

PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, PONTELAND ON 12 DECEMBER 2018

Present: Councillor A Varley (in the Chair)

Councillors S Ahmed, R Dodd, L Darwin, Mrs C Greenwell, A Hall, Mrs S Johnson, Mrs K Overbury, A Shanley and Mrs K Woodrow

116. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Caisley and T Edwards-Clay.

117. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 14 NOVEMBER 2018

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 November 2018 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

119. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 109 – Highways Working Party

The Chairman of the Highways Working Party reported that two County Councillors had pledged a total of £12,000 to the proposed project to extend the swan neck lighting.

She also reported that disc parking had been introduced in the County Council's car parks. Warning letters were being sent out to those who did not display a disc at present, but tickets would start to be issued soon.

Minute 115 – Anti social behaviour in Ponteland

The Clerk reported that a meeting had been held involving the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and a representative from the Youth service. It was hoped that they would be able to provide an outreach worker for Ponteland.

120. PLANNING

(i) Planning Committee

Minutes of meetings held on 16th and 30th October 2018 were circulated for information. It was noted that Councillor Mrs Woodrow had chaired the meeting held on 30th October.

(ii) Report on recent planning decisions

There was nothing to report.

121. GRANT APPLICATIONS

(i) Great North Air Ambulance

An application had been received from Great North Air Ambulance for a grant towards their running costs.

RESOLVED – A grant of £300 be awarded to The Great North Air Ambulance.

(ii) Tynedale Hospice at Home

An application had been received from Tynedale Hospice for a grant towards a project to help bereaved children.

RESOLVED – A grant of £250 be approved.

(iii) Ponteland Beer Festival 2019

An application had been received from Ponteland Beer Festival for a grant towards the running costs of the 2019 event.

RESOLVED – A grant of £250 be approved.

(iv) Sport Tynedale

An application had been received from Sport Tynedale for a grant towards assisting individuals to gain coaching qualifications or achieve sporting excellence.

RESOLVED – A grant of £250 be approved.

122. PROJECTS REPORT

The projects report had been circulated for the information of Councillors.

RESOLVED – The report be accepted.

123. CCTV

A report by the Clerk was circulated for consideration.

Members were reminded of work that had been carried out to the Town Council's CCTV in the last few months. The Council had also funded the recent installation at Merton Hall.

During this installation, it was found that the storage device currently used was grossly underspecified and was only capable of recording for a few days at a time.

The PC used to view live camera feeds and manage the recordings was old and was running constantly.

123. CCTV (Continued)

A proposal to upgrade the storage device and the PC had been received from 24/7 and costs were included in the report. If agreed, these costs could be met from the sum set aside for CCTV at the skate park.

RESOLVED – The Council agreed to proceed with the expenditure of £1240 + VAT for a new storage device and PC in respect of the CCTV system. The costs would be met from the Skate Park CCTV budget heading.

124. ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING PARTY TO CONSIDER THE MUSIC IN THE PARK EVENT

The Clerk reported that as part of the discussions at the recent pre-budget meeting, Councillors had considered several items and whether they wished to continue them next year.

Music in the Park was one of those items. Members were keen to continue with the event and if possible, wanted to see it increase in size to include things like food outlets etc.

It had been suggested that a Working Party should be established to discuss this in more detail in the New Year.

RESOLVED – That Councillors Ahmed, Darwin, Mrs Greenwell, Mrs Overbury and Shanley be appointed to the Working Party which would meet in the New Year.

125. OFFICE CLOSURE – CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The Clerk reported that it was intended to close the Town Council offices from Thursday 1.00 p.m. on Thursday 20th December and re-open on Wednesday 2nd January at 9.30 a.m.

RESOLVED – The office closure proposal as set out be above be agreed.

126. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Dodd reported that the County Council that the County Council had been awarded an additional £7.7million from the Government to deal with potholes.

He stated that the County Council was in the process of finalising their budget. £25million of savings had to be made.

Councillor Mrs Veronica Jones reported that five Locality Officers working on an area-based approach would be carrying out asset mapping for each area to see what is available. This would include information about what parish and town councils provide in areas, as well as village halls, churches and other organisations. This would be used to put together a package of information that can be used by support planners, care providers and GPs.

..... DATE

CHAIRMAN

126. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT
(Continued)

The recent Ageing well event had been very well attended and had received a good evaluation result. One thing that came out of the event was a desire for digital training from some of the older residents. It was hoped that a free training course could be arranged locally to be held at Merton Hall.

127. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor submitted details of his diary engagements for November and December 2018 and January 2019.

He stated that he was pleased to have been involved in the numerous events over the weekend of Remembrance Sunday. He thanked those responsible for organising the events.

He had also attended the dedication of the Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust plaque on 1 December. The plaque had been sited on the grassed area in front of Merton Hall. The event had included a short service by Reverend Captain Allinson and unveiling by some of the Air Cadets.

128. REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

(i) Ponteland Community Partnership

There were no minutes available for circulation as the November PCP minutes had not yet been approved.

The Clerk was asked to request that the minutes could be circulated to the Town Council in advance of their approval by the PCP as in some cases, the minutes would be three months old.

(ii) Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee held on 4th December 2018 had been circulated for information.

Councillor Mrs Caisley had attended on behalf of PTC and Councillor Dodd was in attendance as a representative of NCC. Councillor Dodd was asked to raise an issue regarding those passengers who required assistance following an incident at the Airport some weeks ago.

129. ACCOUNTS/ BANK RECONCILIATION/ BUDGET REPORT

The Accounts Committee approved payments totalling £30,157.78. A copy of the monthly budget report was also circulated, as well as the Bank reconciliation for November 2018.

RESOLVED – The reports be accepted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2019 AT 6.45 P.M. AT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES.