

EAST BEDLINGTON

Parish Council



Minutes of the East Bedlington Parish Meeting, held on Tuesday 5 June 2018, at East Bedlington Community Centre.

Present:

Councillor Andy Allman
Councillor Steve Aynsley
Councillor John Batey
Councillor Allan Douglas
Councillor Keith Grimes
Councillor Paul Hedley
Councillor Allan Stewart
Councillor Mike Trimming
Councillor Alex Wallace

In attendance:

Ron Thornton (Clerk), Jenny Tindale (Assistant Clerk) County Councillor Bill Crosby, County Councillor Russ Wallace, and 5 members of the public.

Open Session

Keith Scantlebury thanked the council for supporting the Burnside Estate Residents trip to Flamingoland. 86 residents enjoyed the trip and he reported it was a great day for all. Councillor Graham (WBTC) referred to a comment made during the last meeting regarding his representation on Friends of Gallagher Park. Councillor Batey responding confirmed his misunderstanding and it was agreed that it be formally noted that Councillor Graham represents WBTC on the Gallagher Park Steering Group.

CO38/18

APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted from Councillors Lynda Mason and Jane Greensitt (work commitments).

RESOLVED:

That the apologies be accepted.

CO39/18

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 1st May 2018 and the Parish Council meeting of 1st May 2018 were presented.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 1 May be amended to record Councillor Wallace's statement that he was not seeking re-election and that he would abstain from voting so as not to influence the vote.**
- (ii) That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting then be signed as a true record.**
- (iii) That the minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 1st May be signed as a true record**

CO40/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Jakes Bar – The assistant clerk responded to a question from Councillor Batey. She confirmed that as there was no evidence of planned progress the NCC Enforcement Office would visit the site and report back on her findings.

CO41/18 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

The Assistant Clerk reminded Councillors to update any changed to their declarations of interest in particular membership of outside bodies.

There were no disclosures of interests or requests for dispensation.

CO42/18 POLICE REPORT

There was no report submitted

CO43/18 NCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Crosby gave a verbal report on his work in the parish. He advised that he was working with NCC officers to tackle the problem of fly-tipping in the Free Wood. He was exploring options to fence off some of the access points to prevent future incidents. He further reported that he was pleased to be able to support the Jennings Field project from his Councillors Small Schemes fund and to be able to offer support to enable pupils from Bedlington Academy to travel to Belgium. Councillor Crosby also reported that he had attended the Bedlington Terrier gathering which had been very well attended and it was hoped to bring the event to Gallagher Park in future years. Councillors thanked Councillor Crosby for his work and in particular for tackling the problems of fly-tipping in the Free Wood. Councillor Wallace also suggested that there was an opportunity to work in partnership with West Bedlington Town Council for the betterment of the Belingtonshire County Park.

Resolved:

- (i) That opportunities to work in partnership with West Bedlington Town Council with regards to improvements in the Bedlington County Park be explored.**
- (ii) That the NCC Councillor's report be noted.**

CO44/18 CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor Wallace referred to correspondence item 56 and asked that his thanks be noted to Councillor Gobin, Councillor Sanderson and NCC Officer Gribben for arranging a site visit to look at the poor quality of grass cutting. He referred to a quotation he had been given and asked that this be taken into consideration by the relevant working group.

RESOLVED:

That the correspondence be noted.

CO45/18 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported:

- Cambois Welfare – NCC Estates have advised that the building can only be for Charitable use and that NCC were minded to putting it up for auction
- Remondis – Invitation for individual consultation has been received – a recommendation to support Choppington Parish Council – i.e. call for public meeting was recommended.
- Bedlington Vipers – Parish Council funded football team to defend title at Filey. The team manager has reported that they won both Saturday and Sunday competitions and went unbeaten all week end. They have submitted their gratitude for the Council's support.
- Choppington Parish Council – confirmation has been received for funding towards Northumberland Live.
- National Pay award – 2% 2018 & 2% 2019 has been applied to staff salaries.
- Coastal Revival Fund – Correspondence from Ian Lavery MP has been received notifying parishes of the fund which is available to sustain coastal heritage sites – up to £50k
- Summer Play schemes – in place currently 2 sessions per week booked with Bad Apples with some provision from Groundwork North East
- 2 bins have been vandalised – they are now repaired with one being relocated to a more suitable location.
- Councillors Gobin / Crosby have both made contributions to capital schemes equivalent in value to Northumberland live commitments which is greatly appreciated
- Play facilities at Selbourne Terrace – work is to commence 1 July 2018
- Northumberland Live – No need for SAG – Meetings have taken place with the Police and Fire Brigade the Parish Council now has the Premises license in place
- Street Map –Thanks to the efforts of Councillors Hedley, Aynsley and Batey the mapping is complete and has gone to the printers – awaiting Proof
- Rospa inspections – to be carried out in June.
- Speed Indicator Devices – meeting arrange with Highways on 11 June to discuss suitable sites for Parish Council & Councillor Gobin contributions. Costs were awaited for the various power sources.

- Planters / Hanging baskets to be distributed week commencing 11/6/2018 – Tubs also to be planted up. The Clerk reported that he would be speaking to Blyth Star Enterprise with a view to arranging a maintenance and watering scheme.
- NCC have been requested to remove rubbish from Miners Wheel at Cambois
- Jennings Field – a final decision is expected around 22 June with a potential for commencement of works September 2018, subject to approval

RESOLVED

- (I) That the Chairman write to Bedlington Vipers and congratulate them on their success.**
- (II) That the Clerk's report be noted.**

CO46/18 SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENT VOUCHERS

It was reported that the receipt from Newcastle Building Society was a returned payment and not a receipt in respect of Northumberland Live.

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of receipts be approved.

CO47/18 INVOICE & PAYMENT VOUCHERS

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of expenditure be approved.

CO48/18 FINANCIAL POSITION

RESOLVED:

That the cleared balance of £256,951.93 as of 23 May18 be noted.

CO49/18 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

RESOLVED:

That the forecast financial position be noted.

CO50/18 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

RESOLVED:

That the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement be approved.

CO51/18 ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

Resolved:

That the 2017/18 Annual Accounts and Governance and Accountability Return be approved.

CO52/18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the applications be noted.**

- (ii) **That the Council have no objections to the applications.**

C053/18 WORKING GROUPS

Councillor Grimes presented a discussion paper which had been circulated to all members. He outlined his suggestions to improved working and reducing the workload of the Clerks. The proposal offered every member the opportunity to take part in each working group. Councillor Wallace commented on planning training and it was confirmed that all Councillors had undergone training.

RESOLVED:

- (i) **That the proposals for new working groups be accepted.**
(ii) **That the first Services Working Group be arranged week commencing 18 June.**

C054/18 OUTSIDE BODIES

Members received the report of the Town & Parish Council Liaison Working Group presented by Councillor Wallace.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

C055/18 MOVING OF STANDING ORDERS

The Chairman moved standing orders for a period of 30 minutes to complete the business.

C056/18 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the business which relates to the confidential staffing matters.

C057/18 STAFFING REPORT

Members considered the report of the Responsible Financial Officer and the staffing proposals contained therein.

Councillor Wallace sought clarity that the proposal for the additional hours suggested was only for work undertaken for the Community Centre, for the purpose of relieving Parish Officers of current workload. Councillors Trimming and Allman sought reassurance that the post holder had consented to the additional hours.

Councillor Allman left the meeting during the debate at 19:55.

A vote was taken on the proposals with 7 Councillors in favour and 1 abstention.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal put forward by the Responsible Financial Officer be approved.

C058/18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (i) Members discussed the invitation to take part in the Newcastle Airport Consultation.
- (ii) Members considered an invitation from the International Science & Innovation Directorate to register for GB Consortiums Free Aerial Photography free access

RESOLVED:

- (i) **That the Council would not take part in the Newcastle Airport Consultation**
- (ii) **That the Council would not take up the International Science & Innovation Directorate offer.**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 3 July 2018, 6:00pm, Bayard Room, East Bedlington Community Centre

Signed as a true record

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Chairman

Date:

DRAFT