

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 2018

The Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 8 November 2018 at 6.00pm in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT:

Cllrs Craig Weir, (Chair), Cllrs H Lewis, M Horn, I Hinson, I Parks, K Morrison, T Hinton, J Watson
V Smith - Town Clerk,

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

Prior to the meeting, the Town Council invited Ian Hinson to be presented with his card and gift in honour of his 42 years of service to the local community. A massive achievement.

162. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies. In the absence of a reporter from local press it was agreed to send expanded items from the minutes to formulate a press release.

163. STATUTORY DUTIES

163.1 Cllr Ian Hinson's resignation was accepted by the Council.

A notice of vacancy has been advertised. Permission was sought and granted to begin the co-option procedure if and when notification is received from NCC. It was delegated to Chair and Clerk to commence the co-option procedure out of meeting.

Clerk

164. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are requested to advise Council of any Declarations of Interest appertaining to the following Agenda Items:

164.1 Cllrs Parks, Lewis and Weir declared an interest in Allotments. Cllr Dargue declared an interest in the Grant Application and would not take part in the vote.

165. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

There was one member of the public present. There were no questions asked.

166. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

166.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018
Item numbers 143 – 161.1 were approved as a true record.

167. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

167.1 The Clerk attended meetings with The Amble Inn, The Home Group, Parking, CCT, NCC, Hay and Kilner, JCSC, G F White and finance with Gillian Turner. Notes are available for members if required. The peace sculpture has been erected this week and has made the front page of the Northumberland Gazette. A lot of time has been spent on finalising Remembrance Day events, producing risk assessments and event manuals. A request for letter of support was received from Amble East End Juniors. Members have been circulated a copy of the response.

168. CHAIRMANS COMMUNICATION and REPORT

168.1. Chairman's Report

The Chair attended all meetings alongside the Clerk as well as being involved in the Great

Chairs Signature.....

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British High Street visit which went well. The Chair also presented Cllr Hinson with his retirement gift.

168.2. Vice Chairman Report

The Vice Chair attended all meetings alongside the Chair and Clerk as well as meetings at the West Cemetery.

169. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

169.1 To receive a report from County Councillor Clark:

The internal and external décor of the Amble Inn has been decided.

The Change of Use for the TIC had been approved.

The A1068 borehole survey results concluded that it was the responsibility of the Coal Authority who have also agreed to pay £65,000 for repairs. Repairs are expected to be carried out in February 2019.

It was queried whether or not bonfires were legal on the Lord Mayor's Field as complaints had also been received from residents of Wellwood Street about fires on the grass nearby their area. It was understood that the bonfire on the Lord Mayor's field was looked after but that nevertheless, these bonfires are illegal and a health and safety risk.

The new signage on the East Cemetery to state assistance dogs only was noted and queried – it was reported that dogs are not allowed in cemeteries.

169.2. To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

The Amble Inn will not open until January 2019.

The CCTV on Acklington Road is now up and running and additional CCTV covering the welfare is being put in place this week.

The LTP advance proposals include dropped curbs and traffic calming measures on Percy Drive, as well as a safe crossing for children. Also Radcliffe traffic calming measures and Morwick Road. There is also the possibility of having a Zebra crossing outside Warkworth First School. These will be confirmed at a later date if they are going ahead.

A new machine has been purchased to clean footpaths. It was reported that Queen Street should have been cleaned last week with another clean arranged for Spring 2019. The Parking Group had requested that the mini sweeper continues to sweep paths once it is back in operation.

It was accepted that pigeons and moss will always be a problem as long as building owners fail to do something about it.

The sculpture trail and other ADT projects had made the CCT shortlist.

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

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

Cllr Weir attended the CAN AGM. Lord Curry is the Chair, Duke of Northumberland as Patron.

The Council has received notification of two film crews who would like to film in Amble over the next week and has sign posted them to the relevant organisations. One is part of a research project and the other is Fantasy Homes by the Sea,

The email from NALC re confidentiality of minutes was previously circulated for information and Cllr Weir reported on the contents of the email from Anne Marie Trevelyan this month.

The next ADT meeting is 21 December 2018.

A meeting of the Events Committee is taking place tomorrow. Members were asked to think about who they would like to sit on the committee as Cllr Lewis has decided to resign from the Committee.

It was reported that the Northumberland Prison Memorial was finished and was very good

171. FINANCIAL REPORT:

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171.1 To consider voucher numbers for payment 220 - 266 and receipt vouchers 102 - 122
Payments and Receipts were accepted.

The next budget meeting with Gillian Turner is to take place on 30 November at 5pm. All welcome to attend.

171.2. Bank Reconciliation

The reconciliation was accepted. The Clerk to arrange the closure and transfer of balance from the remaining Santander account.

171.3. YTD figures

The year to date figures were noted. Some figures had since been amended following the meeting with Gillian Turner.

Gillian Turner queried whether it was legal to have two set budgets in light of the Council Tax Base results that will be known later in the month. It was confirmed that it was legal to have two clearly defined agreed budgets to choose from depending on the outcome of the Council Tax Support Scheme report.

Clerk

171.4. Grant requests

Northumberland Pride.

After some discussion it was agreed that this did not meet the requirements for capital projects and should be deferred to the next meeting. The Clerk to contact Northumberland Pride and request further information on itemised products.

Clerk

171.5 Future Projects for Budget Planning

Additional items raised at the meeting to consider were:

River Coquet Salt Flats / Water Purity

Peace and Sensory Garden – A few locations have been highlighted and budget would need to be accumulated for it over a number of years – possibility it could mark the end of WW2.

Cycle ways / footpaths – including supporting the link from the retail park to the town centre.

172. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

The next meeting takes place on 29 November 2018 and there will be no site visit.

173: PLANNING COMMITTEE

173.1 Planning Outcomes for October 2018

The planning outcomes were noted.

173.2 The letter to NCC Enforcement Officer Abbie Nendick regarding the Gloster Hill development was noted.

It was queried about the steps on the Little Shore in front of the old RNLI. These are private and the intention is not known.

The application at North Street was refused.

The Chair of Planning Committee pleaded with members to respond to planning applications, even if to state no comment. The comments need to have at least three comments in order to be quorate.

174. AGENDA ITEMS:

174.1 Remembrance Weekend Arrangements

The arrangements for the weekend were reported. Cllr Lewis also sought retrospective approval to hang "Lest We Forget" flags on the gates at the West Cemetery. This was approved.

174.2 Notice of Councillor Vacancy in West Ward

Discussed earlier in the agenda.

174.3 Litterbugs update

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Litterbugs is doing a lot of work that is being widely recognised. They are joining with other organisations to tackle other issues such as litter, plastics and education. A meeting has been arranged for 7 December at 9.30am and a venue has been requested. Cllr Weir proposed that ATC cover the costs of room hire. It was suggested to try NTC first and a sum of up to £60 was approved for room hire if needed. 42 people attended the last litter pick. There was a concern that hosting meetings on a week day limits the attendance of those who would like to be involved.

174.4 Consultation on the naming of the Retail Park

After some discussion members agreed they were happy to suggest the name Oyster Park.

174.5 Consultation on street naming and numbering of development at former St Cuthberts RC First School

Members had no objection to the name Roseate View.

174.6 To formulate a response to the Borderlands Growth Initiative call for ideas

Members to respond individually if any ideas were forthcoming.

174.7 Newspaper Approval

The newspaper was approved.

174.8 Bailiffgate Museum – Database

Cllr Lewis received a request to release information from In Memory of the Fallen which would help to populate a database at Bailiffgate Museum. The database will be integrated with the County archives and will be accessed by the British Library. It was agreed that there was no issue with this but ATC would like to see the anomalies corrected and reserve the right to add the info to the ATC website in future. ATC to request that the appropriate acknowledgments are also displayed.

175. COMMUNICATIONS:

175.1 Age UK – Letter of thanks

Noted

175.2 CAN Donation letter of thanks

Noted

175.3 Funeral Directors online request

Noted. ATC are unable to do this as it could be seen to favour particular businesses.

175.4 Email from Ann Burke re article in Northumberland Gazette re pavements.

Noted

175.5 Letter from NCC re Council Tax Base 2019-2020

NCC are proposing to reduce the amount of Council Tax Support available. This will have implications for Amble residents and will affect the precept request. ATC to monitor the outcome and amend the budget as appropriate.

175.6 Communication re site of Holywell Garages

ATC do not wish to obtain ownership of this area and suggest approaching residents.

175.7 Parish Precept Request 2019/2020 – deadline 25 January 2018

Noted

175.8 Letter to NCC re Town Centre Car Park

Noted – Clerk to circulate the letter which was sent

175.9 Letter from Glen Sanderson re Car Parking Solution in Amble

Noted. ATC would like some assurances that action is progressing and land is being purchased.

175.10 RBL Invitation for Mayor and Guest – 28 November 2018

Cllr Weir will attend

175.11 Invite to “Push the Boat Out” 19 November 2018

Cllr Weir is unable to attend

175.12 December 2018 – Carol Service

Cllr Weir is unable to attend

175.13 Chairs Reception – 7 December 2018

The reception will be held at Radcliffe Club from 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Invites will be sent next week.

Chair

Clerk

Clerk

All

Vice Chair

Chairs Signature.....

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Raffle will be in aid of The Puffin Lounge and Dry Water Dementia Centre. Raffle Prizes are needed.

Apologies from Cllr Dargue and Cllr Watson

175.14 Complaint regarding Woodbine Street

NCC has asked if ATC will take responsibility for the unadopted rear access. ATC have declined as there are many areas like this in the town and a precedent cannot be set.

Clerk

176. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

RECOMMENDATION - That the Council note the information items.

176.1 NALC Enews

Noted

176.2 Notes of the meeting with Colleagues from The Amble Inn

Noted

176.3 Minutes of the Parking and Traffic Flow Group 17 October 2018

Noted

176.4 Minutes of the meeting with GF White and The Home Group

Noted

176.5 Letter to NCC re S106 monies from planning application 18/01529/OUT

Noted

177. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Meeting is to be scheduled to take place on 13 December 2018.

Apologies from Clerk. Helen Shepherd will be covering minutes.

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.

PUBLIC VERSION OF PRIVATE

178: MINUTES –

178.1: To approve the Town Council minutes 13 September 2018 items 158.1– 161.1

Approved

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

Notes of JCSC – Clerk to circulate

180. AGENDA ITEMS

180.1 Feedback and notes from meeting with Hay and Kilner

The Chair, Clerk and Vice Chair are to continue negotiations with legal bodies to resolve the issues. A cap on legal fees was set at £4000. A land agent from GF White has been hired to assist in the process.

180.2 Office Maintenance and Repair

There is some disagreement regarding responsibility and liability for the payment of repairs. The Clerk to obtain quotes and raise the issue with ADT.

180.3 Honorary Freeman Proposal

Cllr Lewis proposed two individuals as Freeman under the Council's policy. A vote was called and by a vote of 5 to 3 it was agreed to proceed and order two scrolls. These will be presented at the Chairs Xmas reception.

Clerk
Chair
Vice Chair

Clerk

The meeting ended at 8.20pm

ACRONYMS

Chairs Signature.....

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- NCC – NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL**
- CCT – COASTAL COMMUNITIES TEAM**
- CAN – COMMUNITY ACTION NORTHUMBERLAND**
- ATC – AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL**
- ADT – AMBLE DEVELOPMENT TRUST**
- PTA – PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Chairs Signature.....