

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 2021

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Thursday 11 November 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, K Morrison, I Parks, D. Bewley, J Dargue, T Regan, J Watson V Smith - Town Clerk.

APOLOGIES:

T Hinton **These were accepted**

135. 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

Amble Youth Project

Matthew Mahoney gave a breakdown of the activities that the Youth Project has delivered over the last 12 months. He gave great concern regarding the behaviour of some youths on Bonfire Night whereby fireworks were actively thrown at other people. Members agreed that this needs to be dealt with strategically via Northumbria Police and in advance of next year, to ensure they are aware of the problems so that a police presence can be allocated.

The future of the Youth Project was discussed and investment in future youth workers will become a priority with the youth project offering level 1 and 2 courses to people in year 11,12 and 13 with the opportunity to progress should they wish to do so. ATC were asked to actively support them going forward. The youth project building was discussed and the possibility of a new venue for activities as they had outgrown the present building which would be retained for office-based staff. The need to find a viable premises is a long-standing issue.

AYP to give quarterly reports.

It was queried whether the youth project required capital or revenue support, however at this stage more support was needed on feasibility issues rather than financial. AYP stated said there was a lot of work to be carried out on formulating future plans before contemplating seeking grants.

West Allotment Tenant

A west allotment tenant attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of individuals renting a raised bed within the west allotment. Whilst supportive of this idea, the tenant was made aware that the Council has tried on numerous occasions to generate support from a small community group or group of volunteers to see this through and nothing has ever come of it. The tenant was made aware that there was a community project running at the East Allotments and there is also the possibility of a few people sharing an allotment which could ease the load between the group. The tenant to ascertain if there is a committed group who would take this on and to also discuss a shared allotment with AAHS.

135.1 Report from Northumbria Police.

The report was noted. There was no update with regards to the relocation of the CCTV camera on Church Street. Clerk to chase up again.

TC

Members asked for information on the data trend so that it can be determined whether it is getting better or worse. Clerk to ask for this from Northumbria Police.

135.2 Northumbria Connect

TC

Noted. The Clerk to obtain the information relevant to Amble.

TC

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136. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

136.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2021, items 118 – 134.2

The minutes were agreed as a true record subject to correction of spelling mistake.

137. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

The report was noted.

TC

138. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

138.1: Chairman

Cllr Weir attended a meeting to discuss the precept.

Cllr Weir will be leading the Town's Remembrance Day Service on 14 November.

138.2: Vice Chairman

All items on the agenda with the exception of the young people's Remembrance Service which was attended but not as a representative of the Town Council.

139. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

139.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark

Apologies were received from Cllr Clark.

139.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson

Warkworth Parish Council will take ownership of the new interactive speed sign for Rotary Way.

The temporary car park on the Braid will return for next Summer.

WHC car park should be back open for Xmas.

Cllr Watson confirmed that both Amble toilets were on the list for consideration of a share NCC funds for a revamp.

The Communities Together team are looking for a community hub and are actively considering Amble. He felt that in the future the Town Council should be working more closely with AYP.

Items in Amble for consideration as part of the LTP are as follows:

Resurfacing work on Acklington Road, Charles Road and West Avenue. Safer crossing points for Percy Drive, Church Street, Bede Street, High Street, Albert Street.

The 6 temporary motorhome bays on The Braid has been sent for planning permission.

Cllr Watson gave an update on the complaints received regarding a large campervan trailer parked at The Braid. It has now moved on.

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

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

140.1. Amble Development Trust 20 October 2021 – Cllr Weir

Noted

Cllr Weir also attended a meeting of the SLA with NCC.

Cllr Weir and Lewis with the Clerk met regarding the coal yard site.

Cllrs Lewis, Weir and Parks were involved in the planting of the town Conifer trees.

Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Bill and Pat Dodd for their help.

141. FINANCIAL REPORT:

141.1 To consider voucher numbers 168 – 178 for payment and receipt vouchers 46 - 51

The payments and receipts were approved.

141.2 Bank Reconciliation

Noted

141.3 YTD figures

Noted

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141.4 Grant requests

The below grant request was permitted at the discretion of the chair and is required to be formally ratified at the next Full Council meeting:

Events Committee £100 for the lighting of the clock tower in the lead up to Christmas.

Cllr Watson proposed this was supported. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Lewis and agreed in principle

TC

142. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

142.1 To discuss the colour scheme for Queen Street Seats

In principle it was agreed that members would prefer black to be the same as all other seats in the town; however it was agreed to leave as is at the moment as assurances were needed from NCC that street furniture will be black in future. Cllr Watson to take this forward.

JW

142.2 To note the living trees in Memorial Gardens and High Street Gardens and care arrangements

The trees were planted on 3rd November with thanks to Cllrs Lewis, Weir and Parks and assistance from Michael, Maggie, Dave Barnes, Bill and Pat Dodd plus NCC highways. Thank you letters to be sent.

TC

142.3 To receive an update on the trees from The Woodland Trust and subsequent meeting with NCC officer. Notes of the meeting with the NCC officer have been circulated with agenda papers.

All those involved have been informed of the delay for the tree delivery.

Cllr Lewis and the Clerk met with NCC Countryside Officer Danny Goodall to suggest possible locations for spare trees. There is a small space with the copse next to the A1068 however there are further copses on The Braid which can accommodate more of the trees. Countryside Parks are happy to clear the area before the trees are to be planted and they are also already aware that they may be receiving an additional 420 trees from another source.

142.4 To receive an update on Seafarers memorial

There was no update. Clerk to continue to request the work to be carried out.

143: PLANNING COMMITTEE

There remain some issues around the decision making process for planning applications. These are being given careful consideration and will be discussed at the next meeting.

143.1 To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee 28 September 2021

The Planning Minutes are due to be sent tomorrow. The response has already been sent to NCC.

143.2 To note planning outcomes from October 2021

Noted

143.3 To note the enforcement request regarding footprint of new development on The Wynd

Noted. Members were concerned and felt misled during the planning application stage which stated the dwellings would be residential. It has come to light that all of these will be holiday lets. It is now members' understanding that unless a condition is placed at planning approval stage that there is nothing to stop them becoming holiday lets. There is also concern regarding additional parking congestion onto an already dangerous road. NCC are to be asked for guidance on how this can be avoided in future. A meeting with Rob Murfin to be arranged and this issue can be discussed at that meeting.

TC

143.4 To note enforcement request regarding mud on Percy Drive from development

Noted

144. AGENDA ITEMS – See Clerks Report

144.1 To receive an update on The Amble Inn sponsorship

The Amble Inn has been asked to sponsor the maintenance of the Fish Sculpture with an annual contribution. We await their response.

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144.2 To discuss disabled access to the beach via beach wheelchairs

Cllr Weir to discuss with Park Leisure as there was one there previously. Clerk to contact Bill Cruikshank to ascertain what exactly is required and what support is needed from ATC.

TC

144.3 To receive an update on arrangements for Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is continuing as planned. Invitations have gone out and a list of wreath layers is being collated. NCC have agreed to assist with moving the gazebo and wreath stands on the morning. Ben Newall has been booked to provide PA. Barriers have been requested from NCC to help with social distancing.

The order of service is being developed. The church service will take place at URC Church. Road Closures have been agreed.

The request from the Bede Street Club was noted and a response will be sent.

TC

144.4 To note outcome and agree next steps arising from meeting with Cllr Glen Sanderson

The meeting went well and follow up meetings are to be arranged with Rob Murfin and Neil Dawson.

TC

144.5 To receive an update on the Chairman's Christmas Reception

The Chairs reception has been booked for 10th December at the Masonic Lodge. Christmas cards and invitations have been produced. Cllr Weir is liaising with possible entertainment options which may include carol singing. A buffet has been ordered. Clerk to check bar will be open. The raffle is in aid of North Northumberland Hospice Care- Cllrs are asked to consider donating prizes.

TC

144.6 To agree comments to the Licensing Policy Consultation

Members agreed that there was very little change. Clerk to respond.

TC

144.7 To receive an update on Council specific email addresses

Some members have now been set up. The Clerk is working on the others.

TC

144.8 To receive an update on Jubilee arrangements

Further clarity has been sought regarding the hire of the roller-skating rink.

First Aid - 80% of their staff are first aiders so at least one will be on site

The company has been asked what assurances are in place if any future gov. restrictions are imposed and the event cannot go ahead, or for example the weather is terrible. It has been confirmed that in line with their covid policy, a full refund or a change of date will be implemented. In terms of the weather, there is no contingency for this, and the payment must be made.

There is no additional cost for the hire of the unit for 6 hours and the generator will be provided free of charge.

A sub floor may be required dependent on the surface of the ground we are using. This is an additional £600plus VAT.

Their staff will run the rink, supervise the hire of the skates and pads and manage the times sessions of 15 minutes each. Volunteers will be needed to manage the queue and once all is finalised Council will need to decide any charge for participants.

We have asked that they hold those dates in their diary for us and we will confirm officially when we have a final venue and costings.

Northumberland County Council will be hosting a spectacular event at Hadrians Wall although this will not be something that can be attended by members of the public.

Cllr Watson made members aware of the Jubilee Fund whereby all T&PC may apply for a maximum of £500 towards their Jubilee celebrations. Cllr Watson to send info to the Clerk.

JW

The arrangements for the Fireworks in April are all finalised with the exception of lighting which is already in hand.

Cllr Weir to discuss with NTC the possibility of a cinema room of Amble for slides etc. then and now. It may be possible to have a photographic display around the edges of the room too.

144.9 To discuss the purchase of surplus church pews at £60.00 each

This was discussed and Cllr Lewis proposed that the Council did not proceed with this, this was seconded by Cllr Watson and agreed.

TC

144.10 To discuss Chairs attendance to Civic Dinner on behalf of Ian Hutchinson at Linden Hall

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As per the previous resolution Cllr Weir may attend Civic Events for Northumberland.

CW

144.11 To agree Chair and Vice Chair attendance at final URC Service on 19 December 2021

This was agreed.

144.12 To discuss the 2022/23 Precept Request

All members were invited to a meeting to look at the next precept requirement. Members agreed to try to limit the increase as they are aware that it is a challenging time financially at the moment for many people. The band D information was received which showed a small number of additional properties came online. It was hoped the increase would remain at 1% or less. The budget will be an item on the next agenda for further scrutiny.

TC

144.13 To approve draft of News Page for Ambler

The Newspaper was approved. Clerk to send.

144.14 To note the outcome of the notice to Dispose of Open Space.

The deadline for any comments to the disposal of open space has passed. No comments were received before the deadline.

TC

145. COMMUNICATIONS: RECOMMENDATION - *That the Council note the items.*

145.1 To note the correspondence regarding dangerous driving at West Avenue

Cllr Watson has asked NCC to consider a slug here.

145.2 To note updates from Anne Marie Trevelyan 22/10, 29/10,

145.3 CAN news 1/11,

145.4 To note request from ESH / Home Group re CCTV Survey of Drainage Channel

145.5 Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership - Virtual Annual Forum - Wednesday 3rd November, 4pm - 5.30pm

145.6 Healthwatch Northumberland AGM and Review of the Year

145.7 NALC 27/10, 28/10,

145.8 Mr Connelly, Flooding on Church Street, Bridge Street.

145.9 Improving Lives – Operation Payback

All communication items noted enbloc

146. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

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

146.1 To note the deferment of health centre page for The Ambler

146.2 To note notes of meeting with Dan Meikle re potential tourism offering

146.3 To note the correspondence and response to Mr Bird

146.4 To note the Thriving Together Event 10th-12th November

146.5 To note the notes from the Partnership Meeting 20 October 2021

146.6 To note work on Amble War Memorial Stone

Information items noted enblock

146.7 To discuss the requirements to ensure website Accessibility and the development of an accessibility statement

The Clerk is ascertaining that the Council's current website host is working to the required standard. All future documents will be accessibility checked using the tool available on Microsoft word. An accessibility statement will be required once full knowledge of current accessibility is known.

TC

146.8 To discuss the request from The Women's Institute

Members had previously been made aware of a request from the WI with regards to the poppy net. The WI have asked that ATC continue to store the net after the event. It was agreed to allow the net to be hung and removed by the W.I. within a set timeframe after which ATC agreed to store it.

147. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

147.1 9 December 2021 6.00pm, Venue: Masonic Lodge, Amble

Under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public will be

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excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda due to their sensitive nature.

PUBLIC VERSION OF PRIVATE

148: MINUTES –

148.1: Town Council meeting held 14 October 2021, items 131 – 134.2

The minutes were agreed a true record

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

149.1 To note Cllr Weir report from Amble Development Trust meeting 20 October 2021

Noted

150. AGENDA ITEMS

150.1 To discuss the lease proposal from Amble Development Trust

Cllr Lewis proposed that this was accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Morrison and agreed. Clerk to respond.

TC

150.2 Legal update

In conjunction with item 151.2

An update was given. Delegated powers were given to the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk to proceed as appropriate.

HL
CW
TC

150.3 To receive an update on Leisure / Recreation offer if available

The Sports Development Team are liaising with NCC Officers to determine what resources are available. This offer figure has been requested in advance of the next Full Council meeting.

151. INFORMATION ITEMS

151.2 To note the request to meet developer 4th November 2021

See above 150.2