



**Minutes of a meeting of East Bedlington Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 March 2023
at East Bedlington Community Centre**

PRESENT:

Councillor John Batey
Councillor Bill Crosby
Councillor Dawn Crosby
Councillor Keith Grimes (Chairman)
Councillor Paul Hedley
Councillor Keith Scantlebury
Councillor Jayne Todd
Councillor Grant Ward

In attendance: Ron Thornton – Clerk & Responsible Officer
Jenny Tindale – Deputy Clerk & Responsible Officer

		ACTION
	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>There were no matters raised during the public session.</p>	
CO91/22	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies were noted from Councillor Allan Stewart (illness), Councillor Helen Bradford (Work Commitments). Councillor Rebecca Wilczek – personal reasons.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Councillor Bradford due to her increased work commitments. He added Councillor Bradford had been a very valuable and hard-working member of the Council and had contributed effectively as the Chairperson of the Staffing Committee.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) That the apologies be accepted.</p> <p>(ii) The vacancy be duly advertised in line with statutory requirements</p>	Clerks
CO92/22	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10 January 2023 were circulated to the members.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That;</p> <p>The minutes be signed as a true record.</p>	

CO93/22	<p>Clerk & Officers Update A written report was submitted members. RESOLVED: That; (i) The Clerk & Officers update be noted.</p>	
CO94/22	<p>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</p> <p>There were no disclosures or requests.</p>	
CO95/22	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>A written report had been submitted to the meeting by the Neighbourhood Team in the absence of the Inspector. The team were unable to attend due to shift patterns. Members present felt that the statistical information alone, without context, was not really helpful and hoped that attendance of officers would resume in future meetings.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That; (i) The Police report be noted.</p>	
CO95/22	<p>NCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS</p> <p>There were no reports.</p>	
CO96/22	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted.</p>	
CO97/22	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>No Planning matters received by the Council</p>	
CO98/22	<p>FINANCE REPORT The Chairman presented a suite of reports including a schedule of Receipts & Payments; Bank Reconciliation; Budget and detailed income and expenditure.</p> <p>RESOLVED That the, (i) Schedule of receipts and payments be approved. (ii) Cleared balances of £ 239,969.94 as at 28 February 2023 be noted. (iii) Budget report, Detailed Income and Expenditure report and Detailed Balance Sheet be noted. (iv)</p>	

CO99/22	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <p>RESOLVED: That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The minutes of the Staffing Committee held 6 February 2023 be received. (ii) The minutes of the Planning & Economic Regeneration Working Group held 7 February 2023 be received. (iii) The minutes of the Events Working Group held 21 February 2023 be received. (iv) The minutes of the Services Working Group held 21 February 2023 be received. 	
CO100/22	<p>MATTERS FOR DECISION</p> <p>RESOLVED: Members resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The execution of delegated Authority to end the lease agreement with Sleekburn Farms in relation to 6 allotment plots at East Sleekburn be noted 	
CO101/22	<p>SMALL GRANTS & DONATIONS</p> <p>Members considered the recommendations of the Finance & General-Purpose Working Group.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A donation of £300 be made to the Blyth Wildlife Rescue 	Deputy Clerk to action
CO102/22	<p>BEDLINGTON INNOVATION TEAM</p> <p>The Chairman provided an update on the changes agreed by the Bedlington Borderlands Board. He reported on the projects submitted by the Parish Council and other is the Parish which had been included in the plan. In particular, the planned redevelopment of the Library buildings, the creation of a Heritage and Innovation Centre on the station platform refurbishing the existing buildings, and the development of indoor and all weather outdoor facilities for sport and leisure in Gallagher Park. Support had also been offered to Friends of Furnace Bank with a bid to create a team of Environmental Practitioners to address long-term and acute environmental needs.</p> <p>It was made clear to members that the Parish Project may well be funded from other sources that Borderlands and the Chairman reported that he had raised this point with the NCC officers. Councillors involved in the Borderlands process discussed the frustrations of lack of progress and hoped that the pace would pick up with projects identified.</p>	

	<p>The Chairman further reported that NCC had appointed a new Chairman David Fellows (representing TT Electronics) and that the board is now to be called the Bedlington Innovation Team.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That; That the report be noted.</p>	
CO103/22	<p>POLICIES</p> <p>RESOLVED: That; The Parish Council approves the recommendations of the Staffing Committee and adopts the Health & Safety and Wellbeing Policy</p>	
CO104/22	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Tuesday 2 May (Annual Parish Meeting) at 6.00pm Tuesday 2 May (Full Council Meeting) at 6.30pm</p>	
<p>EAST BEDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL Members were asked to consider under Standing Order 68, that in view of the special and confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and asked to withdraw.</p> <p>AGENDA PART 2</p>		
CO105/22	<p>EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC</p> <p>RESOLVED: Members resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, permitted under Part I (1) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) as the matter is confidential and relates to employees.</p>	
CO106/22	<p>STAFF SALARIES 2023-2024</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Members approved the recommendation of the Staffing Committee in relation to salary increments for 2023-2024 (as provided for within the 2023-2024 budget. (ii) Deputy Clerk 2 x SCP on successful completion of CILCA 1 x SCP in recognition of increased responsibility. New grade NALC SCP 33 (iii) Outdoor Services Officer 2 x SCP in recognition of successful completion of Inspector qualification. New grade NALC SCP 14. 	

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