

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2014

At the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 10th July 2014 in the Town Council Meeting Room, The Quayside, Harbour Road, Amble.

PRESENT: Cllrs C Weir(Chair), R Arckless, J Dargue, H Lewis, K Morrison and J Watson
Due to the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Mrs Lewis was proposed by Cllr Watson, seconded by Cllr Dargue and agreed as Acting unpaid Clerk for the meeting.
J Willoughby – Northumberland Gazette.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Hinson- Illness, Cllr Robinson - Illness, Cllr Mrs Bennett- Family Commitments. The apologies were agreed.

Actions

36. ACCEPTANCE OF DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllrs Miss Morrison declared interests in the Financial Report TC0407 & TC0408 & Mrs Lewis in the Financial Report TC0409 & TC0410

37. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

No questions

38. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

38.1: The minutes of the meeting held 12th June 2014(pages 6-8) were confirmed as a true record.

39. CLERK'S REPORT:

Council noted the contents of the report

- 39.1: Contacted First Schools re: Local Democracy
- 39.2: Met with Locality Officer
- 39.3: Chair met with Terry Luck re: Traffic Update
- 39.4: Newsletter & Draft Accounts sent to Ambler
- 39.5: Shortlist of Gardens 2013 sent to Councillors
- 39.6: Nomination sent to Love Northumberland Awards
- 39.7: Confirmation of booking of Royal Fusiliers Regimental Band for 2nd August
- 39.8: Met with representative of Regimental Band to discuss WW1 event
- 39.9: Met with Brambles to discuss WW1 Event
- 39.10: Contacted Deputy Lord Lieutenant re: WW1 Event
- 39.11: Posted prize to Puffin Town Trail winner
- 39.12: Completed and sent certificates/ letters of thanks re: Puffin Festival
- 39.13: Invitations sent for WW1 Event and Poppy Posies
- 39.14: Contacted caterer re: WW1 Event reception
- 39.15: Contacted Church re: hall and layout etc. for WW1 Event
- 39.16: Meeting held with representatives involved in WW1 Event services
- 39.17: Prizes awarded at First Schools re: puffin festival drawings
- 39.18: Meeting held with Co-operative Funeral Care re: WW1 Event

40. AGENDA ITEMS FROM CLERK'S REPORT inc.:

40.1: Meeting with Locality Officer

A report of the meeting had been circulated and is attached. Members were pleased to note a new sweeping schedule to be introduced and the trial of the small sweeper-Queen Street, Leazes Street, Kerbsides, Bus Shelters would be concentrated on. Members looked forward to a meeting with NCC officers to progress the Paddlers area. It was confirmed that Hallbank Well had passed from Amble Urban Council to Alnwick District and thence Northumberland County Council. Members asked that at the next meeting clarification of Amble's position re: North or South East area be sought- it would appear this differs dependent on the policy being discussed.

40.2: Meeting re: Traffic Update & Park & Ride Scheme

The Officer's report and Cllr Weir's notes were accepted. The lack of cohesion was commented on; Members were pleased to note a joint meeting of all parties would be arranged soon. The suggestions for new TROs would be implemented in 7 weeks- this was seen as the first phase towards solutions for Amble's traffic problems. The town council, whose concerns were for the town as a whole, would continue to lead the dialogue and push for a clear strategy especially for the long term. The harbour area still remained a concern mostly at weekends but also with the new Harbour

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Village concept. It was RESOLVED NCC be requested to continue the TRO to encompass either side of the Car Park in Leazes Street in the interests of safety; however this was not to delay the present process if already begun. Officers need to be aware that the Benchmarking analysis was only representative of Amble during the week and not at weekends. Disc parking would be discussed also.

The trial of the Park & Ride would commence on Saturday; NCC would handle signage and publicity.

It was noted the new sign on the Braid re: footpath to the town should be repositioned to show the shortest route- NCC would be informed

Clerk

40.3: Reminder: Garden Award Night- 25th July 6.30pm Trinity Methodist Church Award Design- Members APPROVED the design for the Awards. There would be future discussions on expanding to include a Business award and a 'Secret Garden' award.

41. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

To receive the communications and report of the Chairman pertaining to Council Business:

41.1: The Chair had been delighted to attend the Young Citizens Award- it was encouraging to see and hear about their attributes, their good attitude to life and their thought for others.

42. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

To receive a report from County Councillor Arckless: A written report is attached

To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

The vandalism damage at Robson's Way had been dealt with.

The Yacht Club would be approached by Councillor Watson to see if the refurbished toilets on the Braid could be utilised by the public.

Cllr Watson

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

To receive the report of Councillors who represent ATC on outside bodies

43.1: The 2020 meeting would be reported in private due to commercial sensitivities.

43.2: Cllr Dargue did not attend LMAPS due to holidays but would report back when the minutes were received.

43.3: There had been a meeting with the Chair of the Business Club regarding future joint efforts for events in the town.

44. AGENDA ITEMS:

44.1: Update on WW1 Event and to consider future WW1 events up to 2018.

Plans were progressing well. A sample 'banner' produced by JCSC was shown and much admired. Cllr Arckless would enquire regarding the road closure costs.

It was RESOLVED that if possible there would be events held in each of the Commemorative years: the suggestions were that in 1915 Amble would host a WW1 entertainment; 1916- an exhibition from the Services/ Organisations who played vital roles during WW1; 1917- a wartime meal; 1918- a celebration of the end of the war. It was RESOLVED that the cost of a Fireworks display for 1918 and the other options would be investigated.

44.2: NALC Meeting & Consideration of Draft Document- Circulated to Members- Comments to Cllr Weir.

Clerk

45. FINANCIAL REPORT:

45.1: To consider the accounts for payment:

The Financial Report was accepted and the payments AGREED. The Clerk would update and balance on her return and include a report on any further information in August's report.

Clerk

45.2: Accounts sent to External Auditor- no response as yet

45.3: Internal Auditors Report- Comments were noted

45.4: Meeting held with surveyor re: insurance assessment of buildings- noted

45.5: Online demonstration of Financial Software programme- the Clerk felt this

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should be deferred until a future time.

45.6: Bus Shelters Acklington Road: Confirmation of the contribution to a new Bus Shelter was received. JCSC would be asked to investigate further a mural by the students inside the established bus shelter.

45.7: Grant request: Amble Rangers. The grant was AGREED.

45.8: Grant request: Choysez. The grant was REFUSED as Members wished to continue to support the local evening activities for youngsters already provided in the town.

45.9: Grant request: Amble Darts Open. A donation of £50 was AGREED.

REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

No meeting held in June: next meeting 31st July at 6.30pm preceded by a site visit to the East Cemetery

46: REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE

46.1: To receive the Planning Report to date- Received

46.2: Enquiry re: Change of Use- Circa/ Boy's Club. Circa- retrospective application made/Boy's Club- Enforcement Officer investigating

46.3: Enquiry re: Opening hours- Sea Salt Cafe. Licence applied for until 10p.m. Council reminded NCC this was very close to residential property and urged it be only a table licence.

47. COMMUNICATIONS:

47.1: NCC: Local Transport Plan Programme 2015-16

The 3 priorities were RESOLVED as

- 1) A safer mode of crossing Percy Street near the chemist
- 2) Warning signs in Woodbine Street of the crossing in Albert Street
- 3) Dropped kerbs in various locations in the town

Clerk

47.2: Parish & Town Council Training for New Councillors & Refresher Course for Existing Cllrs.

Councillors would contact the Clerk if they wished to book a place

Cllrs

47.3: Invitation to Chair for Service of Commemoration to mark the Outbreak of WW1

Chair was delighted to accept

47.4: Letter from Amble Marina re: Street Cleansing

The letter would be acknowledged and it was RESOLVED to forward this letter to NCC for comment.

Members were concerned to learn of broken glass and blood left in the area.

Clerk

47.5: Response re: Benchmarking Report

Members were disappointed at the response to the concerns regarding this and still felt it did not give a true reflection of the town.

47.6: Tesco Update

Members were pleased to note some progress but requested an update on the planning application for the store. It would be suggested that if the ground was flattened it might be possible to use it as a temporary parking area.

47.7: Northumberland Town & Parish Council Parish Conference

Noted

47.8: C.V. from Resident

Noted and kept on file

47.9: Town Planter responsibility

Noted

47.10: Local Government Pension Scheme

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Noted and circulated for future reference

47.11: Parish Cluster Meetings

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs Dargue would attend.

48. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

The items were accepted

48.1: Clerk & Councils Direct July 2014

48.2: Campaign to Protect Rural England Newsletter Summer 2014

48.3: Marine Conservation Summer 2014

48.4: Coastal Views: AONB Newsletter

48.5: SLCC: The Clerk Magazine

49. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

49:1 The next Meeting will be on **Thursday 14 August 2014 at approx. 6.30pm.** in the Town Council Meeting Room, The Quayside, Amble

Under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda due to their sensitive nature.

PUBLIC PRIVATE

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

50.1: The minutes of the meeting held 12th June 2014 (page 9) were accepted as a true record

51: Staff Absence

A letter would be sent to invite the employee to a meeting to discuss the long term absence.

52: Update on land at High Street

An amended plan had been received. The Clerk would contact the Solicitor and request the necessary forms to complete the work.

Clerk

53: Correspondence re: 'Years to Remember' production

The details were noted and it was RESOLVED to investigate other options.

54: Land at Robson's Way- response

The information was noted and an update would be requested.

55: WW1: Consideration of Commemorative Gift

It was RESOLVED to order this

Consideration of Weed Killing in Memorial Gardens

It was RESOLVED to have this work done with a portion of the square.

Consideration of a Website dedicated to 'In Memory of The Fallen'

It was RESOLVED to set this up from the project with Council paying the ongoing costs for the commemoration years, after which it would be reviewed.

Consideration of Commemorative Cake

It was RESOLVED to order this for the service reception.

56: Amble 2020

A report was given regarding the type of activity, employment and training which would be available.

Some remodelling of existing premises would need to take place. Newcastle University were involved.

The meeting closed at 9.42pm