

# AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – MARCH 2022

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Thursday 10th March 2022, 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), H Lewis, I Parks, D. Bewley, K Morrison, J Watson, T Clark, P Dancer  
A Kruk – Minute Taker

## **205 APOLOGIES:**

Cllrs Dargue's apologies were accepted

## **206. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

Members showed their support to the Ukrainian people and noted the Ukrainian flag is flying in Amble Town square

206.1 Welcome to Cllr Mr P Dancer. Cllr Dancer thanked everyone for the welcoming emails he has received.

Puffin Festival Flag Competition. Cllr Dargue has been asked by the Development Trust to be a judge for the competition. Agreed there were no objections to this.

206.2 A response has been received from NCC to confirm that the Council may co-opt to the vacancy in West Ward. This will now be advertised with a closing date 3 weeks from display.

## **207.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.

### **207.1 Report from Northumbria Police**

A report from Northumbria Police was accepted and noted. Cllr Weir said that the reports received are very generic and a request would be made for the police representative to attend future meetings. A new sergeant had attended last October and no one since. If there was no one available to attend Full Council, we would ask for the police to give a convenient time so that a separate meeting with the Councillors can be scheduled. **Clerk to write requesting attendance.**

Update on CCTV – Camera maintenance report says that the 3 cameras on Queen Street had condensation in the lenses and although still working needed to be replaced as they are all out of warranty. Quotes and prices have been requested and that any new cameras need to be sealed units to prevent this happening again. Out of the 3 cameras on Acklington Road, 1 is currently working and the other two are being repaired. Cost to provide servicing of the CCTV is around £3,000 per year and ATC are not completely happy with the service being provided. Alternative providers for cameras, new cameras and all service support costs and specifications to be presented in a report at the next meeting to enable a fuller discussion.

**Clerk**

Amble Youth Project – the police want to enhance the project and are currently gathering information on this.

**Clerk**

### **207.2 ASB in Amble. Plans noted and agreed.**

ASB - appropriate action has been taken against the youths ASB on Queen Street and at the Tesco store and outreach workers have been involved. Residents are in contact with the police and the Chair of Youth Projects has been involved.

## **208. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL**

### **209.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022, items 188 – 204.3**

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

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

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

### **209.1 Clerks Report**

The Clerk's Report was noted as being very comprehensive and was accepted.

### **210. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:**

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

#### **210.1: Chairman**

The Chair confirmed all items were contained in the agenda.

#### **210.2: Vice Chairman**

All reports are contained within the agenda

### **211. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:**

#### **211.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Clark**

Cllr Clark gave an update on the ongoing flooding footpath at between Percy Drive and Coquet Enterprise Park. Northumbria Water has discussed the issue and NCC will refer this matter to the Highways section to carry out a feasibility and costing study as this will be expensive to implement. No progress has been made so far to rectify the matter. It was suggested as a matter of urgency all options including a diversion should be considered to rectify the problem

ESP Reporting system at NCC - emails from residents reporting storm damage were coming through numerous times due to the delay in an active response so it was deceptive on how much damage from storm Arwen had been reported in the Amble area.

Scaffolding at houses after the storm damage has also caused problems as reports came in of further damage to TV aerials being caused by the putting up of scaffolding.

Homefinder – Current applications are very high.

#### **212.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Watson**

Queens Jubilee – Cllr Watson confirmed that ATC's application for the event has been approved and passed.

Firework display – NCC's ecology office has requested a report.

Acklington Road – Local Transport Plan includes refurbishment/resurface at the top of Acklington Road, the 30 m.p.h. is to be extended and a filter lane is being added for the new development. Cllr Parks asked about making the road into a 20 mph speed limit and adding traffic calming measures, particularly around the school. ATC to put in a request letter to Richard McKenzie requesting a traffic calming survey – letter to be run by Cllr Watson prior to sending to NCC.

Motorhome parking on the Braid – Temporary carpark will be operating this summer as well as temporary overflow parking. Long term plans are to remove some of the grass area to make turning space for campervans.

Turner Street Carpark - The latest delay is due to drainage issues in the Harbour wall. Cllr Watson is having discussions regarding charges and/or some short free parking time.

School – Cllr Lewis asked when we can expect the public consultation needed to discuss the 2 and 3 tier systems and decide which is the best option. Cllr Watson said that discussions with the Head Teacher and school Governors started in January this year; agreement on the strategy and a business plan is required before a public consultation can take place.

### **212. 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)**

Cllr Weir reported that the planting of whips had been successful thanks to the Youth Project.

Rowing Club working on the Braid to be discussed later in the agenda.

Beach buggy wheelchair – some progress has been made with Park Leisure.

**2.12.1 Amble Development Trust** - fire inspections and fire drills are now going to take place in the ADT building.

**212.2 AYP** update – Cllr Weir reported that there were rumours suggesting Matthew would be leaving the Youth Project, Cllr Morrison reported that an official announcement would be made in

**Clerk/  
JW**

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due course.

**NTC** have plans to increase their current facilities.

**212.3 Event Update** – The Puffin Festival is taking place on 3, 4, 5 and 6<sup>th</sup> June, all events are to be advertised in the Ambler.

Drywater Arts and a programme of events and entertainment are running on the weekend of the 29<sup>th</sup> June in the Town Square.

At the NALC meeting attended by Cllr Bewley, Glen Sanderson spoke about affordable housing and updating the public toilets – Cllr Watson had asked for details to be sent to him.

### **213. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

#### **213.1 To consider voucher numbers 285 – 301 for payment and receipt vouchers 67 - 69**

Cllr Weir declared an interest on payment voucher 294. Cllr Lewis declared an interest on Payment voucher 282.

The payments and receipts were approved.

#### **213.2 Bank Reconciliation**

Noted

#### **213.3 YTD figures**

Noted

#### **213.4 Grant requests**

AGE UK – Generic letter - £50 Agreed

Citizens Advice - £50 Agreed

Hospice Care North Northumberland – Agreed to support with £500.00

#### **213.5 To approve the Financial Risk Assessment and appendix for 2022/23**

Cllr Lewis – change wording in the appendix heading to “may be”. Approved.

#### **213.6 To approve the Statement of Internal control 2022.**

Approved

#### **213.7 To approve the Financial Regulations**

Approved

#### **213.8 To receive an update on Town Council insurance requirements**

Clerk is getting quotes from other companies for comparison at next month’s meeting.

#### **213.9 To note the logged insurance claim for all damage caused by storm Arwen.**

The claim is around 12K inclusive of all damage repair and clearance required.

### **214. AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

#### **214.1 To discuss quotations received to repair memorials damaged during Storm Arwan.**

Memorials – Cllr Lewis suggested lying flat the unsteady memorial which was not due to storm damage, the quote received for all memorials was for £3500, no other quotes were received.

Approved.

#### **214.2 To retrospectively agree the amended plans for planters.**

Approved to include the Jubilee design crown and the Union Jack .

#### **214.3 To appoint Vice Chair of Amenities**

David Bewley was proposed, seconded and agreed. He accepted.

#### **214.4 To agree seat location from Island View to Bay View Promenade.**

Agreed to exchange these seats so Bay View were all of a similar design

### **215: PLANNING COMMITTEE**

#### **215.1 To note planning outcomes for February 2022**

Noted

#### **215.2 To receive an update on the adoption of the Northumberland Local Plan**

There has been no response yet.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

TC

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### **215.3 To agree a date of meeting with NCC Officer Rob Murfin**

Date of meeting is 7<sup>th</sup> April, Noted

### **215.4 To note the update re street naming for Longstone Manor**

Displeasure had been communicated to NCC as to the lack of local references.

### **215.5 Advertising Signs at Amble Sports Development Centre**

Reported to NCC. It was also noted that a Charity Shop in Queen Street was placing an A Frame in the middle of the street. Graham Bucknell at NCC to be contacted about this.

Coquet Grange temporary access off the south roundabout for building- Contact NCC again regarding removal as estate is now complete.

Highways would be contacted regarding the confusion over the cycle left turn arrow at the Morrisons roundabout. It was suggested adding road markings to indicate motorists could go ahead or turn left in this lane would clarify the position.

### **216. AGENDA ITEMS:**

#### **216.1 To receive an update regarding ESH investigations.**

A report will be sent from the compound investigations

AK

#### **216.2 To agree dog sign locations for welfare**

Agreed ADT location suggestions and costs

AK

#### **216.3 To note queries made with Advance Northumberland and subsequent response; members determine whether to contact Highways.**

Traffic parking around the bend by the shell fish factory is a big issue causing obstruction to the sight line. Agreed to ask Highways in view of this and the danger to those crossing here, in particular children going to school, can anything be done.

#### **216.4 To agree views on Fourways2 Covid Control**

Access via the Development Trust only, this is an issue if ATC want to go back to using the conference room for meetings. Until this and responsibility for cleansing of the facilities after a public meeting is clarified agreed to still use the Masonic Lodge for meeting for the next 2 months.

#### **216.5 To receive an update if available re Beach Wheelchairs**

None given.

Clerk

#### **216.6 To discuss potential hosting of Alnwick Triathlon Event in Amble**

ATC support this event in principle but cannot give any permissions as these need to come from the Harbour Master and other bodies.

Clerk

#### **216.7 To receive an update on Fireworks event, Jubilee Weekend arrangements and to decide whether to include the Climbing Wall**

NCC required an ecology report regarding the area of the Braid- Clerk & Cllr Lewis had held a meeting with the officer who was awaiting noise levels from the fireworks and the P.A. contractors but felt the event would be acceptable. He commented any later in the year would have had an effect on nesting and returning migratory birds. Approval from Parking was awaited after clarifying the event did not specifically require the use of the Braid car park. Cllr Park agreed to be responsible for the 'Lost Children' post.

Volunteers needed to help out with supervision of the roller skating queue at the Jubilee event – add this and consideration of time period and charges to the next agenda . Agreed to include the wall as part of the event if a suitable location can be sourced as NCC will not agree to close the small car park area.

#### **216.8 To discuss Proposed Parking Restrictions, Low Hauxley**

Noted- Nothing further to discuss on this.

#### **216.9 To discuss the outcome of the meeting with Jake Preece and agree a way forward**

Notes of the meeting would be forwarded to NCC Officers. Little progress, an outline of the project will be produced and a job description drawn up as soon as possible. Members were urged to consider if they knew anyone suitable to apply.

Clerk

#### **216.10 To request an update on the closure of lower Queen Street**

Queen Street is now open.

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### **216.11 To discuss planting of whips by schools**

Only 1 response received back from the schools, Cllr Watson suggested asking the Rotary Club and Inner Wheel as well. If negative, then will contact NCC and ask if the whips can be planted as part of our SLA, Agreed.

**JW/  
Clerk**

### **216.12 To note increase of costs for newpage in The Ambler and retrospectively agree to continue 216.13 To agree the newpage content – to follow**

Agreed – continue to use the Ambler.

### **216.14 To agree staff training**

Agreed to the suggested training- it is important for the efficient administration of the Council

### **216.15 To agree staff working arrangements**

Agreed for Town Clerk to agree work pattern of the office staff.

**Clerk**

### **217. COMMUNICATIONS: RECOMMENDATION - That the Council note the items.**

#### **217.1 To note email from resident regarding New Hall Right of Way and responses if available from NCC**

Noted.

#### **217.2 To note query on Council's agreement to TPOs Robsons Way**

Noted

#### **217.3 To note TIC Toilet request and response**

Noted

#### **217.4 Visitor Access and Travel Management Strategy for the Northumberland Coast AONB - Questionnaire**

Noted.

### **218. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION: RECOMMENDATION - That the Council note the information items.**

#### **218.1 To note the Lifetime Neighbourhood Proposal Development**

Northumberland Estates planning proposal- ATC to request a meeting with Northumberland Estates, to clarify this. If agreed, Chair and Vice Chair of Warkworth Parish Council to be invited in join in gathering further information on the proposed scheme.

#### **218.2 Historical Promotions leaflet**

#### **218.3 CAN News 4/2,**

#### **218.4 To note newsletter from Anne Marie Trevelyan 4/2,11/2,**

#### **218.5 NALC Newsletter 9/12, 16/2, 18/12, 24/2**

#### **218.6 To note invite to take part in Northumberland Local Plan - Examination Survey**

#### **218.7 To note Northumberland Local Plan – Inspectors' Report and NCC adoption procedures**

#### **218.8 To note the update re A1 in Northumberland – Morpeth to Ellingham Project**

#### **218.9 To note update from Northumberland Recovery College**

#### **218.10 Andy Man Cave - Berwick**

#### **218.11 Chairs Invite to Charity Race Night Saturday 9th April 2022 and Charity Ball Friday 6th May 2022 – Gateshead Council.**

#### **218.12 To note the update re: Turner Street Car Park**

All items above were noted by the members.

### **219. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

219.1 14 April 2022 - 6.00pm, Venue: The Masonic Lodge

**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**

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to their sensitive nature.

### **PUBLIC VERSION OF PRIVATE**

**220: MINUTES – 220.1: Town Council meeting held 10 February 2022, Items 202 – 204.3 221.**  
The minutes were agreed.

**PRIVATE REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES & REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS AS PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS Members are asked to note 221.1 Notes of ADT meeting from 16 February 2022 222.**

Cllr Weir reported on a Development Trust meeting which discussed the Sculpture Trail. Some of the information is yet to be updated on the planning portal. ATC to contact NCC Planning regarding this. Agreed

### **AGENDA**

**222.1 To discuss land matters & subsequent response**

An update was given on the delays.