

# AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2021

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Thursday 8 July 2021, 6.00pm Masonic Hall, Amble.

Members and public were reminded of the need to adhere to all Covid-19 regulations.

## **PRESENT:**

Cllrs Craig Weir, (Chair), Cllrs H Lewis, J Watson (attended later), K Morrison, J Dargue, T Hinton, D. Bewley, I Parks

V Smith - Town Clerk.

## **APOLOGIES:**

None

## **66. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

### **66.1 To receive an update on Co-option**

Candidate Tony Regan was present at the meeting and confirmed that he was happy for his application to be considered this evening. Members had previously read the application. Mr Regan confirmed that although he is retired he does have some other commitments, however these are flexible and he will be able to meet the requirement of Council meetings and involvement.

A vote was held, and it was agreed to co-opt Mr Regan.

Mr Regan to make an appointment with the Clerk to complete the relevant paperwork.

TC

### **67. 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**

#### **67.1 To receive an update from Northumbria Police.**

No report was received. Clerk to chase up.

#### **67.2 Public Attendance: Michael Walters**

Mr Walters wished to address the flooding of the road at Acklington Road / Central Avenue. Standing water is caused by the new surface not being level with the old surface. Vehicles drive by and soak pedestrians walking on the footpath. The old surface and the new surface are now breaking up. Mr Walters has emailed about this issue on a number of occasions since 2017 but does not feel he has had an adequate response from NCC or his County Cllr. Mr Walters was encouraged to report his findings using the highways online portal and request a site visit during periods of heavy rain, he was also encouraged to take photographs of the area to support his concerns.

TC

## **68. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL**

### **68.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2021, items 50.1 – 65.2**

The minutes were agreed as a true record

## **69. CLERK'S REPORT:**

### **69.1 Clerks Report**

The Clerks report was noted.

## **70 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:**

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

### **70.1: Chairman**

Cllr Weir as Mayor will be attending the RBL 100 event on 11 July 2021 to present the 100years pennant to the Warkworth and Amble branch

### **70.2: Vice Chairman**

All items are listed on the agenda

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### 71. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

#### 71.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark

Cllr Clark provided an update on the flooding of the right of way at Newmoor Close. Northumbria Water are investigating. As this is a Right of Way there is a concern that this could affect what type of work is done without making the problem worse. Cllr Clark to keep a watching brief.

Numerous complaints have been received regarding the Hauxley Grange development on Percy Drive. Enforcement and Public Protection are investigating and working with the developer. It was reported that vehicles coming from the site are not adhering to the traffic lights system in place which could cause an accident. Residents have been asked to keep a log of any noise complaints. The A1068 works regarding the subsidence have been given the go ahead and the grass verges here have also been cut back.

The foundations of properties in Tynedale have been investigated and works are programmed to take place to correct the issues.

The cockerel has now disappeared from Charles Road.

Anti-social behaviour has increased in Charles Road and residents have been asked to call 101 when it is taking place.

Cllr Clark was asked about the installation of interactive roadside speed signs on A1068 - County Cllrs could fund these from Members' Small Schemes money however the maintenance of these after 5 years will fall to the TC and therefore Town Council permission is required. The sign coming into Amble from Warkworth is not working. This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting although both County Cllrs indicated their willingness to be involved.

A drop-down bollard is to be installed in St Cuthberts Avenue, with key access for a small group of residents who need to access the garages.

NCC have looked at the parking issues highlighted on Leases Street and feel that red lines may not be the most appropriate. Highways have agreed to come out and physically look at the area before deciding. Additionally, there have been increased issues with cyclists and oncoming traffic. It was felt that more and larger signage was needed to alert cyclists that they cannot enter this one way system from Newburgh Street or ride contra flow.

There has been no resident parking permit scheme agreed for George Street as NCC are awaiting an updated policy.

The Island View bunker has now been blocked up.

Broken kerbs on Cross Street have been reported and the weeding of various areas has been highlighted further. There are significant weeds outside JCSC – Cllr Watson to take this up.

Street lighting are looking into the broken beacon at the Church Street Zebra Crossing.

Cllr Clark made all aware that Amble Harbour Lights Choir are performing again from September at the Bede Street Club.

Cllr Clark was made aware of the communications from Persimmon re bus shelters on A1068 and also Hauxley Grange where there is no bus pull in currently planned.

#### 71.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson

Cllr Watson has met with JCSC and confirmed that discussions with NCC officers regarding future developments are finally beginning to happen.

JCSC are looking into renovating the running track. It is possible that a joint funding agreement can be made with Terry Clark and Scott Dickinson alongside Cllr Watson. NCC Sports officers are assisting.

Cllr Watson gave an update on the buffer zone at Robsons Way. Cllr Watson has an active request that TPOs be placed on all of this area- meanwhile any work will require permission. Planning permission and change of use permission will be required for any residents who purchase the extra land and wish to utilise it in any way as it is currently registered as agricultural land.

Cllr Watson gave an update on work carried out following communications from Mr Walters. No action was highlighted by operatives when they were fixing the potholes.

Cllr Watson is chasing up the Acklington Road Speed Sign.

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WHC has confirmed it will repair and refurb the Leazes Street Coal Truck.

Cllr Watson gave an update on water sports activities on the Braid. There will now only be two permitted canoe trailers here.

Cllr Watson updated members on the motorhome feasibility study outcome and the problems encountered with planning permission resulting in delays.

Cllr Weir appealed to both County Councillors to help support community groups affected by the closure of the URC Church, specifically the food bank who now urgently require storage premises.

CW  
HL  
CW

### **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)**

The Town Trail is being looked at and needs updated as some signs are missing or have been moved.

Michael Lewis were thanked for his help relocated the town trail board.

A meeting was held with Park Leisure about Amble Connect however was cut short. A further meeting to be arranged.

A meeting was held with Amble and Warkworth Rotary and notes are attached.

A meeting was held with NCC tree officer relating to the treescape fund and also the Memorial Gardens' living tree.

A meeting was held with members to look at what we hope to achieve by working with the Sports Development Team at NCC.

#### **72.2 To note the update on Flamingo Day at JCSC**

Cllr Parks gave an update on Flamingo Day at JCSC where a total of £1375 was raised for North Northumberland Hospice. Cllr Parks is also involved with a number of other charity events for the hospice. He was congratulated on his efforts.

KM

Cllr Hinton gave an update on Amble Youth Project – it is hoped their summer programme will be published soon.

CW

Initial discussions have taken place with Bart Rippon regarding the Queens Platinum Jubilee Event – Cllr Morrison to take forward the suggestion of a community wide event to the Events Committee.

Cllr Watson has been appointed to the NTC Board. Cllr Weir to make introductions to Brian Ellis.

### **73. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

#### **73.1 To consider voucher numbers 44 – 65 for payment and receipt vouchers 14 - 18**

Cllr Weir declared an interest in voucher 57

Cllr Morrison declared an interest in voucher 48

The receipts and payments were approved.

#### **73.2 Bank Reconciliation**

Noted

#### **73.3 YTD figures**

Noted

#### **73.4 Grant requests – None**

### **74. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

#### **74.1 To retrospectively agree to the removal of the Memorial Gardens Living Tree and discuss the future**

Retrospective approval was given for the removal of the tree. Cllrs Lewis and Weir to attend to try and salvage the xmas lights.

Cllr Lewis proposed that a new but smaller tree was purchased here, when after the removal of the current tree the ground is prepared well in advance of the new tree being planted.

Members agreed to purchase a new tree – staff to arrange.

It was agreed to leave Betty's tree in place until a new one is full established, Cllr Parks to contact

STAFF  
IP

## AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – JULY 2021

Mr Stewart.

### **74.2 To receive an update on trees for Amble West Cemetery and decide whether to make application to the Woodland Trust**

After a meeting with the tree officer to look at the area at the West Cemetery it was agreed to go for saplings along the boundary line with the back field. NCC have submitted their bid. TC

It was also noted that the Woodland Trust also have packs of trees available, and members were asked to discuss if they wish for further trees here. Members agreed and it was delegated to Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk to look for suitable types. TC

### **74.3 To receive an update on the spoil area removal and spoil left by Drainage Contractor**

The spoil remains in place. It was agreed to send a letter requesting for its removal within 14 days, failure to do so would result in ATC removing the spoil and recharging to contractor. TC

### **74.4 To discuss a ground issue in Section M.**

A resident highlighted there may be a drainage pipe in Section M. The grave contractor assures that there were no drains here, however, in order to be sure a contractor has been asked to carry out a test dig here to ascertain if there is drainage here or not. Additionally, the Clerk was asked to request any drainage plans from the previous owner of the land.

### **74.5 To receive an update on paddlers play equipment repair if available**

No update available

## **75: PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **75.1: To note for information planning decisions, planning matters pending and planning matters pending consideration during the month of June 2021**

Noted

### **75.2 To receive an update regarding Gloster Meadows Buffer Zone**

Covered previously in Cllr Watsons update

### **75.3 To note the correspondence to Planning re works to pavement on Northumbria Terrace**

Noted

### **75.4 To note the letter sent to Persimmon Homes regarding bus shelter provision at Hauxley Grange**

Noted

### **75.5 To note the letter sent to Bryan G Hall regarding bus shelter provision on A1068**

Noted

### **75.6 To note update from NCC if available regarding second/holiday homes data enquiry**

No update. Clerk to chase a response. Members were increasingly frustrated regarding a lack of transparency or data from NCC regarding second homes and holiday lets in Amble. Members appreciated that the percentage compared to other parts of the County was low however without base line data to work from, it will not be possible to mitigate issues in the future.

### **75.7 To note complaints re: working hours and dust conditions at Hauxley Grange Development**

Noted

### **Additional item**

### **75.8 Temporary Access New Hall Farm**

It was noted that the above had resulted in the removal of hedges in the area. There was concern that no regard had been given to the impact this would have had on wildlife in this area particularly during bird nesting season. It was agreed that going forward this must be addressed in any planning comments provided by ATC.

## **76. AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **76.1 To discuss possible involvement in Community Sport and Leisure Programme**

Notes of the internal meeting were circulated. It was agreed that JD, IP and CW would meet with NCC colleagues.

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### **76.2 To receive an update on the Covid Rock Snake**

Cllr Morrison confirmed that the location had changed and did not require anything from ATC.

### **76.3 To discuss agenda for meeting with Coquet Medical Group**

The meeting will take place on 29 July at 10am and the agenda is to include updates on the telephone system and S106 monies.

### **76.4 To approve the Newspaper**

The newspaper was approved.

### **76.5 To receive an update on Amble Awards and decide on style of award**

It was proposed to have the standing paperweight award. The date for judging would be any date after 24<sup>th</sup> August.

Members are to shortlist 20 gardens with ten of the best highlighted for viewing by the Judge.

The awards will be presented at the September meeting.

Cllr Lewis to liaise with staff regarding the poster.

Civic Nominations are to be added to the August agenda along with a proposal to increase the prizes.

### **76.6 To discuss possible lighting of the beacon for Queens Platinum Jubilee**

Discussion took place around the logistics of lighting the beacon and the associated cost for lighting as well as hi-ab, fire brigade, insurance, security, barriers and first aiders.

Staff to ascertain if there is funding available for this and if not, it was agreed that Amble would not light the beacon.

### **76.7 To discuss possible events to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Members were asked to consider the possibility of taking part in community wide events, possibly alongside Events Committee to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee. A show screening and a roller-skating rink – Staff to ascertain prices. NTC was suggested as a possible location although no agreement has been given as they have not been approached yet. Cllrs Weir and Morrison to raise with NTC and Events Committee respectively. In order that events are not duplicated with other groups in the town who also intend on marking the occasion, a poster is to be created asking them to get in touch with details if they plan on doing anything.

### **76.8 To discuss the request for a Joint Impact Traffic Study with WPC**

Further information was requested on what this would entail and if there are any cost implications.

### **76.9 To discuss the closure of St Marks United Reform Church and impact for the community**

ATC were notified of the closure of the URC from December. This would have major impacts for the community groups who use this venue.

### **76.10 To discuss whether the Council wishes to adopt the responsibility for and the maintenance of the defibrillators in the town**

A request received from The Stephen Carey Fund for ATC to take over the maintenance responsibility for defibrillators in the town. As far as the Council is aware, besides JCSC and the Health Centre, there are defibrillators in the following locations:

Premier Shop (for Queen Street)

WHC

Amble Sports Development Club

It is understood one is being considered for the Welfare

ATC agreed to take on responsibility of the defibrillator outside Premier on Queen Street / Cross Street provided that there are guardians in place who will check the equipment as deemed necessary by The Stephen Carey Fund.

The maintenance costs are as follows:

New battery every 4 years £195

New electro pads set every 2 years unless used £45.

HL  
TC

TC

CW  
KM

STAFF

TC

TC

TC

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In order to maintain a distribution throughout other areas in the town, it was suggested that the Stephen Carey Fund should approach the other organisations where the defibrillators were located to ascertain if they would take responsibility

### **76.11 To discuss a location for the commemorative seat**

It was proposed that the small, grassed area to the left of the driveway of Cliff House would be suitable for the position of the commemorative seat. If agreed, the seat is to be placed towards the edge near the driveway to not impede grass cutting and maintenance here. This was agreed and Staff would seek permission from NCC as landowners.

### **76.12 To receive comments from Cllr Parks on Gilbert Academy Consultation**

It was agreed that although we appreciate there is a need for more SEN provision, there is a concern that this is a free school. Members agree in principle however also feel that the area is quite some distance from Amble and would likely be too far for local residents.

## **77. COMMUNICATIONS:**

### **77.1 To note communication regarding dangerous fence at Harbour Car Park**

Noted. Passed to WHC.

### **77.2 Road and footpath standing water on Acklington Road / Central Avenue junction**

Noted, addressed above.

### **77.3 To note email re cycle safety in Amble and subsequent response**

Noted

### **77.4 To note meeting with Amble & Warkworth Rotary re: Planter**

Noted

### **77.5 To note the reimbursement of double charges from NCC**

Noted

### **77.6 Solar Powered Defibrillator Cabinets For Parish Councils**

Noted

### **77.7 Luke McTaggart Exhibition 20 August 2021, The Old Storehouse, 6.00pm**

Noted

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

### **78.1 CAN Enews 4/6,**

Noted

### **78.2 Newsletter from Anne Marie Trevelyan 14/6, 15/6, 18/6, 25/6**

Noted

### **78.3 Gilbert Ward Academy Consultation**

Noted

### **78.4 To note the cancellation of The Colony Music Festival**

Noted

### **78.5 Local Specialised Supported living opportunity Haydon Bridge**

Noted

### **78.6 Healthwatch Northumberland Annual Survey**

Noted

### **78.7 To note the minutes of the meeting with Amble and Warkworth Rotary**

Noted

### **78.8 NALC Enews 9/6,15/6,24/6,**

Noted

### **78.9 To note the minutes of the meeting with AAHS/ATC/NCC**

Noted

### **78.10 Notice of consultation on the Northumberland Local Plan – Proposed Main Modifications**

Noted

### **78.11 NHS Update 15/6, 21/6,**

Noted

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**78.11 To note complaint re weeding and broken zebra crossing beacon**

Noted

**78.12 To note email received regarding trees and grassed area along A1068 Morrisons**

Noted

**78.13 To note the feedback from Know Your Town.**

Noted

**78.14 To note the Wellbeing Workshops info**

Noted

**78.15 To note email from AYP re: possibility of youth council in the future**

Noted

**78.16 To note email re Community Connectors micro grants**

Noted

**79. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

**79.1 12 August 2021, 6.00pm, The Masonic Lodge, Amble**

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 8 June 2021, items 63 – 65.2**

The minutes were agreed as a true record

CW

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

**81.1 To note the update from the ADT meeting**

Noted

It was queried what the building arrangements will be from 19 July 2021 and whether the conference room will be available.

TC

### **82. AGENDA ITEMS**

**82.1 Legal update**

An update was given