

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – MARCH 2020

The Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 12 March 2020 at 6.00pm in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT:

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

The Chair informed that the meeting was being recorded for administrative and transparency purposes.

In relation to the current national emergency the Chair requested at any persons experiencing cold like symptoms to self-isolate for 7 days. If symptoms worsen please use the NHS111 website for further information.

BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE:

The Chair made attendees aware of the resignation of Clive Foxley. Clerk to begin process with Democratic Services for Central Ward. A letter of thanks to be sent. Clerk

239.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

239.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Dargue.

240. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

241.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.

241.1 Update from Northumbria Police (TBC)

No update available

Mrs Barbara Coates thanked the Council for their assistance during her recent issues.

Mr Matthew Connolly explained he was in discussions with Warkworth History Society about having a heritage plaque on his property to commemorate James Calvert Spence. ATC was supportive of the idea.

242. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

242.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held 13 February 2020 items 220-238.3

The minutes were approved.

243. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

243.1 Clerks Report

The Clerks report was accepted.

244. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

244.1: Chairman

Cllr Weir attended an International Women's Day about Emily Davison at Morpeth.

Cllr Weir will also be attending a funeral in Council regalia which had been previously agreed.

244.2: Vice Chairman

Cllr Lewis attended numerous meetings regarding the new utilities work at West Cemetery.

Chairs Signature.....

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245. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

245.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark:

Cllr Clark reported that NCC were undertaking all repairs and inspections of Tynedale Park. This will be under review for the long term.

Speeding at Alnwick Way / Church Street and Acklington Road has been reported.

The private sign at Gordon Villas was given the go ahead to be erected on NCC land.

Overgrown hedges and uneven pavements have been reported on Acklington Road.

A build up on water on the corner of Acklington Road has been reported.

The road traffic calming signage on Links Road is damaged again.

Dropped kerbs will be installed on Windsor Terrace / St Cuthberts Avenue from Members Small Schemes.

Cllr Clark reported that works such as double yellow lines are not individually itemised in the LTP but come under generic improvements.

There has been no response to Cllr Clark's queries about Percy Drive survey.

Cllr Clark has submitted a pavement list as part of the £15M available for the County.

Item 251.4 was addressed at this point in the agenda:

Cllr Clark was asked to make enquiries whether there is any disability funding available to help improve disabled access to resident's homes. The back lane of Church Street is in need of improvements to make disabled access viable.

245.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

Cllr Watson confirmed the kerbs on High Street had been fixed.

A meeting with Northumbria Water in relation to Gloster Hill development did not take place.

Cllr Watson has been approached by those arranging the Coquet Mouth event and will discuss this with WHC.

Amble and Warkworth Rotary are in discussions with ADT re looking after the Town Square gardens. Cllr Watson has requested that the Amble side of Rotary Way has more Crocus.

Cllr Watson attended the Morrison's site visit. The opening is expected 9 April.

A1068 Road repairs are scheduled for 24 April 2020.

Rotary are carrying out a bag pack at the new Morrisons on 16 May 2020.

Cllrs Clark and Watson were made aware of vandalism to a resident's fence on Philip Drive.

Cllr Lewis queried why NCC was considering signing off the street lighting contract when Queen Street remained incomplete. Cllr Watson thought some of Queen Street lampposts might be of the heritage type which were being dealt with separately by NCC but he would take it forward.

JW

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

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

Cllr Weir attended a meeting of the Community Hub, meeting with Hay and Kilner, CCF Sculpture Trail, Coquet Mouth, Locality meeting, West Cemetery meetings, Amble Connect, Morrisons Site Visit, meeting with Rotary re Memorial Gardens.

Cllr Hinton attended a meeting with ADT.

Cllr Morrison attended an events committee. The Puffin festival will take place on 23/24 May 2020.

The Amble Inn are paying for programmes. NCC are to be approached in terms for securing reduction in Xmas Parade Road Closure costs.

Cllr Parks will be attending AYP next week. Cllr Parks also discussed the possibility of a leisure website / app with JCSC. This is a possible project, but further information is needed at this stage.

HL / IP / VS to meet to discuss further.

HL/IP/VS

247. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Chairs Signature.....

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247.1: To consider voucher numbers 312 – 333 for payment and receipt vouchers 126 - 133 for information (**Finance**)

Cllr Weir declared an interest in voucher 323. The payments were approved.

The receipts were approved.

247.2 Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation was accepted.

247.3 YTD figures

As there was a new software in place, the Clerk was to further investigate the different reports available. The Clerk to reallocate funds to take some payments from ear marked funds.

247.4 Grant requests

Alnwick Playhouse – It was agreed to fund with £50.00

NEPACS – It was agreed to support with £50.00

Incorrect sized equipment was ordered from a previous grant request. This has been rectified and the correct equipment has been reordered.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

248. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

248.1 To discuss the repair of decals of Paddlers Park

As all inspection reports state there is no danger present and the minimum order is £1400, it was proposed and agreed to leave them for this year and think of something else for next year. Clerk to ask a local painting contractor for an estimate and advice for what he thinks would work there.

It was agreed that, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, if the Amenities Committee is cancelled, a briefing note will be emailed to members with requests to respond where required. If the meeting does go ahead, there will be a site visit to the West Cemetery at 5pm.

Clerk

249: PLANNING COMMITTEE

249.1: To note for information planning decisions, planning matters pending and planning matters pending consideration during the month of February 2020.

The report was noted.

250. AGENDA ITEMS:

250.1 To agree further staff training

Gillian Turner has attended to give new staff some additional training. Both members of staff have requested to be signed up to the ILCA qualification. This, with a training agreement in place, and further training by Gillian Turner was agreed, Clerk to action.

250.2 To agree Chairs attendance at Swan Song Charity Event 24 April 2020

It was agreed that Cllr Weir could attend this event. Since the posting of the agenda Cllr Weir was also invited to the Morpeth VE Day event and RAF Annual Spring Reception. All agreed.

250.3 Approval of newspaper

An updated version of the newspaper was approved and agreed.

250.4 To seek approval of logo and article for Amble Connect

As this was not going to be an ATC project in the long term, the final decision on the logo is to rest with those taking the project forward. Cllr Weir to take all designs to the meeting next week for discussion and agreement. All members thanked the student at JCSC for their hard work. Clerk to arrange a certificate. In the meantime, it was suggested that text be sent to the Ambler ready for publication. A contact is to be established. Cllr Bewley and Lewis to attend the meeting with Cllr Weir.

250.5 To discuss and agree ideas for Coquet Mouth Commemoration

The notes of the previous meeting had been sent. If agreeable with WHC it was proposed that ATC organise the service in discussions with CCT, on 4 July at around 12.15p.m. A floral tribute on behalf of the town will be laid.

There has been some discussion of a permanent memorial for all seafarers, sited in the Memorial Gardens. Members agreed to this being located there. Further discussions are needed and this

Clerk

CW

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Chairs Signature.....

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will be led with Ken Henderson. If it is not possible to have the memorial in place by 4 July, then it was suggested 30 September.

Clerk

250.6 To discuss disposal of PA system and purchase of smaller type

Clerk to ascertain if buyer is still interested.

Further work needed to look for other options as members were concerned about the proposed unit not being waterproof.

250.7 To discuss the letter from NCC re Land Registry Title

NCC are applying to the Land Registry to end their lease over the former Mortuary. ATC has supplied all relevant information to assist with this.

Clerk

250.8 To discuss the request for advertisement from Coquet Vets

Clerk to suggest contacting The Ambler.

Clerk

250.9 To discuss the request from Amble Events Committee

A request from the Events Committee was received regarding using the Memorial Steps during the Puffin Festival. This was agreed, Clerk to respond.

250.10 To agree the response to the PSPO Renewal

The response was agreed.

250.11 To receive an update on works to Memorial Gardens

A quote of £1030 was agreed for the revamp of works to memorial gardens. It was expected that additional expense may be incurred as the project develops and more issues come to light.

Clerk

The Coop Funeralcare have asked if ATC would like two trees for the Section N at the West Cemetery. ATC declined their offer but said they could if they wished either help towards the town's living Christmas tree for High Street Garden or plant bushes along the boundary fence.

Works regarding the town xmas tree are still progressing. Currently pricing is around £900. Clerk to ask Barry Wilson for advice. Staff to contact Kielder Forestry. Ideally, the tree needs to be planted by the end of the month.

All

250.12 To receive an update on Amble and Warkworth Rotary adopting a bed in Memorial Gardens

A constructive meeting took place of which notes had been provided.

250.13 To agree a retirement gift

Members as individuals were invited to personally contribute to a leaving gift for an official from another organisation who had worked closely with ATC for some considerable time should they wish to do so.

251. COMMUNICATIONS:

251.1 NALC Enews – 4/3, 5/3

Noted

251.2 Coastal News – February Edition

Noted

251.3 Supporting NEPACS 2020

Covered under grants

251.4 To note the communication from resident of Church Street to Cllr Kate Morrison

Covered under Cllr Clark's update

252. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

252.1 To notes minutes of meeting with David Barnes

Noted

252.2 To note the minutes of the Locality Meeting

Noted

252.3 To note the minutes of the meeting with Amble and Warkworth Rotary

Noted

252.4 Cemetery Double Charging.

A refund of £403 is due.

Chairs Signature.....

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253. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 18th March 2020 – Parking Meeting – 2pm – 4pm
- 19 March 2020 – Estate Walkabout – 10am
- 26 March 2020 – Amenities Committee – 6pm (West Cemetery Site Visit 5pm)
- 1 April 2020 – SLA – 10am
- 9 April 2020 – Full Council – 6pm
- 4 April 2020 – Great British Spring Clean

254. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 9 April 2020

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

255: MINUTES –

255.1: Town Council meeting held 13 February 2020, items 236 – 238.3
Approved.

JW

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

Cllr Watson has expressed to NCC that Amble Town Council should be given the additional members it needs to cover the town.

Cllr Watson to seek clarity on license terms for local businesses.

Cllr Hinton gave an update of the meeting with ADT.

257. AGENDA ITEMS

257.1 To receive an update regarding the tenancy issue

Members were made aware of the outcome of the meeting with Elaine Magnani and Sara Malik. ATC expressed frustration at a lack of progress, communication and understanding. Since these meetings, new arrangements were agreed, and ATC is abiding by these. An update was given to other parties involved.

258. INFORMATION ITEMS

258.1 To note the minutes of the meeting with Elaine Magnani

Noted

258.2 To note the minutes of the meeting with David Barnes

Noted

258.3 To receive the notes of the meeting with Sara Malik

Noted

258.4 A letter to Amble Town Council from Amble Business Club was received after the agenda was posted. At the Chairs discretion the item was allowed to be read and discussed at this point in the agenda.

The letter stated a frustration that Amble Town Council were not aware that there was a functioning Business Club in Amble as stated in the Amble Connect briefing note.

Members had been previously informed by their Chair that the Business Club had stopped physically meeting and was a facebook forum but said that they would be sure to make Amble Connect members aware that the Business Club continues. Their next meeting takes places on 24 March 2020, 7pm at Radcliffe Club and ATC were welcome to attend.

Chairs Signature.....

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