

Clerks Report – August 2025

71.APOLOGIES

None

72. To receive any declarations of interest from Members:

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda, as required by the Amble Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011, now or as they come up in the agenda process. Members are asked to review their completed Register of Interest forms to ensure that they are accurate and up to date.

73. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

73.1: To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2025, items 51-70.1

Members to approved the minutes.

74. CLERK'S REPORT:

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

74.1 Clerks Report attached

Members to note and accept Clerks report.

75. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS and REPORT:

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

75.1: Chairman

Update from Cllr Parks

75.2: Vice Chairman

Update from Cllr Bewley

76: Update from Neighbourhood Development Steering Group

76.1 To receive report update from Steering Group and Sub Committees if available

Update from Chair of Steering Group and Amble TC reps.

77. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

77.1: To receive a report from County Councillor Hume

Update from Cllr Hume

77.2: To receive a report from County Councillor Davidson

Update from Cllr Davison

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

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

Update from relevant members.

79. FINANCIAL REPORT:

79.1 To consider voucher numbers 96 – 121 for payment and 18 - 25 for receipt.

Members to consider and agree payment and receipt vouchers.

79.2 Bank Reconciliation

Members to accept bank reconciliation

79.3 Year to date figures

Members to review and accept.

79.4 Grant Requests

- Hadston House
Although there is no amount specified, the usual donation from Town and Parish Councils to Hadston House is £100. They currently regularly support around 115 people from Amble.

79.5 To note the update from the CCLA

Members to note

79.6 To note National Pay Award applicable for staff

Members to note

80.AMENITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

80.1 To approve the Amenities Management Committee Minutes from 31 July 2025

Members to accept the minutes of 31 July 2025

80.2 To note and action remedial works as highlighted in the ROSPA reports for Paddlers Park and Philip Drive Play Area

Members to note and action the remedial works identified and agreed at Amenities Committee

80.3 To agree quotation for repair of multigym unit in Paddlers Park

Members to agree quotation for repair if available

80.4 To agree a Risk Assessment for current noticeboards (IP/DB)

Members to agree to develop a Risk Assessment for the Town Noticeboards given the difficulty in opening and accessing, especially during periods of inclement weather.

80.5 To note removal of Queen Street seat and discuss replacement options

The seat on the bottom of Queen Street has been removed due to wear and tear on the seat base resulting in sharp rusted edges presenting a safety risk to users. Members to consider whether to temporarily repair the damage if that is possible, buy a new seat (which would then be out of sync of the seat replacement schedule) or relocate the seat at the top of the street to this point. Members to discuss.

80.6 To consider request to NCC to lock toilets later (IR)

Members to consider whether to ask NCC to leave the toilets open longer.

80.7 To consider interim memorial checks (DB)

Currently we operate on a four year rolling programme of memorial testing however during the interim period it is recommend that those that have been highlighted as needing to be monitored are checked annually. Staff are seeking clarity on whether NCC have capacity to oversee interim testing of memorials.

80.8 To consider creating a planter on Philip Drive in place of removal of seat base (CC)

At a previous Amenities Committee it was agreed to remove the concrete slab and grass the area. It has been suggested that a planter should be put here instead. Members to discuss.

80.9 To receive an update on Persimmon installation of seats and trees on Percy Drive

As agreed at a site visit in February, Persimmons were due to reinstall the seat on Percy Drive however this has yet to materialise, similarly trees that were removed from Percy Drive were also due to be reinstated but this has not yet happened. Persimmon did create a seat base but this was incorrect and subsequently was filled in. Members to decide on next course of action.

81: PLANNING COMMITTEE

81.1 To note the Planning outcomes for August 2025 – to follow

Members to note

82. AGENDA ITEMS:

82.1 To agree quotation for Church Street Bus Shelter Roof (IP/DB)

These works were agreed in Amenities Committee subject to Full Council approval.

Members to consider quotations:

Option one: £2860

Option two: £4560

82.2 To receive feedback on Councillor Surgeries (LMc/JR)

Update to be provided by McT / JR

82.3 To receive an update on working parties:

- **Grants**
- **Social Media and Communications (inc Chairs reception, Skills Audit and 4 year plan and follow procedure for correspondence)**
- **Traffic and Parking**
- **Policy**
- **Area of Reflection Working Party**
- **Anti Racism and Xenophobia Working Party**

82.4 Agree creation of additional working party to include other stakeholders to look at hanging baskets on Queen Street (LMc)

Members to discuss a joint project with Amble Development Trust regarding hanging baskets on Queen Street. Consideration is needed on budget, installation permission, conservation area approval, maintenance and inclusion within the SLA.

82.5 To discuss additional one off funding request for Amble Christmas Lights £1000

The Christmas Lights Committee have requested an additional one-off contribution of £1000 to help cover the cost of replacing the existing mains power cabling and purchasing more LED lights which are being used to update existing old lights. If agreed, Members to consider which budget head this is to come from as has not been accounted for in this budget.

82.6 To discuss the need for electric charging points and permits and action to take (IR)

With the prohibition of the sale of diesel / petrol cars pending, residents will need a space close to their home to recharge their vehicles. Members to consider contacting NCC regarding the provision of permits and electric charging points for domestic properties.

82.7 To receive an update on IT provision and to consider license option for android tablets

The new IT provision is pending. There is an issue with the android tablets as the initial license costed were for £22.18 however these have now changed and although they offer more, the price has also increase to £68.77 for user based licenses. These are the ones that NCC recommend. Members to agree.

82.8 To consider Councillor and staff training by Give Racism the Red Card (CD)

Cllr Dawson is liaising with Give Racism the Red Card and is seeking Cllr training opportunities for all Cllrs and Staff. Members to agree quotation if available.

82.9 To discuss the lack of ATMs in Amble, in impact on local businesses and possible solutions (IR/CD)

Concerns have been received regarding the lack of 24/7 cash withdrawal access in Amble since the TSB branch closed and ATM removed. The only ATM in the town entre now is at Tesco and so regularly runs out. Link has suggested we ask for an assessment on 18 September as that would be 12 months since the last assessment was done. In the meantime, cash can be withdrawn from the banking hub but Monday – Friday only 9-5pm.

82.10 To agree date for Town and Parish Council joint meeting

Members to agree a date for the initial meeting.

82.11 To discuss how the Town Council can support the creation of a family hub in Amble (CD)

New funding has been announced to help support the creation of family hubs. Members to discuss how the Town Council can work with other organisations to facilitate better provision in Amble

83. COMMUNICATIONS: RECOMMENDATION - *That the Council note or discuss where necessary the items.*

83.1 To note complaint regarding Amble Harbour toilets

Members to note. Response has been provided.

83.2 To note complaints regarding Acklington Road bus shelter replacement

Members to note. Response has been provided and meeting with resident is due to be set up.

83.3 To note response to license request from Cock & Bull

Members to note. A cleaning premium has been suggested if it becomes clear that patrons are using the public toilet after hours. It is yet to be decided as to whether this will be included within the agreement.

83.4 To note response to Subject Access Request completed 1 August 2025

Members to note.

83.5 To note content of resident letters re Auditor and Annual Parish Meeting and Councils response

Members to note. Response has been provided. Meeting with Internal Auditor arranged.

83.6 To note the response from DPP planning and subsequent letter to NCC re JCSC New build

Members to note.

83.7 To note letter to Guy Renner Thompson re JCSC new build

Members to note

83.8 To note letter to NCC re Persimmon signage without permission Hauxley View

Members to note

83.9 To note correspondence re JCSC Sports Hall and Council response

Members to note

83.10 To review and collate response to Northumberland Coast National Landscape Management Plan – deadline 25 September 2025

Members to consider the content and supply comments ahead of September Full Council

83.11 To discuss submissions, if any, to Northumberland Call for Sites

Members to note

83.12 To note letter to NCC seeking clarity on future of Amble First School site and possible uses

Letter to be drafted. Members to agree.

84. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR CIRCULATION:

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

84.1 To note letter to Secretary of State

84.2 To note letter to Richard Wearmouth re LCWIP

84.3 To note July Roundup and creation of mailing list

84.4 To note Northumberland Coast National Landscape Minutes 1 July 2025

84.5 Notes of meeting with Northumbria Police 16 July 2025

84.6 To note the update on HUSK development

To note enbloc

85. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

85.1 11 September 2025, Amble Town Council Offices, Fourways2 at 6p.m.

86. DATES FOR DIARIES

Partnership Meeting with NCC – 14th August 2025, 10.30am

VJ Day 2025 – 15th August 2025, 2.00pm, Memorial Gardens

Estate Walkabout – 5th September 2025, 9am – meeting point tbc

Police Community Engagement Event – 8 September 2025, 3.00pm

Meeting with Northumbria Police – 10 September 2025, 5.30pm

Full Council – 11 September 2025, 6.00pm

Thriving Together event – 18 September 2025, 10am

ACCRONYMS

ATC – Amble Town Council

NCC – Northumberland County Council

JCSC – James Calvert Spence College

ADT – Amble Development Trust

NALC – Northumberland Association of Local Councils

AYP – Amble Youth Project

WHC – Warkworth Harbour Commissioners

LCWIP – Local Cycling Walking Infrastructure Plans

RAW – Rotary of Amble and Warkworth

NDP – Neighbourhood Development Plan