

Amble Annual Parish Meeting

14 May 2018 – 6.00pm – Conference Room, Fourways2

1 – WELCOME

Cllr Weir welcome those who attended the meeting. Cllr Weir made attendees aware that the meeting was being recorded for administrative purposes. Cllr Weir explained the purpose of the Parish Meeting and explained it was an opportunity for community groups to give an insight into what has been happening over the last 12 months.

2 – REPORT FROM AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL

The outgoing Chair, Cllr Jane Dargue gave her report of the previous 12 months.

The incoming Chair, Cllr Weir also gave a report on behalf of Amble Town Council.

Cllr Weir made those present at the meeting aware of the proposed sculpture being designed by Stephen Lunn and the chance for the public to have their say on the wording within the sculpture.

Cllr Weir also encouraged all community groups to nominate themselves for the LOVE Northumberland Awards.

Discussion also took place regarding Neighbourhood Planning and the future development of Amble. The Neighbourhood Plan needs a lot of community involvement and asked for anyone who would like to help out with this.

Cllr Weir also discussed Sustainable Transport and the meeting with Martin Podevyn and explained what the aim of the report is, in that it is trying to make the town centre more car, cycle and pedestrian friendly.

The WW1 event - centenary celebrations are taking place on 11 November 2018 which marks 100 years since the end of the WW1. The event will culminate in a firework show. Volunteers were requested to help out in making a curtain of crochet poppies etc.

Events – The Town Council arranges and takes parts in many events including Puffin Festival and Christmas Parade. Cllr Weir requested volunteers to help out with community events.

Cllr Weir explained that the audit information will be available for inspection and will added to the website and noticeboards. Anyone wishing to view the accounts can make an appointment to visit the office.

4 – REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL BODIES

Cllr Jeff Watson gave his report which included an update on JCSC, Housing Developments, Car Parking, Supermarket development, CCTV on Acklington Road and the Amble War Memorial.

Cllr Terry Clark was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a report which included an update on housing, highways, footpaths, street lighting and CCTV on Percy Street.

Cllr Weir expressed thanks to both County Councillors for their funding contributions from their Members Small Schemes budget for CCTV and the wildlife sculpture at Amble Links and solar panels on the seafood centre.

5 – AMBLE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The main priority of ADT this year was to focus on the Seafood Centre and Hatchery, it is now complete and is an exciting and interesting visitor attraction. A media hub has been developed through The Ambler and Amble is the pioneer for the project with NCC.

The full report from ADT is available on request.

6 – AMBLE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

The workshop team has 7 men all retired, who meet most Wednesday mornings. We also have up to 6 additional men, who turn out, normally on Sunday mornings when we have work to do on the street.

A new treasurer is in post – Susan Young.

For several years the workshop lighting team have been very busy with new ideas leading to better displays and more animated features. We have been phasing out the 240volt systems and replacing with 12volt DC LED materials, giving more efficiency with longer life, whilst reducing our electricity bills. This new approach, whilst more expensive to begin with should eventually lead to savings and we have the bonus of much brighter displays.

The past 12 months has seen us continue to build on this progress. Since January this year we have almost completed this phasing out period and have few remaining 240v displays. We also continue to make new displays with different features thus giving a small surplus to be used in the event of a breakdown. It may be of interest to note that we currently have more than 70 wall displays also 17 overhead catenary features.

The Christmas Lights committee thanked the wider public as well as ADT and ATC for their support. They also thanked the businesses in the town for their support.

The full report from the Christmas Lights Committee is available upon request.

7 – JAMES CALVERT SPENCE COLLEGE

Neil Rodgers has been in post now for 2 years and has been getting to grips with the issues with JCSC. He felt that all school had a good relationship with each and all work together to provide the best they can for the children of Amble. JCSC have a good working relationship with ATC and have regular meetings.

The schools were two separate schools ran by the same people which presented many schools and prompted the decision to amalgamate the two sites. There are funding issues surrounding this and this meant funding was limited. A business case was presented for a new build for JCSC in 2016 which was not taken forward at that time and now the school is facing major capacity issues and reporting a deficit budget this year. Mr Rodgers requested the public's support in helping the school achieve what is needed and what is fair. He also reported on split site funding that may be available but what is really needed is a school for 21 century with all the pupils on one site.

It was felt that these issues are urgent now and meeting with the cabinet member is needed asap. A meeting has however been arranged with the incoming Director of Education.

8 – LITTERBUGS WARKWORTH

LitterBugs started in January 2018 and consists of a core group of 4 adults and 5 children.

They have carried out group litter picks / beach cleans on the following dates

27/01/18 - Amble old cemetery, the Links, Paddlers and Little Shore

14 people cleared 11 sacks of rubbish

15/02/18 – Amble Braid

14 people cleared 8 sacks

25/02/18 - Amble Beach below the saltpans and the associated dunes

28 people cleared 31 sacks

09/03/18 – Warkworth Beach at Killy Kranky (urgent appeal due to volume of plastic)

5 people cleared 8 sacks

22/04/18 – Amble beach and dunes heading to Hauxley

43 people (including 6 cadets) cleared 20 sacks

In addition to the group litter picks, they are routinely doing weekly ad-hoc litter picking.

In addition to litter picking and beach cleaning, they got Tesco's to clean up their messy sites in Amble, in particular the Braid. They have contacted Cussin's and Persimmon to clean up their hedgerows at the front of their building sites in Warkworth and Amble.

They have also been successful in getting local cafes to use less plastic.

They have raised awareness on our FaceBook site about the kind of things we routinely find on the beach, namely, plastic cotton bud sticks in their 1000's; straws; balloons; plastic sanitary products; nappies and wet wipes; gun wadding and gun cartridges; fishing boat rubbish.

They have a monthly column in the Northumberland Gazette, with 3 published articles about different aspects of plastic/ litter. The Ambler have also published several articles, including a recent one about supermarket plastic, and which also promoted our local shops.

They thanked the cadets for offering their support and also Fynn Griffiths from JCSC deserves recognition for the litter picking he does. Many people have commented how great it is to see him out on his own litter picking. He is doing his Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and his litter picking forms part of his community work.

The next group litter pick will be on Sunday 3rd June at 2pm at Amble Beach, opposite caravan site.

A full report from Litterbugs Warkworth is available on request.

9 – AMBLE YOUTH PROJECT

Amble Youth Project has held a Ladies Night Fundraiser held at the Bede Street Club where local businesses and individuals gave their time and skills and provided wellbeing, beauty care and items of interest treats. This represents fantastic support for the charity with their various donations, along with all those who attended and it resulted in a thoroughly enjoyable evening and very financially beneficial.

It is both encouraging and exciting to see individuals really partnering us with their support-whether it is people coming along to events or people instigating fund raisers.

Amble Youth Project is working towards a Youth Festival event at the beginning of September working with NCC youth workers and this will be in conjunction with the new Café for our young people to access.

Cheviot Holdings Ltd now sponsors a beach hut on the little shore and a lease has been agreed with the Warkworth Harbour Commissioners. This will be used by the young people of Amble Youth Project and also by other children's charities.

All sessions are being very well attended by our youth and all Trustees and Staff feel that the Project is going from strength to strength and are very grateful for all the volunteers, community support and local businesses.

10 – NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

A report was not available for Northumbria Police

11 – COQUET SHOREBASE TRUST

A report was not available from Coquet Shorebase Trust

12 – AMBLE AND WARKWORTH ROTARY

Christmas Sleigh 2017- (Earmarked for local needy causes) £5,450

Club Generated Funds used for international good causes:

- Overseas Dental project in Brazil

- Charity Golf Day raised £6000.

GNAAS, SAAFA and The Sir Bobby Robson Foundation received equal shares.

Major Beneficiaries – Xmas Collections

- Amble Youth Project
- St Cuthbert's Church
- Royal British Legion
- Amble Food Bank
- Caring for Carers
- Amble Walking Football Group
- East End Junior Football Club
- Hippotherapy Northumberland
- Alnwick & Dist. Sports awards
- Amble Lifeboat
- North Northumberland Hospice
- Alnwick & Dist. MENCAP
- The Puffin Lounge
- Elpha Lodge
- "Most Improved Scholar Award" at J.C.S.College
- The Pelican
- The Ambler
- 2 JCSCollege students attending RYLA camp in August.
- NE Refugee Service

Community Project Involvement

- Wild flower planting along Rotary Way
- Work in the Memorial Gardens
- Help to Warkworth in Bloom
- Planting 5000 crocuses along Rotary Way
- Ongoing work at Brambles Nursery
- Young Writer Competition through JCSCollege
- Sponsoring Interact Group at JCSCollege

Social Activities

- Trip to Seahouses RC
- Trip to BBC studios
- Christmas Dinner
- Burns Evening
- President's Night
- Sports nights at the Masons Arms
- Brown Salver Golf day and Dinner at Foxton
- Whisky Tasting Evening
- Wine tasting Evening

Wide variety of speakers at meetings, including:

- Dry stone Walling
- History of Lifeboats
- Role of Kurdistan
- The Seaman's Mission

It is the 70th birthday of the Rotary this year. Cllr Weir thanked the Rotary for all their work in community events.

There is also a youth rotary group called Interact which is growing stronger and has projects in the pipeline.

A full report is available on request.

13 – AMBLE FOOD BANK

During this year of 2017 there were 136 food parcels given out as opposed to 93 in 2016.

These were made up of 108 single people as opposed to 63 in 2016, 15 single parents the same as in 2016, 12 couples as opposed to 13 in 2016, (from this year's couples there were 3 described as 2 Adults) and one not stated on the referral form as opposed to two in 2016. There were 29 children, 9 of these were described as adults or 18+, as opposed to 38 in 2016, and of these 1 was an infant as opposed to 2 in 2016. Eighty-one referrals were made by CAB as opposed to Sixty-six in 2016, fifty referrals were made by AYP (Eighteen referrals were made from other agencies as detailed herein: eleven referrals were from NETS as opposed to five in 2016; five referrals from CAB; one referral from Amble Jobs Club; one referral from Alnwick CMHT Community treatment team.), three from Amble Food Bank (one

referral from mental health trust, one phone direct to Amble Food Bank and one referral from Alnwick Food Bank via The Duchess Community College in Alnwick) one referral from Health Visitors as opposed to three in 2016 and one referral from St Mark's Church. The reasons for food parcels being issued are: sixty-six affected by benefit issues as opposed to fifty in 2016, forty-three affected by financial issues as opposed to twenty-two in 2016, two additional need at Christmas as opposed to three in 2016, five homeless as opposed to four in 2016, four had lost or stolen money as opposed to two in 2016, two all food in fridge freezer off, one off sick not receiving sick pay, one has job centre appointment, one split with partner, one no benefits, one non-payment of benefits and nine with no reason given on referral form as opposed to eight as in 2016.

Amble Food Bank are still lucky enough to have the same premises as last year. Amble Food Bank use every avenue out there to promote themselves and have had exposure to providing a speech to the Women's Club of Amble and two schools invited us to give a talk to the pupils at Links First School and Warkworth First School.

Their volunteers are committed to helping the community of Amble and surrounding areas who need help.

A full report from Amble Food Bank is available on request.

14 AMBLE COASTAL ROWING CLUB

A report was not available from Amble Coastal Rowing Club.

2 Skiffs have been built and are suitable for 4 people. Regular regattas and shows are held, and these are becoming more and more popular, everyone is very welcome. They are hoping to work with NCC re premises but this has yet to be agreed. They will be around at the Puffin Festival if anyone wishes to make contact.

15 Northumberland Theatre Company

Cllr Weir welcomed Lewis to the meeting. He explained the background of NTC and why the decision was taken to move to Amble. The aim is to run a community engagement space, already the offer has been taken up by the Puffin Theatre Group and are looking to create a drama group for older children / young adults. They are currently seeking cinema equipment and are looking at the license requirements to show films in the venue.

As they are new to the area they are very keen to hear ideas from the community, they aim to do 2/3 shows a year and a panto with the dance school involved too. Links can be made with the local schools which will also help their curriculum offer.

16 PRIDE IN AMBLE

Cllr Weir encouraged more volunteers and reported that they were in the process of obtaining some further funding for their work.

Cllr Weir also talked about lighting works within the town square and also the proposed peace sculpture.

Cllr Weir thanked all those that came to the meeting.