

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2020

The Minutes of the Electronic meeting of Full Council on Thursday 9th July 2020 at 6.00pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

PRESENT:

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

Members and the public were reminded they would be muted unless speaking.
Requests to speak would be signaled by a raised/waved hand.
Members were therefore asked to signal agreement by a 'thumbs up' gesture.

APOLOGIES

None

68.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.

There were no members of the public present.

68. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

68.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2020– items 51-67.4

Agreed

69. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

69.1 Clerks Report

A copy of the Clerks report is now added to the website to aid members of the public to follow the agenda more closely.

The report was accepted.

70. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

70.1: Chairman

Cllr Weir attended the Coquet Mouth Ceremony which went well.

70.2: Vice Chair

Cllr Lewis met with an NCC officer regarding the flooding issue at Paddlers Park and submitted a report.

Cllr Lewis made members aware that VJ Day is on 15 August 2020 and proposed that a similar arrangement be done for this as was for VE Day. Flowers were agreed to be laid on behalf of the town. Cllr Lewis also proposed that the Daughter of a local man who was held as a Japanese prisoner of war be invited to lay the flowers that day. It was suggested that this take place on 15 August 2020 at 11am. All members agreed to this. Clerk to arrange the flowers for both memorials.

Clerk

Cllr Lewis also proposed that the WW2 named crosses should also be erected with a small sign to state that these are for both VE Day and VJ Day. All members agreed.

71. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

71.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark:

Cllr Clarks report was noted.

Cllr Clark has also been made aware of the pigeon problem reported on Leslie Drive and also a planning issue on Links Avenue.

71.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson:

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2020

Cllr Watson made members aware that the Rotary were considering asking for £100 donation to enable them to plant more Crocus at the Amble end of Rotary Way. As this is a separate issue to the wildflowers here, the Rotary are to be encouraged to write a letter requesting the required donation. Cllr Watson declared an interest.

JW

Cllr Watson also gave an update on the Car Park solution. NCC are currently working very hard to progress this however it is a slow process.

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

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

Cllr Weir attended the town walkabout with Tony Kirsop re the social distancing measures that have been out in place within the centre of town. A report was circulated.

Cllr Weir also had two socially distanced meetings regarding the next steps for the Memorial Gardens.

Cllr Parks submitted a report from Amble Youth Project and also asked for suggestions of areas that AYP could set up a pop-up tent to house some activities for young people in the area. Areas so far include The Braid, Panhaven Road and Links and also NTC Car Park. Further suggestions to be sent to Cllr Parks.

ALL

73. FINANCIAL REPORT:

73.1 To consider voucher numbers 41 – 68 for payment and receipt vouchers 19-23 for information (Finance) – *attached*

The Clerk made members aware that voucher 60 was for her.

The payments and receipts were agreed.

73.2 Bank Reconciliation

Noted

73.3 YTD figures

Noted

73.4 Grant requests

None

73.5: Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2019/2020

To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor (to follow)

Members approved the internal auditors report

To approve the Annual Governance Statement

The Annual Government Statement was approved

To approve the draft annual accounts for 2019/2020

The draft annual accounts for 2019-2020 were approved.

To approve the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances

The accounting statement and explanation of variances was approved.

74. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: See Clerk's Report-

74.1 To note the outcome of the ROSPA Report for Paddlers Park & Philip Drive

The outcome of the report was noted. A quote of £140 was received to remedy the issues highlighted. This was agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

Cllr Watson made members aware that Acklington PC has a spare Perspex sheet available if ATC could make use of it. Cllr Weir thought this could be used for the Leazes Street truck although it was not ATC's responsibility. Cllr Weir to liaise with Cllr Watson for contact details.

CW

74.2 To note the update on the replacement of the Church Street Bus shelter

Noted. The order has been placed and will be erected as soon as possible.

74.3 To note the update on the utilities at West Cemetery

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2020

Noted. Clerk to maintain liaison with the contractor

74.4 To note the update on the Information Board at Lawson Street

Noted

74.5 To note the additional Town Covid Signage

Noted

74.6 To discuss the request of an Additional Litterbin on Broomhill Street

Members discussed the need for an additional bin in this area given that there are already many bins within a relatively small distance. There are historical issues with litter in this area resulting from chip boxes not being flattened when they are put in the bin. The Clerk to ask NCC if they could attend this site just before the end of the shift to see if this alleviates the problems rather than before the chip shop opens. Additionally Clerk to enquire with NCC if the operatives have reported any issues of litter in this area and if they would recommend an additional bin and if so, where they feel it is better placed.

Clerk

75: PLANNING COMMITTEE

75.1: To note for information planning decisions, planning matters pending and planning matters pending consideration during the month of June 2020

Noted

76 AGENDA ITEMS: See Clerk's Report

76.1 To approve and agree the Covid-19 Risk Assessments

Members approved the Risk Assessments.

76.2 To approve and agree the Annual Asset Risk Assessments

Members approved the risk assessments.

76.3: To approve the News page for August

Members approved the newspaper.

76.4 To discuss an end date to the Covid – 19 weekly posters

Members discussed the option of ending the weekly posters. It was agreed to keep the general covid guidelines along with some important contact details. If this needs to be revisited, Cllr Parks can take up the task once more. Cllr Parks was thanked for his work on this.

77. COMMUNICATIONS: See Clerk's Report

RECOMMENDATION - *That the Council note the communications.*

77.1 To note the date for the next edition of The Ambler

Noted

77.2 To note the changes to the NCC Liaison Officer role

Noted

77.3 To note the fundraising efforts for a BMX Track in Bedlington

Noted

77.4 To note the correspondence regarding a local business advertisement board in Morrisons

Noted

77.5 To note the update from Amble Food Bank

Noted

77.6 To note the NALC Code of Conduct clarification

Noted

77.7 To note the update on Rotary Way Wildflowers

Noted

77.8 To note the news on the Cramlington Walk

Noted

78. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION: See Clerk's Report

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2020

RECOMMENDATION - *That the Council note the information items.*

78.1 To note the update on Memorial Gardens

Noted.

78.2 To note the contact details for the officer at NCC responsible for liaising with Travellers

Noted

78.3 To note the update on the Licensing Hearing

Noted

78.4 NALC Enews 16/06, 24/06, 26/06

Noted

78.5 CAN News 19/06

Noted

78.6 To note the report from Tony Kirsop regarding business reopening and the measures for public safety

Noted

78.7 To note the update on the new office reconfiguration

Noted

78.8 To note the Tourism and Social Media Survey responded to by the Clerk

Noted

78.9 To note the reopening of the Town Centre Toilets

Noted

78.10 Northumberland Local Plan Examination: Consultation on additional evidence

Noted

The following items were added at the discretion of the Chair.

Nordmann Fir Trees

Members were made aware that staff have now pre ordered the towns trees. The original height of 3.5 metres was no longer an option, so the trees will be 4meters. NCC have agreed to assist with planting as well as Northwood Tree Surgery. Cllr Lewis to liaise with NCC regarding any possible traffic issues when delivery and planting takes place. Some funds have been secured from Northumberland Estates for one of the trees and a plaque acknowledging this will be erected at the site.

Covid – 19 Support

Cllr Weir recommended members read the information recently sent by Ruth Armstrong re support post Covid-19.

79. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

79.1 13 August 2020, 6.00pm venue tbc

The meeting closed at 18:40

The meeting reconvened at 18.50

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

80: MINUTES –

80.1: Town Council meeting held 11 June 2020 – items 65 – 67.4

The minutes were approved.

81. PRIVATE REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES &

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2020

REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AS PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

81.1 To note the report on the CCT Sculpture Trail

Cllr Weir circulated a report in advance and raised the comments made by members previously.

81.2 To note the discussions with ADT

Cllr Weir to prepare a report for circulation.

Additional item discussed:

Cllr Morrison to enquire if there would be any interest in the creator of the stone trail on the little shore, working to form a community group to have this made into a permanent feature.

KM

82. AGENDA ITEMS

82.1 To receive an update on legal proceedings

The Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk are continuing to progress the issue.

82.2 To receive an update on Coquet Mouth Ceremony

Cllr Weir attended the ceremony and it went very well.

82.3 To discuss the health and safety of young people in the town

A report was circulated in advance of the meeting.

Cllr Morrison to put the Community Safety Officer in touch with Amble Youth Project.

Cllr Morrison to circulate the report to AYP.

It was queried if AYP could access any funding to support the appointment of a youth worker for the town. Cllr Parks agreed to raise this with the management committee.

KM

KM

IP

83. INFORMATION ITEMS

83.1 To note the staff briefing note for returning to office working following Covid 19 compliance measures

Noted

Chairs Signature.....

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2020

Chairs Signature.....