

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Thursday 12 April 2018 at 6.00pm in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT:

Cllr Jane Dargue (Chair), Cllrs M Horn, H Lewis, J Watson, I Parks, I Hinson, T Hinton, K Morrison V Smith - Town Clerk, H Shepherd – Administrative Officer

For transparency purposes the Chair informed that the meeting was being recorded for administrative and transparency purposes.

Action

215. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

215.1 Cllrs C Weir and T Clark. The apologies were accepted.

216. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

216.1. Cllrs Parks, Lewis and Weir declared an interest in Allotments.

217. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

217.1 - 1 member of the public attended but did not wish to address the Council.

218. UPDATE FROM NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

218.1 Representatives of Northumbria Police attended the meeting to give an update since the last meeting. There has been a total of 28 crimes with a rise in scrap metal theft. Motor patrols will be having more of a presence on the A1068 to try to deter this. Northumbria Police requested the general public to call them if they noticed anything suspicious. Northumbria Police are looking to work more closely with AYP to address ASB and to get more engagement going. Northumbria Police are aware of some events that are upcoming including the Puffin Festival which they are keen to be part of. The issue regarding car vandalism was discussed and it is anticipated that this is linked to youth disorder and again they requested the public to report any behaviour.

A member of the team is about to go on maternity leave and interviews are taking place to replace this lost resource.

Discussion took place regarding CCTV. It was felt that additional training was needed as a matter of urgency for all police staff. Northumbria Police were made aware of the 24/7 maintenance contract. The Clerk to pass on these details. Further work is to be done on this. Northumbria Police to contact Alcom to arrange training at a time that is most beneficial for them.

Clerk

219. Jake Castleman – Amble Micropub Venture

Apologies submitted with a request to defer the item to the May meeting.

Clerk

220. Derek Gardner – Amble Youth Project Update

Derek Gardner was unable to attend and submitted the following report: The Friday evening youth drop-in returned to the project in late October 2017 staffed by a new member of staff from NCC (Derek Gardner) and the staff and volunteer team from the project.

The team worked on the re-engagement of the young people into the project and a programme of health-based initiatives.

The issues relating to sexual health were highlighted around December the 1st and the recognition of World Aids Day, encouraging the participants to take responsibility for their own sexual health. The session included work on artistic patches for a large-scale patchwork quilt which is being compiled by the “eyesopen” art project. The quilt will tour the North East of England late in 2018.

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

The alcohol awareness sessions were carried out in partnership with the Community Alcohol Partnership based in Alnwick who supplied the resources for the sessions. The attendances over the sixth month period have varied week to week, with the themed session combining with the educational and social elements associated with the Friday evenings.

The project celebrated success at the award ceremony for the High Sheriffs Award in late March with two young people receiving the award on behalf of the project held in Ashington.

Planning for the up-coming spring and summer programme is well under way with funding streams and links to other partners -NCC Youth Service and NE Youth to deliver an exciting and educational programme.

221. MINUTES:

221.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting of full council held 12 March 2018

The minutes from item 196 – 214.11 were accepted.

222. Minutes for extraordinary meeting of full council on 22 March 2018

The minutes from item 1 – 5.2 were accepted.

223. CLERK'S REPORT:

RECOMMENDATION – That the Council notes the contents of the report and consider actions were necessary.

223.1 The bad condition of Bisley Road temporary resurfacing has been reported to NCC. Cllr Watson confirmed that a full resurface is in the 18/19 budget. Bisley Road/West Avenue steps have also been reported and recommended for resurface.

223.2 Broomhill Street toilets – NCC have been asked to do a deep cleanse after complaints on social media regarding the cleanliness.

223.3 Coquet Churches Together have agreed that a Book of Condolence (for use in the event of death of a Senior National figure) can be available for the community in St. Cuthbert's Parish Church.

223.4 The Mayoral Chain has been delivered.

224. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

224.1: Chairman

Cllr Dargue attended a meeting with Cllr Wayne Daley, Cabinet member for Children's Services in order to address concerns relating to a review of former plans to look at refurbishment/upgrade for James Calvert Spence college and potential capacity issues that the school federation might have in the future. A meeting is scheduled with JCSC heads in April and will be discussing this there.

Cllr Dargue and others have attended a meeting with Active Northumberland asking how we could see more involvement from this organisation in Amble directly. Currently they are involved in our town Health walks and RAmblers - a town running club which is now just over a year old. As a town we have many recreational and sporting activities run by volunteers.

Other meetings have included meetings with the police regarding CCTV, WWI working party discussions, a meeting with Stephen Lunn concerning our proposed town sculpture and attending the Allotment society AGM.

224.2 Vice Chairman

Cllr Weir was not present at the meeting.

225. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

225.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark:

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

Cllr Clark was not present at the meeting

225.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

Cllr Watson confirmed that there has been a site visit arranged to discuss signal cottage on 16 April 2018. Cllr Watson will be in attendance alongside Cllrs Morrison and Horn. Cllr Watson cannot comment as he is a member of the NCC Planning Committee.

Cllr Watson also reported on the additional 200 homes that have been proposed for Acklington Road. It is Cllr Watsons intention to oppose these plans on the grounds of overdevelopment.

Cllr Watson is due to meet JCSC and will discuss possible plans and developments that may help them.

Cllr Dargue queried what role ATC has in respect of the Sustainable Transport Plan. It was clarified that the Council can make comments on the contents of the plan and a meeting is to be arranged with Martin Podevyn.

Little Shore Beach Huts - £1000 has been donated from Cheviot Homes to pay the rent for a beach hut for 1 year for the Amble Youth Project. Any other charities who might like to use it when it is free (for a minimum donation of a £5) are encouraged to contact Tracey Hinton at the Youth Project.

226. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES & REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AS PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS:

226.1: To receive the report of Councillors who represent ATC on outside bodies (Cllr Reports)

226.1 Cllr. Parks attended the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) meeting 24th March. The Civic Contingencies Manager gave a presentation on 'Operation Border Reiver' regarding the emergency services response and how emergency plans would be cascaded to Local Councils. Cllr. Parks again raised the issue of the New Homes Bonus but there is nothing further to report at the moment.

Further communication from Stephen Rickett about the Local Plan will be circulated to Cllrs.

226.2 Cllr Lewis confirmed that two meetings were held to discuss forthcoming events – minutes available for these on request from the Clerk. James Willoughby will contact Amble Development Trust for the Puffin Festival Programme. Jane Hardy will be swimming to Coquet Island as an opening event.

226.3 Cllr. Hinton reported that Park Leisure has donated some small kitchen equipment for the Amble Youth Project beach hut. Cllr Hinton is confident it will be very well used.

Cllr. Hinton had meeting with Northumbria Police last week about drug problems and ASB. Six more Friday night sessions will run from 20th April focusing on life skills, drink driving, alcohol awareness and alcohol awareness. PCSO's will drop in to the Youth Project on a more regular basis to help establish and maintain engagement.

There was a poor uptake for the Hi-Vis equipment/clothing that was offered free of charge as a project between the Youth Project and ATC. Cllr Hinton advised there are still a number of items available for anyone who needs some. Cllr Hinton is hoping to hold an event in the market place to promote Youth Project activities and to sign post users to what is available in Amble.

A Ladies Pamper Night, will be taking place on 24th April in the Bede Street Club. Tickets £4 with proceeds to Amble Youth Project.

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

227. FINANCIAL REPORT

227.1: Voucher payments 330 to 359 were approved. Voucher receipts 152 to 172 were accepted.

227.2: The bank reconciliation to date

All banks now reconcile. The majority of payments are now being made with BACS. One of the Santander accounts has now been closed and the other has had the balance transferred. There remains a small balance in this account and it will remain open for the time being. Due to the difficulties in closing these accounts for year end, Santander have sent a cheque of £100.00.

The CCLA account is now open and has had a balance of £100,000 transferred into this.

227.3 Year to Date figures

There is a small amount of recoding needed however the figures were accepted. Gillian Turner notified the meeting that as part of the new audit process, any authorities who have balances that are more than twice their precept, must explain why they are holding these monies.

227.4: Grant requests

- **Amble Army Cadets**

Cllr. Morrison declared an interest. It was agreed to donate a sum of £200.

Clerk

- **Citizens Advice Northumberland**

Cllr. Lewis would have liked further information about figures of beneficiaries, but it was approved to donate £500.00

Clerk

- **Northumberland Theatre Company**

The Clerk to contact NTC to make them aware that this is a one time a year donation option and to check how they want to proceed with the application.

Clerk

228. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

228.1: The minutes from the meeting held on 22nd March were approved.

229: PLANNING COMMITTEE

229.1: The Planning Report was noted.

230: AGENDA ITEMS:

230.1 To note the update on the War Memorial Restoration works

Works are ongoing and progressing well. As per the Grant Offer, Smart Water application will be applied to all metal elements. The Par 100 will be installed at the same time as the works. A planning application has been submitted to change the roof material to a more durable material.

Clerk

230.2 WW1 Event update – notes of meeting on 21 March

The notes were circulated in advance. Permission is currently being sought from NCC, WPC, Northumberland Estates and the Marina.

Ellington Colliery Band have agreed to play and will arrange a site visit to confirm the final itinerary and route.

Clerk

The Civic Head at NCC is to be invited to both the morning and evening events.

230.3 Sculpture update and agreement on wording - notes on meeting of 21 March

Moved to private.

230.4 Recommendation from North Local Area Committee for ATC to lead on the recent parking petition submitted to NCC

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

Minutes noted. The Local Area Committee agreed that this should be revisited and agreed that parking plans should be decided by Amble Town Council.

Councillors voted on whether or not to retain the current 1-hour parking arrangement for the whole of Queen Street. For x6 Against x1 Abstained x1

Clerk

230.5 Approval for office staff to attend NALC Training

A training request for office staff was agreed at a cost of £10 per course.

230.6 Philip Drive Play Area ROSPA Report

It was delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair of Amenities alongside the Clerk to remedy the immediate recommendations and bring back any issues that require further discussion.

Clerk

230.7 Paddlers Park Play Area ROSPA Report

It was delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair of Amenities alongside the Clerk to remedy the immediate recommendations and bring back any issues that require further discussion.

Clerk

230.8 To note the Interact Meeting notes 27 March 2018

Meeting notes observed.

Clerk

Cllr. Dargue suggested 'plastic pick' is promoted amongst community groups and social media. Cllr. Lewis reminded members that ATC do have litter pick sticks available for use.

230.9 To note the contents and approve the CCTV Policy

The CCTV policy was circulated in advance for comments. The policy has been sent to Northumbria Police for comment. The Clerk to ascertain further information regarding the registration of the CCTV system with the Information Commissioners Office. The policy was approved subject to comments from Northumbria Police.

Clerk

230.10 News page approval

Cllr. Dargue thanked Cllr. Lewis for writing the report.

HL

Cllr. Lewis to make amendments to the report following the decision on parking.

The Parish Meeting date to be included.

230.11 To note the contents of the meeting with Active Northumberland

Notes observed.

Clerk

It was agreed that a Steering Group is to be set up. Cllrs Dargue and Cllrs Morrison volunteered to represent ATC and further invitees will be decided in due course. The next meeting with Active Northumberland is arranged for 2 May 2018.

230.12 Data Protection Implications for ATC

The Clerk is waiting for further guidance and info from NALC re Clerk and role of Data Protection Officer. The Clerk is carrying out an assessment of the data the Council holds. The Council will need to amend all comms to include appropriate privacy notices and other recommended practises. This work is ongoing.

Clerk

230.13 To agree the date of Parish Meeting and the AGM

Dates agreed as:

Parish Meeting Tuesday 8th May, 6 p.m.

Clerk

AGM and Full Town Council Thursday 10th May, 6 p.m.

Invitations for Parish Meeting to be circulated by Clerk asap.

230.14 To note the contents of the CCTV meeting with Northumbria Police

The meeting was noted.

231. COMMUNICATIONS:

231.1 To note to contents of the January/February Neighbourhood Planning Newsletter

Noted.

Clerk

Neighbourhood Planning to be included on the agenda in the next meeting.

231.2 To agree to renew membership of Marine Conservation Society

Item moved to AGM

Clerk

Clerk

231.3 To agree to renew member of Clerks & Councils Direct

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

Item moved to AGM

231.4 Coquet Estuary Vision – Steve Lowe – *attached*

Noted

231.5 Letter of thanks from Alnwick Playhouse and Arts Centre – *attached*

Noted

Clerk

231.6 Letter from Mark Kane, NCC, re CCTV charges – *attached*

The CCTV letter from Mark Kane at NCC was noted. A response is to be drafted as appropriate.

231.7 Cleansing of War Memorial Steps

ADT had suggested that the current volunteer could possibly undertake the work with a power washer. It was agreed to not proceed with this as it was felt that the power of the washer can sometimes cause more damage to the cement / mortar.

Clerk

Cllrs discussed if mesh could be put up to prevent birds nesting on the window ledges of the war memorial. Clerk to look into this further and ascertain if permission is needed from the WMT.

Clerk

231.8 To note NCC Town and Parish Council HR/OD Services – *attached*

Noted.

231.9 Northumberland Local Plan Spring Consultation survey

Noted

Clerk

231.10 To agree to renew membership to ICCM

This item was moved to the AGM

231.11 To note the introduction letter from Smailes Construction

Noted

232. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

RECOMMENDATION - That the Council note the information items.

232.1 Notes on Neighbourhood Planning half day session

Accepted.

232.2 Cemetery Double Charging

Accepted. The Clerk to be aware of this sum in the accounts.

232.3 Deployable Cameras

Clerk to confirm what the procedure is and what the cost is of total installation, how they are installed and where are they charged from.

Clerk

233. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

211.1 The next Meeting will be on THURSDAY 10TH MAY at. 6.00pm. starting with the AGM in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace.

The meeting ended at 7.30pm.

It was resolved that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public will be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda due to their sensitive nature.

- Information relating to financial or business affairs i.e. contractual
- Information relating to any consultations or negotiations i.e. employee relations

PUBLIC VERSION OF PRIVATE

234: MINUTES –

234.1: Town Council meeting held 8 March 2018

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

Chair recommended approval. Approval agreed

235. Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council held on 22 March 2018

Chair recommended approval. Approval agreed

236. PRIVATE REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES & REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AS PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

236.1 Cllr Weir – ADT 21st March

Nothing to report

236.2 Cllr Weir – CCT 14th March

Clerk to circulate the notes.

237. AGENDA ITEMS

237.1 To consider the future of the raised bed area

The use of the raised beds areas has not been utilised to its full potential. There was some concern that the area could fall into disrepair again. It was agreed that regretfully, this area is to be included into the land sale agreement.

237.2 Update on potential land sale

Another meeting was held with Rocstone. Discussion again took place around the types of houses that Amble needs, in that its small starter homes rather than large family homes. As the agreement has not been made yet there is no plans available to view. In terms of the cost of the land, a sale price was agreed. As a gesture of goodwill, Rocstone agreed to allow a grant option. The Council has instructed the solicitor to serve notice on the current tenancy – the Clerk to chase up.

237.3 To agree the rental costs for 2018/19

A 2.5% increase was agreed. The Clerk to action.

237.4 To consider the update on proposed accommodation changes

Nothing to update at this stage.

237.5 To note the update of the meeting with Cllr Wayne Daley

Cllr Watson is to take this issue forward with Cllr Daley. ATC are meeting JCSC on 23rd April 2018.

237.6 Staffing Review

In order to maintain the work balance within the office it was proposed to increase the role and salary accordingly of the Administrative Assistant. There is no further expenditure required other than what has previously been agreed for staffing. The staffing review was agreed. Clerk to action.

It was also agreed to extend the consultant contact for a further one month.

237.7 Memorial Sculpture update

NCC has advised that a planning application should be made. Cllr Lewis suggested that we should also apply for conservation area approval at the same time.

Cllr. Watson to look further into this to clarify if a planning application is necessary. Clerk to forward email correspondence.

Final costings are to be ascertained asap.

Clerk to contact artist to look at ways of reducing the cost e.g. less doves and metal rather than brass and to make him aware of the Councils budget.

Cllrs suggested involving the public in deciding on the wording and at the same time, inviting members of the public to make donations/provide sponsorship. An information board about the Clock Tower renovation, Radcliffe Memorial and new memorial could be erected.

237.8 Book of Condolence

HS advised of the costs given by the recommended stationer to produce the Book of Condolence. Cllr Parks may be able to source this elsewhere at a reduced price.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

JW

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – April 2018

Clerk to ask surrounding parishes e.g. Warkworth, Hauxley if they would like to be involved and contribute to the book costs.

Clerk

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairs Signature.....