

# AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – OCTOBER 2019

The Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 10 October 2019 at 6.00pm in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

## PRESENT:

Cllrs Craig Weir, (Chair), Cllrs H Lewis, I Parks, T Hinton, D Bewley, J Dargue  
V Smith - Town Clerk,

## 140.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Morrison, Watson and Foxley.

## 141. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

### 141.1 Co-option Vacancy

Members welcomed Cllr David Bewley.

### 141.2 EXTENSION TO GOVERNANCE REVIEW

NCC received a request from Warkworth Parish Council to grant an extension to the governance review deadline so that they could consult with residents. The extension has been granted. The new deadline is 15 November 2019. ATC have contacted NCC to ask what the protocols are for this situation and have been informed that there are no set procedures but that NCC follow guidance from central government although are not obliged to stick to it. It was agreed for the Clerk to write to NCC to express their concern.

Clerk

## 142. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

142.1 Interests to be raised as and when they arise throughout the agenda.

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

In accordance with Section 1(d-g) of the ATC Standing Orders members of the public present may address the Council at this point on the agenda. The Council/Committee reserves the right to respond or debate the issue at a later date.

### 143.1 Update from Northumbria Police

An update was received from Northumbria Police. There are enquiries ongoing regarding the bikes on Queen Street. Alncom have been notified of a CCTV issue.

The garages at Glendale are down so the disorder there should reduce.

143.2 Three members of the public were in attendance. Mrs Barbara Coates, Les Goodfellow and his wife. They expressed their frustration with NCC around a planning enforcement issue in the shared yard of a property in North Street. Planning permission has not been granted for the structure that has been placed in front of Mrs Coates window. The wall was meant to come down by 14 August 2019 but to date is still in place. They also expressed concern at the lack of professionalism shown by officers at NCC and a lack of communication and follow up of contact. Mrs Coates has a right of access to her property using this route. Councillors agreed that ATC would write to the Director of Planning to ascertain progress. Mr Goodfellow to write to the Clerk a summary with dates of what has happened to date to form the basis of the letter. Cllr Terry Clark to also raise this at County level.

Clerk  
TC

143.3 The Clerk received a communication sharing concern regarding anti social behavior and intimidation in the Town Square and Queen Street. Northumbria Police have been made aware of this. There was also a query on the High Street Community Clean Up and how this was spent. The funds were allocated out to 3 different organisations who had expressed an interest in providing equipment to tidy up the centre of town.

## 144. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

144.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held 12 September 2019 Items 119 – 139.7

The Clerk to correct the numbering of some items.

Chairs Signature.....

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The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

### 145. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

145.1 The Clerks report was accepted.

Since the report was issued, a request from Amble FC Juniors was received. It was agreed to purchase a selection of equipment requested which came under the delegated budget.

Clerk

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

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

#### 146.1: Chairman

The Chair attended events at Washington Town Hall and Ponteland Race Night. The Chair has no objection to attending these events but did not want to set a precedence for any future Chairs who may not be able to attend.

The Chair circulated the Coastal Community Fund meeting schedule.

Cllr Weir reported that he was standing down from CAN but still wished to be kept informed of progress, specifically regarding Warm Hub and Job Club.

#### 146.2: Vice Chairman

The Vice Chair has met with contractors regarding the Memorial Wall Fence, the trees in the gardens and cemetery and graves in west cemetery.

### 147. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

147.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark:

Cllr Clark said a site visit to Signal Cottage was still pending. Park Leisure have still not been informed of any works. The bollards in place are a temporary measure.

Cllr Clark has been approached regarding the additional hire charge for the changing facilities and toilets in the sports hall of JCSC. There has been no response from JCSC yet. It was suggested for Cllr Clark to find a comparison to ascertain if the hire is overpriced compared to other sites.

NCC have agreed to take on the grass cutting contract for Park Leisure of the Lord Mayors Field. The Philip Drive footpath works have been finished.

Cllr Clark updated on some incidents within Links Avenue including damage to cars by haulage company and blocked drains flooding the street.

At the end of October, the dip in the A1068 will be repaired.

Cllr Clark was asked to raise the broken fence of the former TIC car park with Highways as it is presenting a danger.

Cllr Clarks next surgery is 30/11/19

147.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

Cllr Watson submitted an update in his absence.

Mark Tweedie, the CEO of Active Northumberland is very happy to come talk to ATC about opportunities for young people in and around Amble. The Clerk would arrange a meeting but stress the need for input on activities Amble itself and not just the areas nearby

Warkworth PC do not wish to move the Parish Boundary and will be circulating a letter to all residents of area concerned.

There have been further meetings re sewage problems on Mariners Way area.

Cllr Watson has submitted priorities for LTP and included the bus stop area on Woodbine Street and crossing at bottom of the Wynd

School issues are not yet resolved and improvement plans are held up.

The Lord Mayors field still causing complaints.

The Morrisons complex is due to open Spring 2020, the petrol station still going ahead.

It was felt that more communication is needed from NCC re possible future changes to JCSC.

There was concern about what could happen to any S106 money. The Clerk was asked to write

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

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to NCC to ask how long it is expected the process to take and can we have a timescale. The Clerk to also ask about SEND and how this review will affect those students now and in the future. Clerk to copy in Cllrs Clark and Watson.

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

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

Cllr Weir attended the waste recycling presentation, a meeting with Park Leisure with Cllr. Foxley, the T&PCLWG – Clerk to action outcomes. CW met with Mike Jeffrey at the conference and discussed the water feature at Paddlers Park. A new part to the pump/valve is still needed. A spare seal is needed. ATC do not have it, the original deal was procured by NCC.

Cllr Weir asked for volunteers to help with the Xmas Tree on 12 November 2019 at 10am and also reminded all of the Remembrance Day Service on 10 November 2019.

Cllr Parks attended the recycling presentation and gave an update on AYP.

Cllr Hinton attended ADT meeting.

The Clerk has transferred the monies for the Events Committee. ATC would still like to be kept informed of future events. The Clerk to write regarding the Mayors attendance at Xmas Lights.

Clerk

### **149. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**149.1: To consider voucher numbers 173 – 190 for payment and receipt vouchers 72 - 79 for information (Finance) –**

Cllr Weir declared an interest in vouchers 174, 175, 186, 188. It was proposed and agreed that the funds from the sale of cemetery equipment be allocated to Cemetery Development pot. The payments and receipts were approved.

#### **149.2 Bank Reconciliation**

The bank rec was approved.

#### **149.3 YTD figures**

Approved

#### **149.4 Grant requests**

- None

### **150. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**150.1 To receive the draft minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 26 September 2019**

The Clerk to arrange the numbering to be amended. The minutes were approved.

**150.2 To receive an update on the sale of machinery**

All equipment has now been sold.

**150.3 To discuss the report of alleged nuisance from smoke at Percy Drive Allotments, Amble**

The Clerk to find out if this is the same complaint that was dealt with by ATC in the Summer. If this is a new complaint, the Clerk to contact AAHS.

Clerk

**150.4 To discuss and action the email from Ian Dent regarding Allotment Support in Amble**

An email from Ian Dent, Outreach Officer from Alnwick Gardens, was received requesting information on organisations who may benefit as part of an outreach programme. The Clerk has provided this information.

**150.5 Bollards – East Allotments**

Office staff are obtaining quotes for installation.

AK

**150.6 Paddlers Park Play Equipment**

The Clerk has ordered two pieces of equipment and secured a discount.

Clerk

**150.7 The Wynd Bus Shelter**

The Council has received a request to install a bus shelter at the bottom of The Wynd. The Clerk to write to NCC Highways to seek permission and guidance.

Chairs Signature.....

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### 150.8 Coal Truck Planters

The Coal Truck planters have deteriorated. Contractors have been approached for scrap steel that can be used as inserts. Clerk to ask NCC not to plant these and to ask if they will remove the soil so they can be accurately assessed.

Clerk

### 150.8 Wildflowers

Discussions have been ongoing regarding wildflower planting on the persimmon side of A1068. NCC feel that this area would not be suitable as it not very wide and as it is on a roadside, it needs to have a metre strip cut before the kerb which leaves very little space for wildflowers. It was agreed to leave this issue for the time being and request that NCC extend the cut to tidy it up.

Clerk

### 151: PLANNING COMMITTEE

**151.1: To note for information planning decisions, planning matters pending and planning matters pending consideration during the month of September 2019 – to follow**

**151.2 To agree a date to meet representatives of Home Group**

A meeting has been arranged for 23/10/19 at 4pm.

### 152. AGENDA ITEMS:

**152.1 To discuss the Councils representation at future External Civic Events**

It was proposed that for future events, it be delegated to the Chair and Clerk as to whether Amble would be represented at any external civic events, especially those outside the County.

**152.2 To discuss and agree comments to be submitted regarding the Northumberland Local Plan, Consultation on Scoping Documents for the Affordable Housing ad Planning Obligations**

Clerk

Cllrs were reminded to send comments to the Clerk. The Clerk and Chair to complete the forms for a Council response.

**152.3 To agree a Council representative to attend NALC**

IP

Cllr Bewley agreed to attend. Cllr Parks to provide dates and brief Cllr Bewley in advance.

**152.4 To discuss the future development of Amble Connect and agree level of Council support and representation**

Clerk

It was agreed this item should be discussed in private part of the agenda.

**152.5 To seek retrospective approval to meet with management of Park Leisure**

It was agreed for the Chair and one other to meet with Park Leisure.

**152.6 To discuss the preparations for 2019 Remembrance Day and arrangements**

Clerk

Cllrs were asked to attend on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October to assist in weeding etc of the gardens. Cllr Weir to request that the cadets slow down for the parade. ATC to request road closures. Assistance is needed on 8 November to help with the poppy crosses and poppy net. The Clerk to confirm that the RBL Standard Bearer can still come.

Clerk

**152.7 To discuss the Chairs attendance to the At Home for Volunteers reception on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

It was agreed the Chair would attend this event.

**152.8 To discuss Council attendance at the Charity Maxim Brewery Tour with Mayor of Sunderland City Council on 23 January 2020**

It was agreed that on this occasion the Chair would not attend.

CF

**152.9 Retrospective Approval of Newspage**

The newspage was agreed. The next Councillors' Corner is to be by Cllr Foxley to coincide with Amble Connects work or Cllr Dargue if a future date was more suitable.

### 153. COMMUNICATIONS:

**153.1 To note the NALC Newsletters 12/9, 19/9**

Noted

Clerk

**153.2 To note the email of support towards the Cock and Bull, Amble and response.**

The email and response was noted. Mr Castleman has requested copies of the email. The Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

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to contact the sender due to data protection rules.

### **154. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:**

Clerk

#### **154.1 To note the additional dates to attend the West Sleekburn Waste Recycling Facility**

Noted and circulated. The Clerk to find out if the member of public is going.

#### **154.2 To note the NALC article re Poaching in Northumberland**

Noted

#### **154.3 To note the response from Highways regarding the issued raised at Robsons Way**

Noted

#### **154.4 To note the donation request from Great North Air Ambulance**

Noted. The Clerk to make payment as per agreement at May meeting.

Clerk

#### **154.5 To note the donation request from CAN**

Noted. The Clerk to make payment as agreed at May meeting.

Clerk

#### **154.5 Local Govt. Finance 2020/2021**

It was noted that there would be no cap to Councils Precepts in 2020/2021.

Clerk

#### **154.6 NCC Who's Who and Draft Charter**

Noted. The Clerk to ask when the charter is to be implemented as it stated Cllrs would once again be consulted about Licencing.

### **155. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 14 November 2019 – 6.00pm**

**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**

#### **156: MINUTES –**

##### **156.1: Town Council meeting held 12 September 2019, items 136 – 139.7**

The minutes were approved.

##### **156.2 Amenities Committee meeting held 26 September 2019, items 12-13**

The minutes were approved.

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

**157.1** Cllr Parks gave a further update from AYP and team provision. Cllr Weir gave an update on the Sculpture Trail.

### **158. AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **158.1 To receive an update regarding the tenancy and legal proceedings**

The direction hearing has been arranged for 9 December 2019.

#### **158.2 To discuss a developer donation for a town project**

The donation from the developer will only be sent once planning permission has been granted. Therefore, it was agreed to amend the wording for the footer board on the one information board. An alternative photograph of the peace sculpture has also been sourced.

#### **158.3 To discuss and approve the quotation received for maintenance works to memorial garden fence**

The quote was noted but it was acknowledged.

#### **158.4 To receive an update on the Memorial Gardens if available**

The documentation has been signed. The covenant awaits validation.

There are some trees that require work in the memorial gardens and west cemetery.

Discussions are ongoing with NCC regarding the pavement and steps as part of the SLA.

Chairs Signature.....

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The Chair suspended Standing Orders at 9.00pm.

Clerk

### **158.5 To discuss the possibility of shared public convenience facilities with NCC**

This item is to be deferred to the next meeting.

### **158.6 To discuss the incident at West Cemetery**

A member of the public has contacted the office to express how unhappy they were that their solar powered flower was damaged at the West Cemetery. After discussions with members the Clerk to write a letter to state the cemetery rules and regulations which clearly state not allowing such items due to ease of damage and the operator safety issue.

Clerk

### **158.7 Amble Connects**

It was agreed that for an initial period of 12 months, ATC would fund Amble Connects with notices, community page advert, hall hire and refreshments. It was suggested to liaise with the Chamber of Trade in Alnwick and Morpeth to discuss what they do which could help. Clerk to circulate the brief to all members.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk to request a meeting with Tony Kirsop re Active Amble. The Clerk to circulate the brief to all members.

### **158.8 Staff Appraisals.**

The Clerk has carried out staff appraisals.

### **158.9 CCTV**

A quote was received for installing CCTV on Fourways1.

### **158.10 Library Consultation**

This was to be available soon and members were urged to think about their views

### **158.11 Menshed**

Menshed are currently operating under the insurance of NTC due to a number of issues they have experienced. Going forward Menshed will need to establish their own arrangements.

## **159. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

159.1 To note the minutes of the meeting with Richard Schofield

Noted

Chairs Signature.....