

# AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2016

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 6.00pm in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

## PRESENT:

Cllrs J Dargue (Chair) R Arckless, M Horn, H Lewis, K Morrison, J Watson with E Brown, Town Clerk

J Willoughby, Journalist

3 x Members of the Public

Action

## 87. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Weir who was on holiday. The apologies were agreed.

## 88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Watson declared a personal interest as his wife was standing for co-option. Advice had been sought from the Chief Officer of Northumberland Association of Local Council's by the Clerk and it had been clarified that whilst an interest should be declared; Cllr Watson should still be able to participate in the voting.

## 89. BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE

**89.1: West Ward vacancy** – To consider candidates for co-option.

- Mr Terence Barton
- Mr Peter Sample
- Mrs June Watson

Each candidate addressed the Council in person detailing their time spent locally, careers and areas of interest. Members voted in a secret ballot and the results were a tie with 2 votes for each candidate. The Chair then used her casting vote and it was announced that Mr Barton would be co-opted. The Clerk would make arrangements to meet with Mr Barton regarding the signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Clerk

## 90. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

**Mrs Watson – NE65 0GA** questioned the future of adult learning and the Dovecote Centre which was well used and well supported.

Cllr Arckless explained that funding pressures have meant that adult learning has been withdrawn from the building and will be located elsewhere locally.

The Town Council via Cllr Arckless hoped to commence talks with the Diocese and NCC regarding the future of the building and the possibility of it continuing to be a Community building.

Arckless

## 91. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

**91.1: The minutes of the meeting held 11th August 2016** were accepted as a true record and adopted.

## 92. CLERK'S REPORT:

The Council noted the contents of the report and consider actions were necessary.

**92.1: Notes of Parking and Traffic Flow meeting held 17th August 2016** – The notes of meeting were circulated.

**92.2: Amble signage audit** – No update.

**92.3: Repairs to war memorial** – The Clerk updated that she had requested quotes from Roofers, plumbers, builders and stone masons with a deadline of 25<sup>th</sup> September. The Clerk was also liaising with War Memorials Trust.

**92.4: Information boards; proof of artwork received** – the proof paperwork was to be returned with suggested amendments.

Chairs Signature.....

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**92.5: Update on status of The Gut** – No update had been received.

**92.6: Cllr Arckless – update on Dovecote centre costings** – This item was covered in the public session.

**92.7: North Area Review of Supported Bus Services** – Cllr Lewis informed that concern had been brought to her by a resident that the 472 now starts and finished at Fourways and the X20 route is not mentioned which leads to concerns that the Links Estate route has been discontinued. Cllr Arckless informed that Kirsten Francis of NCC transport confirmed that the 472 was still a supported service. The Clerk would clarify the route and timetables

Clerk

**92.8: NCC – Local Transport Plan Priorities** – The priorities had been submitted as agreed.

**92.9: Proposal regarding moving speed camera van** – The Clerk was still to send this letter.

Clerk

**92.10: Devolution event** – The Cost of the event was extremely restrictive to smaller Councils, therefore Cllr Dargue would not be attending.

**92.11: Audio recording equipment** – Quotes would be brought back to the meeting.

Clerk

### 93. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

**93.1: Cllr Dargue circulated her report:** *Early in August I had a town-walk about with Cllrs, and police looking at potential provision for CCTV. This is something we are looking at as a Town Council but are in the preliminary stages. I will be following this up with a walk-about and discussions relating to siting, costings and service provision of CCTV with other specialist companies in the near future.*

*Last minute work commitments prevented me from attending what I believe to have been a very productive first Cycle Friendly Amble meeting. Cllrs Kate Morison chaired this with Craig Weir also in attendance. We are linking this initiative with Walking related issues also. The meeting included a number of cycling specialists such as Tracy Sample, Mark Breeze and Iain Rochester from Pedal Power. Provision for cycle lockers, cycle shelters were considered. Also members of the Business community such as Ann Burke and Nick Spur who are helping to progress this initiative. Ann will ask the Business Club to look at ways in which Businesses might help to encourage walkers and cyclists into the town and Nick has plans to open a Bunkhouse that would provide en-route accommodation for walkers and cyclists. Signage is something that needs to be looked at primarily both for walkers and cyclists and I am meeting Martin Podevyn from Sustrans next week for a walk about town to discuss this.*

*Finally a brief note to say that as plans for the new hotel on the Industrial site progress this is something that we greatly welcome and I hope that the public consultation on the 21st is well attended and provides a useful forum for the public to discuss plans in more detail with ARCH.*

### 94. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

**94.1: County Councillor Arckless'** report was circulated and is available upon request.

**94.2: County Councillor Watson** informed that following the travellers camping on the Braid during the summer, he was querying the potential restriction of access onto the grassland. Cllr Watson was also querying the flashing speed limit signs that had been purchased some time ago for his area, he was chasing up with an executive member what had become of them.

He also noted how pleased he was at plans for a hotel and other development at Coquet Enterprise Park.

### 95. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES &

Chairs Signature.....

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### REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AS PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS: To receive the report of Councillors who represent ATC on outside bodies (Cllr Reports)

Cllr Lewis – Town and Parish Liaison Working Group – The notes had been circulated and were available upon request.

Cllr Morrison – Amble Youth Project – The notes had been circulated and were available upon request.

Cllr Morrison – Cycle Friendly Amble - The notes had been circulated and were available upon request.

Cllr Lewis Events Committee meeting notes - The notes had been circulated and were available upon request.

### 96. FINANCIAL REPORT:

**96.1: To consider voucher numbers 134- - for payment and note receipts 43- for information (Finance)** The payments for the month were agreed as a true record and receipts were noted for information.

**96.2: The bank reconciliation to date** – would be circulated out of meeting.

**96.3:- External audit update** – The Conclusion of Audit papers were still awaited.

#### 96.4. Grant requests –

- **Northumbria Police -2 x new pedal cycles** – Pursuant to Local Government Act 1972 Section 137, Cllr Arckless proposed supporting this application of £500 towards new 2 new bikes sponsored by Amble Town Council on confirmation that the appropriate safety equipment is supplied and that the bikes would stay in the Amble area. This was seconded by Cllr Dargue and agreed with 1 abstention. It would be asked that the Town Council logo was placed on them.

Clerk

- **Amble Darts Open – sponsor a dart board** – Pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, section 137 Cllr Lewis proposed a donation of £50 towards sponsoring 2 dart boards, This was seconded by Cllr Dargue and agreed.

### 97. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

**97.1: The minutes of the meeting held 25th August 2016** were agreed as a true record.

**97.2:** The next meeting of the Amenities Management Committee would be held on 28th September 2016.

### 98: PLANNING COMMITTEE

**98.1:** For information; planning decisions, planning matters pending and planning matters pending consideration during the month of August 2016 were noted.

### 99: AGENDA ITEMS:

**99.1: To consider street lighting additional items** – Cllr Lewis proposed that when the street lighting work took place, the columns on Queen Street be repainted blue. This was seconded by Cllr Dargue and agreed.

Clerk

**99.2: To agreed to the News page content to being circulated for approval** – It was agreed that this would be circulated out of meeting.

Clerk

**99.3: To set a meeting date for the staffing working party** – A meeting was held with the Clerk, Chair, Vice Chair, Chair of Amenities and Cllr Watson on 7<sup>th</sup> September. Notes would be circulated.

**99.4: Arch – request for a meeting** – A meeting had been arranged to take place at 2.00pm on 16<sup>th</sup> September.

**99.5: To consider 2017 and 2018 WW1 Commemorative events** – Members agreed to hold a war time meal on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017, a working party would be set up to discuss further.

Chairs Signature.....

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### 100. COMMUNICATIONS:

**100.1: Northumberland Wildlife Trust** – Invitation to exclusive preview of Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre – It was agreed that Cllr Lewis or Cllr Morrison would attend, the Clerk was asked to query whether there was a number limit on the invitation. Lewis/  
Morrison

**100.2: NCC – Alternative Household Waste Recovery Centre Opening Arrangements – Proposal Approved.** – This was noted for information.

**100.3: NCC - Annual Conference Booking Now Open** – It was agreed that Cllrs Lewis and Weir would attend the conference. Lewis/  
Weir

**100.4: NCC - Consultation regarding the enforcement of unauthorised obstructions on the highway** – Members commented that the proposed policy was very comprehensive and were encouraged to read that it was guidance only; a very pragmatic approach that was welcomed. Clerk

**100.5: Mrs Law - The state of Amble's pavements** – A complaint has been received regarding the state of the pavements on Queen Street in terms of cleanliness. Members discussed and whilst agreeing that the Business Club do great work in trying to improve the street, the mechanical street sweeper had been missing for a while. A request would be put into NCC to have the mechanical sweeper reinstated. Clerk

**100.6: NCC - Public Spaces Protection Order for the Control of Dogs** – Members unanimously agreed to the policy.

**100.7: Mrs Shephard – Request for new plaque for Togston Square** – Mrs Shephard had requested a plaque be erected on the wall of the property on Albert Street where the original weathered stone plaque exists. Subject to permission from the landowner, Members were in agreement of locating a plaque here which would be the responsibility of the Town Council. Clerk

### 101. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

The Council noted the receipt of the following information items.

101.1: NALC Enews 24 August 2016

101.2: NALC Enews 24 August 2016 (planning supplement)

101.3: NALC Enews 30 August 2016

101.4: CAN Enews 1st September 2016

101.5: NCVA - Volunteer Recruitment Fair - Morpeth 14 September

101.6: NHS – Joining up care in Northumberland – Stakeholder update

### 102. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

**102:1 The next Meeting would be held on Thursday 13th October 2016 at. 6.00pm. in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace.**

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.

Chairs Signature.....