



On Thursday 9th February 2023 at 6.30pm.

PRESENTATIONS.

- There were no presentations for this meeting.

QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

- None for this meeting.

PART A - ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Min Ref		Attendance / Apologies and Declarations of Interests.	Determination
23/26		In Attendance	Councillors Crosby, Hedley, Hogg, Reed, Taylor, Thompson, Todd, D Wallace, and R Wallace (Chair). Town Clerk Steven Young, and 1 (One) member of the public.
23/27	a.	Apologies for Absence. i. To receive and note any apologies for absence from Councillors. ii. To consider and determine any dispensations for absent Councillors.	i. There were no apologies for absence, all Councillors were in attendance. ii. There were no dispensations for absence for this meeting.
23/28	b.	Declaration of Interests. i. Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest, (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest), they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 12th July 2012. ii. To consider any requests for dispensations.	i. Councillor R Wallace made a declaration of interest in relation to Agenda item Part B 2d 1. Funding of Bedlington Food Banks - Review. The Matthew Project (now Bedlington Food Bank (Councillor Hogg to take the Chair for that agenda item). ii. No dispensations for this meeting.

PART B – MATTERS FOR DECISION

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS / SUMMARY OF DELEGATED DECISIONS

		Details of Meeting or Delegated Decisions	Determination
23/29	a.	To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 12th January 2023.	RESOLVED that the minutes of the West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 12th January 2023 are APPROVED as a true record.
23/30	b.	To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting that are not included as agenda items.	There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th January 2023.

2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

		Matters for Discussion / Decision	Determination
23/31	a.	<p>Strategic Plan - Review and Update of Targets. The Council are requested to review (and update if appropriate) its Strategic Plan Monitoring Report. Monitoring Report distributed to members.</p>	<p>RESOLVED to update the following targets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creation of a resident's panel deferred until September 2023 (Resources). ○ Annual Residents Survey deferred until September 2023 (Resources). ○ Councillor Surgeries / Open Days removed from plan (Sufficient alternative means of contact available). ○ liaison meetings with Northumberland County Councillors – commenced Feb 2023. ○ Residents Newsletter – alternative method of using Council website (Community Notice Board) (Resources) ○ E newsletter – removed from plan. (Resources). ○ Publication of Audio Meeting Recordings on Council Website etc – removed from plan (Unable to obtain a cost effective technical solution). ○ Councillor Training – ongoing – no training needs identified. ○ Residents Gardening Competition Councillor Taylor to lead on project. ○ Planning Champion – removed from plan. (Councillor Hogg to fulfil role) ○ Flag Flying Master – removed from plan. (Unable to attract volunteer (s)) ○ Add Humford Woods Residents Group to plan.
23/32	b.	<p>Community Event Planner. The Council are asked to approve the appointment of a Community Event Planner following interviews on 8th February 2023.</p>	<p>At the request of The Clerk The Chair moved this agenda item to Section D – Exempt Business (Confidential business).</p>
23/33	c.	<p>Asset Register. The Council are requested to review (update if appropriate) and note the updated Asset Register as at 31.1.2023 (Updated register distributed to members).</p>	<p>RESOLVED AFTER REVIEW to APPROVE the updated Asset Register as at 31.1.2023.</p>
23/34	d.	<p>Funding of Bedlington Food Banks - Review.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council are requested to discuss, review, and decide upon any financial support to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bedlington Salvation Army. ii. Bedlington Food Bank (Previously Bedlington Matthew Project). iii. Wansbeck Valley Food Bank. 2. The Council are requested to discuss and determine next review dates for the funding of Food Banks. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bedlington Salvation Army. ii. Bedlington Matthew Project. iii. Wansbeck Valley Food Bank. <p>Any approved funding would be in respect of a S137 payment.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RESOLVED to set aside a £500 donation for each of the 3 food banks for each month January 2023 through to March 2023 – to be released upon receipt of an individual request from each food bank. 2. RESOLVED to review on-going donations at the April 2023 scheduled meeting.
23/35	e.	<p>External Meetings To receive feedback from Councillors from any external meetings since the date of the last Council meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Councillor Hogg provided a verbal update in relation to his and The Council Chairs attendance at the

			<p>Annual Town and Parish Council Conference.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Councillor Reed provided a verbal update in relation to a meeting she attended (along with Council Chair) with East Bedlington Parish Council to investigate the possibility of jointly providing a “Everyday hero’s” event.
23/36	f.	<p>Working Groups. The Council is asked to review the continuation of its current working groups, and their ongoing membership (if any).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Governance and Staffing Working Group. 2. Events Working Group. 3. Communications Working Group. 4. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. 5. Finance Working Group. 6. Youth Support Working Group. 7. Planning Working Group. 	<p>RESOLVED AFTER REVIEW to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain Governance and Staffing Working Group with its current membership. (Councillors R Wallace, Crosby and Hedley). 2. Discontinue the Events Working Group 3. Discontinue the Communications Working Group 4. Discontinue the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group 5. Retain a Finance Working Group with its current membership. (Councillors Crosby, Hedley, Todd and R Wallace). 6. Discontinue the Youth Support Working Group. 7. Retain a Planning Working Group with its current membership (Councillor Hogg and Thompson).
23/37	g.	<p>Annual Meeting of The Town. The Council are requested to discuss and decide upon a date and format for the 2023 Annual Meeting of The Town. “The Annual Parish or Town Meeting is not a council meeting. It is a meeting of the Parish or Town electors taking place between 1 March and 1 June. Electors can contribute to the agenda and in practice these meetings often celebrate local activities and debate current issues in the community”.</p>	<p>RESOLVED Subject to venue availability to set a date of Friday 26th May 2023 for this years Annual Meeting of The Town. Further RESOLVED to invite The Leader of Northumberland County Council and a representative from Advance Northumberland as the main speakers at the meeting.</p>
23/38	h.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Services Committee. The Working Group Chair (Councillor Hogg) will provide a verbal report of any meeting decisions.</p>	<p>The Committee Chair (Councillor Hogg) provided a verbal report of the decisions made at the Services Committee held on 26th January 2023.</p>
23/39	i.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Governance and Staffing Working Group.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Governance Recommendations from Working Group for decision by full Council. None for this meeting. None 2. Any Other Items from the Working Group Meeting (not for decision) – The Working Group Chair (Councillor Crosby) will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No recommendations for this meeting. 2. No update for this meeting
23/40	j.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Events Working Group</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommendations from Working Group for decision by full Council. None for this meeting. 2. Any Other Items from the Working Group Meeting (not for decision) - The Working Group Chair (Councillor Reed) will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No recommendations for this meeting. 2. No update for this meeting

23/41	k.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Communications Working Group</p> <p>1. Recommendations from Working Group for decision by full Council. None for this meeting.</p> <p>2. Any Other Items from the Working Group Meeting (not for decision). Chair (Councillor Reed) will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group.</p>	<p>1. No recommendations for this meeting.</p> <p>2. No update for this meeting</p>												
23/42	l.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Neighbourhood Plan Working Group</p> <p>1. Recommendations from Working Group for decision by full Council. None for this meeting.</p> <p>2. Any Other Items from the Working Group Meeting (not for decision) Chair (Councillor Hogg) will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group.</p>	<p>1. No recommendations for this meeting.</p> <p>2. No update for this meeting</p>												
23/43	m.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Finance Working Group</p> <p>1. Recommendations from Working Group for decision by full Council. None for this meeting.</p> <p>2. Any Other Items from the Working Group Meeting (not for decision) Chair (Councillor R Wallace) will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group.</p>	<p>1. No recommendations for this meeting.</p> <p>2. No update for this meeting</p>												
23/44	n.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Youth Support Programme Working Group</p> <p>1. Recommendations from Working Group for decision by full Council. None for this meeting.</p> <p>2. Any Other Items from the Working Group Meeting (not for decision) The Working Group Chair (No Chair) will feedback to the Council any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters been worked upon by the working group.</p>	<p>1. No recommendations for this meeting.</p> <p>2. No update for this meeting.</p>												
23/45	o.	<p>Working Groups / Committees (items for decision or discussion). Planning Working Group</p> <p>1. Planning Applications – Considered by Planning Working Group - Where Comments Have Been Requested.</p> <p>After considering any recommendation of its Planning Working Group, The Council are asked to discuss and decide if it wishes to make any comments in relation to the Planning applications received for comment.</p> <p>Note: recent notified planning decisions and other planning applications (where comments have not been requested) are shown in PART C for information only).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1541 1026 1993"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="300 1541 483 1641">Ref.</th> <th data-bbox="491 1541 882 1641">Description</th> <th data-bbox="890 1541 1026 1641">Response Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 1653 483 1843">23/00293/FUL</td> <td data-bbox="491 1653 882 1843">New Shop Front Location 48 Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AB</td> <td data-bbox="890 1653 1026 1843">21st February 2023.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 1854 483 1993">23/00214/FUL</td> <td data-bbox="491 1854 882 1993">Single storey lean-to side extension. Location 20 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH</td> <td data-bbox="890 1854 1026 1993">9th February 2023.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref.	Description	Response Due Date	23/00293/FUL	New Shop Front Location 48 Front Street East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AB	21st February 2023.	23/00214/FUL	Single storey lean-to side extension. Location 20 Hollymount Square Bedlington Northumberland NE22 5AH	9th February 2023.	<table border="1" data-bbox="1050 1541 1533 1993"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1050 1541 1533 1641">Determination</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1050 1653 1533 1843">Comment – not in keeping with the existing townscape within the Conservation Area – does not conform to the existing Shop Front Guide also included within the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1050 1854 1533 1993">No Comment</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Determination	Comment – not in keeping with the existing townscape within the Conservation Area – does not conform to the existing Shop Front Guide also included within the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.	No Comment
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	b.	Consultations.		
		From	Description	Details
		None For This Meeting		
	c.	Invitations.		
		From	Event	Response Details
		None For This Meeting		
	d.	Schedule of Payments and Receipts.		
		Details of payments and (receipts) to be noted since last Council update. All payments gross of VAT.		
		Payee	Amount £. p	Description
		Northumberland County Council	5,446.23	December Payroll Costs
		Blyth Bespoke Fabrication	3,750.00	Litter Bin Refurbishment
		Talk Talk Business	48.54	Telephone + Insurance
		Defib Machines Limited	2,190.00	Lease Charges
		Defib Machines Limited	3,528.00	Lease Charges
		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Costs
		Reay Security Limited	403.20	Meadowdale Gate Opening Closing
		Reay Security Limited	83.04	CCTV Charges
		Bedlington Salvation Army	500.00	Food Bank Donations
		Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	500.00	Food Bank Donations
		Reay Security Limited	446.40	Meadowdale Gate Opening Closing
		Reay Security Limited	809.64	CCTV Charges
		Wireless Logic Limited	499.20	CCTV SIM Charges
		Defib Machines Limited	-742.32	Refund of Lease Charges
	e.	Other Planning Applications		
		Where comments have not been requested.		
		Ref.	Description	
			None For This Meeting	
	f.	Planning decisions notified to West Bedlington Town Council by Northumberland County Council.		
		Ref.	Description	Decision
		22/03529/FUL	Internal alteration and minor single storey extensions to improve club facilities, internal reorganisation, new pro shop entrance and windows, new external golf buggy parking enclosure Location Bedlingtonshire Golf Club Hartford Road Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6AA	GRANTED
23/47	g.	Police Report.		
		There was no Police report for this meeting.		
		The next scheduled regular report is for March 2023 meeting.		
23/48	h.	Financial Update / Bank Reconciliation.		
		Bank Reconciliation		
		I. The Council are asked to note a checked bank reconciliation of £ 277,631.57 as of 31 st January 2023 and a Deposit Account Balance of £ 100,545.29 as of 31st January 2023.		
		Note re Bank Reconciliation– In accordance with revised Statement of Internal Controls Councillor J Todd as the nominated member has independently verified the monthly bank reconciliation.		The Council NOTED the bank reconciliation.

23/49	i.	Matters for Information Only	
		Any matters that members would like to bring to the attention of other members and residents. For Information only no proposals or voting on these matters.	
		Councillors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Taylor advised members that Vets for Pets at Nedderton Lane Bedlington had expressed an interest in hosting a Community Defibrillator. To be included within next Services Committee agenda. • Councillor Todd provided an update of information she had received from Northumberland County Councils Monitoring Officer in relation to a historic Code of Conduct complaint made against her. • Councillor Taylor countered the update provided by Councillor Todd.
	Town Clerk	Nothing for this meeting.	
23/50	j.	<p>Meeting Close and Date of Next Meeting. RESOLVED The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington. The agenda for this meeting to be issued on Wednesday 1st March 2023.</p> <p>The Chair closed the meeting at 7.48pm</p>	

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCILLORS:

Bill Crosby, Paul Hedley, Adam Hogg, Wendy Reed, Christine Taylor, Victoria Thompson, Jayne Todd, Di Wallace, and Russ Wallace.

Signed by Chair

Date