p> <p>Members of the public raised concerns regarding the condition of the car park opposite the Library and the damage to the fencing around the car park. The Chairman advised that the car park belonged to Advance Northumberland and that the Parish Council would raise their concerns with the development company.</p> <p>A resident advised they had been made aware of a rumour that Library and Boxing Club buildings were to be demolished as they were full of asbestos. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council were unaware of any such claims but had submitted an expression of interest in the buildings with a view to sympathetically restoring the parts of the development with heritage value. The discussions with NCC who own the building were in very early stages and are subject to commercial sensitivity. Any proposed developments would be subject to planning permission and public consultation.</p> <p>A resident complained about nuisance parking in and around Bower Grange estate, sighting parents collecting children from nearby schools as an issue. A further concern raised was the option to apply a parking charge to the car parks in and around the Station. The Chairman permitted Councillor Wilczek to respond; she advised that the potential introduction of car parking charges is not expected</p>	

	<p>to be implemented for at least 18 months to 2 years after the Station has reopened and would be subject to review.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the residents for their questions and invited them to take part in the Parish Plan consultation which would give them an opportunity to record their views and aspirations on the ten key topics influencing the future development of the Parish in the next five years.</p>	
<b>CO62/22</b>	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b></p> <p>Apologies were noted from Councillor Jayne Todd (agreed leave of absence).</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That the apologies be accepted.</b></p>	
<b>CO63/22</b>	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b></p> <p>The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 6 September 2022 were circulated to the members.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) Typographical error page 1 be amended</b></li> <li><b>(ii) The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 5 September 2022 be agreed as a true record.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>CO64/22</b>	<p><b>Clerk &amp; Officers Update</b></p> <p>A written report was submitted members.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That;</b> <b>The Clerk &amp; Officers update be noted.</b></p>	
<b>CO65/22</b>	<p><b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS &amp; REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</b></p> <p><b>Councillor Wilczek declared an interest in Agenda item 12.1 and advised she would take no part in the discussion or vote.</b></p> <p>There were no disclosures or requests.</p>	
<b>CO66/22</b>	<p><b>POLICE REPORT</b></p> <p>Inspector Wayne Daniels had submitted a written report to the meeting as his team were on rest days to accommodate the forthcoming bonfire weekend cover. Members noted the content of the report and noted their appreciation of the continued level of interaction with the Council.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That;</b> <b>(i) The Police report be noted.</b></p>	

CO67/22	<p><b>NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS</b> There were no written reports.</p>	
CO68/22	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the correspondence be noted.</p>	
CO69/22	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The determinations 21/04590/LBC, 22/00580/OUT , 22/00580/OUT, 22/01725/FUL be noted.</li> <li>(ii) No objections be offered in respect of application 22/03668/FUL</li> <li>(iii) The council approve the suggested street names for Spring Ville development as listed in 22/02168/SN</li> </ul>	
CO70/22	<p><b>FINANCE REPORT</b> The Chairman presented a suite of reports including a schedule of Receipts &amp; Payments; Bank Reconciliation; Budget and detailed income and expenditure.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> That the,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Schedule of receipts and payments be approved.</li> <li>(ii) Cleared balances of £ 322,847.66 as at 27 October 2022 be noted.</li> <li>(iii) Budget report, Detailed Income and Expenditure report and Detailed Balance Sheet be noted.</li> </ul>	
CO71/22	<p><b>WORKING GROUPS</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The minutes of the Planning &amp; Economic Regeneration Working Group held 11October 2022 be received</li> <li>(ii) The minutes of the Staffing Committee 18 October be received.</li> <li>(iii) That the minutes of the Services Working Group 16 August 2022 be received.</li> <li>(iv) The Finance &amp; General Purpose and Budget meeting, held 25 October be received.</li> </ul>	

CO72/22	<p><b>MATTERS FOR DECISION</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>Members resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The recommendation to appoint Birch Landscapes to undertake restoration groundworks at Jennings Field be approved.</li> <li>(ii) A response to the Northumberland Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Local Plan ‘Call for Sites’ in the Parish be submitted advising that there is no suitable land to be identified in East Bedlington Parish.</li> <li>(iii) The invitation to visit the relocated NSL Energy Education Centre as a group be accepted, and that Councillors, Grimes, Crosby, Batey and Wilczek attend.</li> <li>(iv) Members approve the proposal to extend the duration of a Public Spaces Protection Order for the control of dogs, Anti-social behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Part 4. To extend until 30 January 2026</li> </ul>	Deputy Clerk to action
CO73/22	<p><b>SMALL GRANTS &amp; DONATIONS</b></p> <p>Members considered the recommendations of the Finance &amp; General-Purpose Working Group. Cllr D Crosby proposed to increase the amount recommended in respect of the OAP lunch which was seconded by Councillor Bradford and unanimously agreed by all present.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A donation of £400 be made to the Wansbeck Toy Appeal</li> <li>(ii) A grant of £200 be awarded to the Bedlington &amp; District Red Squirrels Group, to purchase education materials</li> <li>(iii) That a donation of £350 be awarded to Bedlington Academy to provide a Christmas Lunches for OAP’s.</li> <li>(iv) A grant of £250 be awarded to Bedlington Brass Community Trust to develop a trainer band.</li> </ul>	Deputy Clerk to action
CO74/22	<p><b>POLICIES</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That;</b>  <b>The Parish Council approves the recommendations of the Staffing Committee and adopts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <b>Lone Working Policy</b></li> <li>(ii) <b>Whistleblowing Policy</b></li> <li>(iii) <b>Equality &amp; Diversity Policy</b></li> <li>(iv) <b>Performance Improvement Policy &amp; Procedure</b></li> <li>(v) <b>Grievance Procedure</b></li> <li>(vi) <b>Disciplinary procedure</b></li> <li>(vii) <b>Annual Leave Policy</b></li> <li>(viii) <b>Sickness &amp; Absence Policy</b></li> <li>(ix) <b>Anti-Harassment &amp; Bullying Policy</b></li> </ul>	

CO75/22	<p><b>CONCLUSION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT</b></p> <p>The outcome of the External Audit undertaken by PKF Littlejohn had been circulated to members and had been subject to the statutory period of public inspection. Members thanked the Deputy Clerk for her efforts in ensuring the Audit reached a successful and timely conclusion.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p><b>That;</b></p> <p>(i) The satisfactory outcome of the External Audit be noted.</p> <p>(ii) That the conditions of the period to enable the public examination of the accounts had been met.</p>	
CO76/22	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>Tuesday 10 January 2023 at 6.30pm</p>	
	<p>Meeting closed at 19:20</p>	

**Signed:** ..... **Chairman** **Date:** .....