

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

The Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 8 August 2019 at 6.00pm in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT:

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

100. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE: Councillor Vacancy – West Ward

The co-option is currently live and deadline is 30 August 2019

101. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

102. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

102.1 Councillor Lewis and Weir declared an interest in payments.

Councillors Morrison and Dargue declared an interest in NTC and requested a Statutory Declaration whilst they are Directors on the board.

103. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

103.1 There were 2 members of the public present who were interested in the co-option vacancy. The Council had previously invited them to attend a meeting to get a better understanding of what the Council does.

104. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

104.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held 11 July 2019 Items 80-99.3

The minutes were approved

105. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

105.1 Clerks Report

The Clerks report was accepted.

106. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

106.1: Chairman

The Chair attended the Civic and Community Awards which were well received and successful.

He intends to meet with the police at Cuppa with a Copper on 9 August 2019.

He made Members aware of the upcoming Network Forum on 21 August. Cllrs Dargue and Foxley are attending. Clerk to find out the start time.

Clerk

The viewing of the tractor and trailer is on 22 August 2019.

106.2: Vice Chairman

The Vice Chair attended the same meetings as the Chair and all notes of these have been circulated, other issues have been listed on the agenda for fuller discussion. The Clerk was requested to contact the Police at the same time as sending the agenda out, to request attendance or a short report.

Clerk

107 REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

107.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark:

Councillor Clark submitted his apologies but wished to raise a few items in his absence.

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

South Mede Seat – Cllr Clark queried whether ATC would be willing to take on the maintenance of this should Cllr Clark be able to get new ones from his members small schemes. After some discussion it was decided that as the seats did not serve the wider community, that ATC would not be inclined to accept maintenance responsibilities and suggested that he contact DP Builders who built the estate and installed them. Another suggestion was that residents make their own arrangements with DP Builders. The Council felt if it were to take on responsibility, that this could also set a precedence for others in Amble. It is advisable if these seats are replaced, that they are replaced with metal seats which have proved longer lasting.

Members were asked to discuss their LTP priorities. This was to be discussed on the agenda.

107.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

Cllr Watson is attending the site visit to discuss the deregistration of The Braid.

Cllr Watson advised that all issues surrounding the Cock and Bull should be sent to licensing, planning and Northumbria Police.

Cllr Watson updated members regarding the issue with brewing and selling beer from home. Cllr Watson sought advice on this and was informed that you can produce beer from home, you can give it away or sell to a wholesaler or distributor without a license, but you are prohibited however, from selling direct to the public unless you obtain a license. The Clerk to again contact licensing with this information regarding a residential property in the town.

Clerk

Cllr Watson reported that Advance Northumberland have agreed to pay for the ANPR camera at the South Roundabout. This camera is under warranty for 5 years and after that time, will need someone to accept responsibility for maintenance but assured there was no obligation to the Council, if at the time, it did not wish to do this. Cllr Watson queried what the Council's thoughts were with adding a second camera towards the North entrance to the town. All were in favour of this and thanked Cllr Watson for agreeing to fund this. Cllr Watson to make further investigations.

There may be a slight delay in the public consultation of the JCSC build. It is not possible at this stage to say when it will take place.

Cllr Watson acknowledged that the public were anxious to know when the Morrisons site would begin but assured members that as soon as the final details were in place, an announcement would be made.

Cllr Watson reported that the land behind Tesco is still under consideration for a permanent car park.

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

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

Cllr Weir attended the Day of the Dance event in the Town Square which was excellent and also Songs of Praise on the Little Shore which was also excellent.

He attended meetings with the insurers with the Clerk and Vice Chair and also the Active Amble meeting.

Cllr Weir queried if there had been any feedback from The Colony. It was reported that despite the weather, it was very well attended although there was some vandalism to the portable toilets. Cllr Parks attended the AYP meeting and reported that the Saturday group was going well. The Monday drop in had proven popular and was assisted with visits from a Nurse. I was acknowledged that as it was the summer holidays there has been some flux with numbers attending.

A visit to Alnwick Castle went well and the travel was paid for by Arriva.

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

The High Sheriff Awards take place on 24 August at CYC from 5.30PM and is open to all. The young people who volunteered to Brave the Shave have completed their goal. Well Done! On 10 August, the Diocese of Newcastle is working with the young people in the Town Square. There is a BBQ (to raise funds for AYP) open to the public at the Yacht Club at 5.30pm on Saturday 24th August 2019.

It was reported that the CAN job club was working very well and will be expanding.

Cllr Morrison attended the NTC meeting. They are looking for volunteers and are starting to work on their panto. Cllr Morrison was requested to raise the issue with CCTV at their next meeting as members are aware they are having issues with vandalism.

Cllr Hinton attended the ADT AGM. An error with papers meant they did not get them in advance of the meeting. Andy Sim is the new Chair, Paul Rigby is Vice Chair. Cllr Dargue pointed out that she is still listed as a trustee online and it was requested that the Clerk make contact with ADT and ask them to update records online.

Cllr Parks is still received emails from NALC and was requested to forward them to the Clerk. The next NALC meeting is 14 September 2019.

Cllr Watson confirmed that the meeting to discuss the Consultant's report and further study will be for WHCs only, due on 28 August 2019.

109. FINANCIAL REPORT:

109.1: To consider voucher numbers 101 – 120 for payment and receipt vouchers 50 - 58 for information (Finance)

Cllr Lewis declared an interest in payment voucher 105.

Cllr Lewis and Cllr Weir declared an interest in payment voucher 107

Cllr Weir declared an interest in payment voucher 108

The receipts and payments were approved.

Clerk

109.2 Bank Reconciliation

The full bank reconciliation was approved. It was noted that the Clerk may have to transfer some monies from the CCLA accounts. Clerk authorised to determine amount, transfer and report at next meeting.

109.3 YTD figures

Clerk

The YTD figures were noted. The Clerk, Cllr Lewis and Morrison have met to ascertain the final financial position of the Events Committee. Some small amends were required to correct some inaccuracies, and it was also found that approximately £1600 had not be accurately carried over from 2017. The total to 1 August 2019 was agreed. These monies will be transferred from the General Fund, ready to be paid to the Events Committee when they have their new account open.

109.4 Grant requests

- Northumberland Theatre Company - £1000.00

There was some discussion on whether it would make more sense if NTC waited to have their CCTV discussions before submitting the application. However, it was felt that it was not the place of ATC to decide that. The application was split into 2 requirements, seats and a wifi booster. A vote was proposed to separate the application and consider both parts individually. There were 4 in favour, 2 object and 2 abstain. The application was split. It was therefore debated whether the Council would support with £400 for the wifi booster. This was unanimously agreed. It was then debated whether the Council was prepared to support £600 for additional specialist seats. There was 4 in favour, 2 objections

Clerk

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

and 2 abstain. It was therefore agreed to support NTC with a total donation of £1000. Clerk

- Amble FC Juniors – letter
Amble FC Juniors withdrew their application until the next Council meeting in September.
- AGE UK – general letter
This letter was received after the agenda had gone out and was considered at the Chairs discretion. It was agreed to support Age UK with a donation of £50. The Clerk to add this to the regular request list for next financial year. Clerk

109.5 Annual Governance Statement

The Annual Governance Statement for External Audit was also received after the agenda was listed. The Clerk reported that the External Auditors has not raised any issues with ATC and it had therefore passed the 2018/2019 audit. The Clerk to display the Notice of Conclusion of Audit on website and in noticeboard. The Clerk and staff were thanked for their diligence in submitting accurate returns. Clerk

110. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

110.1 To receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 25 July 2019

The minutes were received by Chair of Amenities and approved but needed numbered correctly. Clerk to circulate.

110.2 To receive costs of removable bollards for the East Allotments

The bollards are to be the same as the bollards at Paddlers Park and cost £198 each plus installation costs. Office staff to proceed with order as previously agreed.

110.3 To note the end of the Secret Garden category on Community Civic Awards due to lack of response

As there had still been a poor response to the Secret Garden category of the Community and Civic Awards it was decided that the Secret Garden would no longer be a category.

110.4 To note the letter to sent to Highways on 26 July 2019

Letter was noted Clerk

110.5 To note letter sent to planning re S106 Planning Gain from Persimmon

Letter was noted

110.6 Raised Bed enquiry

The Clerk had received a request regarding the purchase of the sleepers and old shed from the raised beds area. Further information was requested such as what would happen to the excess soil and how would they be transported. Clerk to request an onsite meeting. Clerk

111: PLANNING COMMITTEE

111.1: To note for information planning decisions, planning matters pending and planning matters pending consideration during the month of July 2019

It was requested that the planning report be listed on the website for the public to view. The Clerk to let office staff know that it is not necessary to have previously reported on, but only new. Clerk

111.2 To note the outcome of the enquiries regarding Signal Cottage

NCC confirmed that no permission had been given for the signage or bollards and were in the process of contacting the people involved.

The Clerk was asked to request an update regarding North Street

111.3 To receive an update regarding the brewing enquiry if available

Covered above in Cllr Watsons update. Clerk

112. AGENDA ITEMS:

112.1 To agree a date for a presentation from West Sleekburn Waste Unit

It was agreed to arrange for a presentation to a wider audience. The Clerk to ascertain which dates in September are available for NTC premises and report back to Sleekburn officer. Clerk to ask Paul Jones if an officer dealing with the future recycling, e.g. possible doorstep collection of glass, could attend.

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

112.2 To note the quotes for works to the Memorial Clock apertures

Two quotes were received for the required works. Quote 1 £640 plus VAT, quote two £250. It was agreed to progress with quote 2, subject to all Health and Safety conditions being met and adequate proof of public liability. The landowner will also need to be approached for permission.

112.3 To discuss complaints and actions pertaining to the Cock and Bull, Amble

The Council has received numerous complaints regarding the above and has suggested to all to report these concerns through the proper channels so that they can be recorded and dealt with as appropriate. Permission has not been given for picnic tables and chairs. There is concern that outside drinking is putting visitors off using the public toilets and also the owner has not been taking on the responsibility of these.

The owner is continually flouting the bye law in place in the whole of the parish and has been advertising as an alfresco drinking establishment on social media. Customers are also drinking in the memorial gardens. ATC is open to discussions with the owner but really feel that NCC should be acting upon the continued breaking of the law. Residents nearby have also complained about noise from customers and music inside. The Chair and Vice Chair will discuss with Director of Planning tomorrow.

Clerk

Clerk

112.4 To approved SLCC training for the Clerk 2020

Agreed to fund this valuable training. The Clerk to look at the NALC training listed on 27 July 2019 newsletter.

Clerk

112.5 To note the outcome of the Active Amble meeting and agree next steps

The Clerk to circulate the notes of the meeting. All members to report back to Cllr Lewis before 12 September so a report can be prepared and a further meeting arranged then.

Clerk

112.6 To agree a date for the 2019 Chairman's Reception

The Chairs reception will take place on 13 December 2019 if available. If not 13th, then 6th. Clerk to confirm booking.

112.7 To receive an update on the Fish Sculpture

The Council was hoping to get a community group to freshen up the sculpture. However, there has been a change in personnel, and it is not yet clear what is happening. A local blacksmith has provided some advice on how best to care for the sculpture. Delegated powers to purchase cleaning materials was agreed at a maximum of £200.

Clerk

112.8 To receive an update regarding arrangements with funeral directors

The Clerk informed members of the recent incident of Funeral Directors confirming funeral arrangements with families and press before final confirmation has been given by ATC staff. The Clerk has written to funeral directors to clarify the procedure again. As an additional measure, the Clerk will now email the burial conformation to funeral directors.

112.9 To discuss a proposal to put all WW1 information on Web Site

Cllr Lewis and Dargue worked on a lot of material for the 2014 book that was published. It was felt that It was a shame not to have this additional information available to public. Research for print costs for another book came in at £12.50 per book and it was felt there was not the market for this. It was queried whether this information could be formatted in a different way and uploaded to a section of the website. The Clerk confirmed this was possible. It was hoped this could be ready for mid-October in time for Remembrance Day. A few copies can be bound for the office. It was agreed to have "Amble Remembers" on the website and to have 7 spiral copies bound at a cost of under £20.

112.10 Retrospective Approval for News Page

Approval was given with thanks to Cllr Lewis for writing. Cllr Foxley will do Cllrs Corner next.

CF

112.11 To consider a proposal for an Amble Showcase

Originally an idea from Steve Latimer, the Council agreed that there needed to be some kind of accessible network of businesses / groups / community and voluntary organisations where they could showcase their offers and network with others. Cllr Foxley had taken on this idea and suggested that the Council facilitated an event such as this. The public would need to be on board with this as essentially it is showing the public what is available in Amble. There are over 260

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

businesses and organizations based in Amble. It may be difficult to get people to turn up but it was hoped a flyer would generate publicity. It was hoped it may also make businesses aware if there is any funding available for them. Cllr Foxley to send the Clerk the Amble Connect document for circulation. Ideas and comments to include in a flyer Cllr Foxley.

Clerk

112.12 To note the actions from the Remembrance Day Working Party and agree next steps

The notes were approved. Clerk to circulate. It was agreed to proceed with the PA contract at a cost of £250. It was also proposed that Cllr Weir would be the Parade Marshall. Clerk to check flag stock. Cllr Dargue or Watson agreed to do the exhortation.

112.13 To discuss the 2020/2021 Local Transport Plan Priorities

Suggestions given were: double yellow lines on Broomhill Street corners, yellow lines extended on High Street from the corner of Albert Street to Gibson Street, bus stop on Woodbine Street to be clearly marked.

Clerk

The Clerk had received correspondence from a resident of Edwin Street regarding residents parking. Clerk to advise to contact NCC direct. Further suggestions to be submitted to the Clerk for consideration and decision at next meeting.

112.14 Rotary Way Wildflowers

As all members had now had the opportunity to consider the notes of the wildflower meeting from 11 July 2019, members were asked if they would be willing to support the cause with a grant of £1250. This money would cover a period of 5 years and would cover the old area and new area combined. Members agreed to support this. Cllr Watson declared an interest did not take part in the decision. It was decided that item 113.10 should be dealt with at this point in the agenda.

113.10 To receive an update re: wildflowers in verges if available

Council are considering having a more colourful display of wildflower along the section of the A1068 which covers from Persimmon to South Roundabout. The Clerk is obtaining costs from NCC.

113. COMMUNICATIONS:

113.1 Survey on microplastic at the Coastline of the North Sea

Noted

113.2 To note the letter of thanks from Northumbria Police re Good Citizen Award

Noted

113.3 Coastal Care Activity Plan – August

Noted

113.4 NALC Enews 10/7, 18/7, 24/7, 31/7, 1/8

Noted

113.5 To note the S106 Pooling Review highlighted in the NALC 18/7

Cllrs Weir and Lewis to query what the implications of this are when they meet Director of Planning on 9 August.

113.5 LOVE Northumberland Awards 2019

Members to respond direct if they wish

113.6 Complaint from resident regarding small Turner Street Car Park (not NCC)

A complain has been received regarding this area. This area is not an official car park and is privately owned. NCC has been made aware.

113.7 Complaint from resident of Runciman Way re parking

The complaint has been passed to parking enforcement and Ruth Bendell

113.8 To receive an update on Governance Review if available

No update available

113.9 To receive an update re: offer of Christmas Tree if available

No update available. Cllr Morrison to chase up

113.10 To receive an update re: wildflowers in verges if available

Covered above

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

113.11 North of Tyne Tour of Britain – Community Information Pack

The information has been passed to all schools.

113.12 Housing Estate Walkabout Meetings

This item was a late item. The estate walkabouts are to be reinstated. Clerk is awaiting dates.

114. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

114.1 To note the increase to the Climate Change Levy from British Gas

Noted

114.2 To note the completion of the Lightning Protector test on Amble War Memorial

Noted

114.3 Defibrillators and the NEAS

Noted

114.4 To note the Joint Musculoskeletal and Pain Service briefing note

Noted

114.5 To note the meeting with NCC Rob Murfin to be held on 9 August 2019

To be held and notes sent

114.6 To note meeting with NCC SLA to be held on 13 August 2019

For info.

114.7 To notes the minutes of the meeting with Locality Officer 10 July 2019

Noted

115. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 12 September 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

116: MINUTES –

116.1: Town Council meeting held 11 July 2019 – items 96 – 99.3

Approved

116.2 Clerks Report

Noted

116.3 Amenities Minutes

Approved

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

None

Clerk

118. AGENDA ITEMS

118.1 To receive an update on the Memorial Gardens

Some minor amends were required and the document is now in its final draft with solicitor.

118.2 To receive an update on the tenancy

On the advice of legal representatives, the Council has written a suggestion to the illegal tenant. If necessary, an Extraordinary Meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 at 5.30pm.

118.3 To note ongoing insurance claim and associated reports

The Clerk, Cllr Lewis and Weir attended a meeting with Zurich to discuss the personal injury claim arising from the incident at Paddlers Park. The Council was assured it had done more than was thought reasonable in terms of Health and Safety and management of the incident. Zurich will be denying liability and will be keeping ATC informed. The Clerk to send the notes.

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

118.4 To receive a Personnel Update

The Clerk gave an update on staffing. Office staff have been working extra hours to carry out asset inspection which will inform the SLA meetings. The report had been circulated.

118.5 Coastal Communities Fund update

Cllr Weir gave an update on the Bird Waalk.

118.6 To review the Amble Entrance Sculpture

A developer has promised ATC a contribution towards a gateway in the town. They do not mind what it is spent on and this includes the Bird Waalk.

118.7 To agree new CCTV locations

New locations being considered are Fourways 1 and Tesco building. The Clerk is waiting for permission.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AUGUST 2019

Clerk

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....