

Minutes of a meeting of Amble Town Council held on Thursday 13th February 2014 at 6.30pm in the Council Meeting Room, Harbour Commissioners Building, The Quayside, Harbour Road, Amble.

PRESENT: Cllrs Weir (Chair), Arckless, Mrs Dargue, Mrs Lewis, Miss Morrison, Watson and the Clerk: Miss Brown.
Gazette reporter James Willoughby.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Mrs Bennett – Personal commitments. The apologies were agreed.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: No members of the public were present.

3. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

3.1: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 9th January 2014 were a true record.

4. CLERK'S REPORT:

RECOMMENDATION – That the Council notes the contents of the report

4.1: Letter to NCC Transport Officer informing that TC decided not to subsidise service 471

4.2: Letter to NCC in support of Mrs Burke's request for car parking facilities to be investigated.

4.3: Working with Town & Parish Councils letter circulated to Members for comments

4.4: AONB consultation circulated to Members – request for comments to be returned to Clerk by 17th January. AONB Consultation response sent.

4.5: Response to St Cuthbert's RC First School consultation returned. A copy was also sent to Joseph Hughes of the Diocesan Department of Education.

4.6: Clock service brought forward following fault with hand sticking. Repair complete.

4.7: Meeting arranged with developer regarding cemetery storage.

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

5.1: Working with Town & Parish Councils – The Members were happy for the comments to be forwarded to Barry Rowland.

5.2: SpeedingResponse discussed- County Councillors Arckless & Watson would contact Police Commissioner Baird regarding their dissatisfaction with the response..

6. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

6.1: Royal Garden Party Nomination – The Chairman had been nominated by the Clerk to be considered to attend the Royal Garden Party.

6.2: Bailiffgate Museum Gallery Official Opening Invitation – The Chairman had attended the Official opening on 11th February which he said was an enjoyable evening.

6.3: Highlights Rural Touring Scheme Invitation – The Chairman had accepted an invitation to attend a performance of "Seven Ages" by Kepow at Amble Parish Hall on Sunday 9th March.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

The report from County Councillor Arckless was circulated.

County Councillor Watson reported that the Rotary Club with the AONB and Terry Garnick had been discussing the possibility of wildflower planting on Rotary Way.

Cllr Watson had attended a presentation of the Commonwealth Flag at Alnwick Castle.

The bus shelter on Acklington Road was still being investigated; both Cllr Watson and Cllr Arckless were happy to support funding and were investigating the legalities of the proposed site.

The Town Council agreed to take on responsibility of the shelter if all legal guidelines were met.

8. 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: None

9. AGENDA ITEMS:

9.1: Update on Central Ward vacancy – Three candidates had applied for the vacancy and the election would take place on 20th February.

9.2: To consider the wording for a memorial plaque to be located on existing seat in Memorial Gardens – It was RESOLVED that 2 plaques would be purchased for the refurbished seats in the Memorial Gardens, one to replace the VE day plaque and one to read ‘Amble Town Council - to commemorate the centenary of WW1’

9.3: Update on WW1 Project – Two drop-in sessions had been held that were well attended. A community meeting would be held towards the end of March. 9 volunteers had been identified from the visit to James Calvert Spence College.

It was RESOLVED to purchase 4 x display boards for the project and to have the Environmental Operative turf the area at the rear of the war Memorial up to the sum of £200.

10. REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

10.1: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 23rd January 2014 were a true record.

11. REPORT FROM THE CEMETERIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

11.1: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 23rd January 2014 were a true record.

12. REPORT FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE:

12.1: The Planning report for the month of February was circulated.

12.2: The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on Tuesday 18th February 2014

13 REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

13.1: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 16th January 2014 were a true record.

13.2: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Events Sub-Committee meeting held Monday 27th January 2014 were a true record.

14. COMMUNICATIONS:

14.1: Amble Christmas Lights – extension of Festive Lighting to the Town Square- following discussion, the Members welcome the Lights Committees efforts to extend the festive lighting toward the town square however it was RESOLVED that no Lights be installed on the War Memorial.

14.2: Petition regarding bus service 471 – as the below update had been received, the Members acknowledged receipt of the petition but no further action was required.

14.3: NCC – Update on bus service 471 – NCC Transport Support Manager advised the Council that following ongoing discussions NCC would after all continue to subsidise the four Travelsure journeys on Service 471 round the Links estate on Mondays to Fridays. This will be for just over a year from now, up to April 2015. Travelsure would run the Saturday journeys commercially.

As was previously discussed, the Arriva journeys on 471 will finish on 23rd March

14.4: Northumberland Youth Work – Delivering Quality Together – The Clerk would forward the details of the event to Cllr Miss Morrison who was registered to attend.

14.5: NCC – North Area Committee – response to query from November – The Clerk informed of

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the response. The Members welcomed the addition of rubber strips to the bins in the Harbour area. The Town Council were assured at the time of the devolving of services that all third parties had been approached.

14.6: North East Equality & Diversity Ltd – Dial A Ride Service – This was noted.

14.7: Community Action Northumberland – Parish Councillor Training event – This was noted for information. It would be flagged up to the new Councillor following the election.

14.8: Student Visit from Newcastle University – The Clerk would inform Amble Development Trust that a Member of the Council would like to attend the visit.

14.9: Amble Development Trust - Community Rights – Our Place – It was RESOLVED that the Members would support this being investigated as a joint working possibility.

14.10: NCC – Local Telephone Numbers as an alternative to the 0845 number were noted for information.

14.11: NCC – Letter from Leader of the Council – This was noted for information.

14.12: Homes for Northumberland – The follow up from the meeting addressed most of the issues that were outstanding. The Clerk would enquire about the demographic figures which were still outstanding.

14.13: Westerstörn – Searching for the music of Ambletown – The Clerk informed of the Folk Choir from the Netherland. The query had been forwarded to Harbour Lights Choir.

14.14: Letter from resident of Broomhill Street – Concerns were raised over the footpath from the Leazes Street car park to the Coast Guards, the drain on Leazes Street that would flood during heavy rain and a man hole on the back lane of Broomhill Street which smelt unpleasant. The Members agreed there was concern regarding the footpath and the drain – the Clerk would report these issues to NCC. It was noted that the back lane was privately owned.

14.15: Artique Amble – had requested the possibility of transport being provided, as is done during Warkworth show, to bring people into the town to use the facilities. It was noted that this was done at Warkworth due to a shortage of parking facilities during the show. The Members acknowledged that overflow parking was being arranged on the Braid for the Puffin Festival to encourage visitors to the Town.

15. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

That the Council noted the following information items.

15.1: NCC – North Area Committee February meeting – circulated to Members by email

15.2: Community Action Northumberland News January 2014

15.3: Northumberland Coast AONB – Coastal News January 2014

15.4: National Association of Local Councils – January News 2014

16. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

16:1 The next Meeting will be on **Thursday 13th March 2014 at 6.30pm.** in the Town Council Meeting Room, The Quayside, Amble

It was RESOLVED that 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.

PRIVATE

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

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

Cllr Dargue reported that at a recent LMAPS meeting concern was raised over the potential closure of the Amble Police Station, however she was informed that the closure would not effect service responses and there would still be a base in the town. Options were currently being looked at and Cllr Watson requested that the Town Council be kept informed.

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Cllr Dargue informed that Northumberland County Council were to carry out a review on the CCTV in Northumberland.

18: Update on staff absence – As the Member of staff was likely to be off until the summer; the Clerk would explore options.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm