

PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, PONTELAND ON 11 JULY 2018

Present: Councillor A Varley (in the Chair)

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

40. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs C Caisley, T Edwards-Clay, Mrs S Johnson and Mrs K Woodrow.

Members expressed their best wishes to Councillor Mrs Caisley and wished her a speedy recovery from her recent surgery.

41. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 13 JUNE 2018

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 June 2018 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

43. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Hall asked about a meeting to discuss the Airport Masterplan and the Clerk stated that she would be sending out suggested dates in the next few days.

44. PLANNING

(i) Planning Committee

Minutes of meetings held on 29th May and 12 June 2018 were circulated for information.

(ii) Report on recent planning decisions

There was nothing to report.

45. GRANTS

(i) Northumberland CAB – Proposal for Ponteland – see attached

A report was circulated to Councillors for consideration.

Councillors were reminded of the background to this application and to the discussions that had taken place at the June meeting when the Chief Executive of NCAB had attended the meeting.

45. GRANTS (Continued)
(i) Northumberland CAB – Proposal for Ponteland – see attached

Additional information relating to the costs of providing a half day, fortnightly service in Ponteland had been provided and circulated to Members. There would be no cost implications for accommodation as Merton Hall would provide a room, free of charge. There was some discussion about the proposed cost of equipment that was only required for two half days per month. The Council would not wish to meet the cost of equipment that could be used elsewhere in the county.

Statistics relating to Ponteland had also been circulated. The Council did not believe there was sufficient requirement for this service locally. They agreed not to proceed with a grant at the present time.

RESOLVED – The Council agree not to proceed with a grant at the present time.

46. PROJECTS REPORT

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

RESOLVED – The report be accepted.

47. NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL PLAN – Consultation from 4/7/18 to 15/8/18

A report by the Clerk was presented to the Council. The report outlined the consultation period for the Northumberland Local Plan which ran from 4 July until 15 August 2018. The Clerk had examined the document in detail and included information in the report relating to issues of relevance to Ponteland or regarding items the Town Council had responded to previously. Councillors were asked to review this information in the Plan and submit any comments to the Clerk to enable a submission to be formulated in advance of the deadline date.

The Mayor stated that from examination of this report and the Plan document itself, he felt that the issues of concern that the Town Council had previously raised had been largely resolved.

RESOLVED – The report be accepted and Councillors be requested to review the Plan and submit any comments they may have to the Clerk who would prepare a submission in advance of the deadline.

48. USE OF TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

The Clerk reported that Councillors had raised an issue regarding the use of the Town Council offices by outside organisations. This had arisen due to the recent introduction of General Data Protection Regulation legislation and also the impact on security and insurance issues.

The Council felt that the facility should no longer be available to outside organisations and they asked the Clerk to write up a policy for their approval. At present, the offices were used by the Ponteland Community Partnership (PCP) for their monthly meetings on a Wednesday evening. The Clerk was asked to honour the next three months bookings but advise the PCP that the facility would no longer be available to them after September.

RESOLVED –

(i) It was agreed that the Town Council offices would no longer be available for use by outside organisations and a policy would be prepared for approval by the Council on that subject.

(ii) The PCP be informed of this decision as soon as possible and advise them that the next three months bookings would be honoured.

49. ENVIRONMENT WORKING PARTY WORKING PARTY

Minutes of a meeting of the above Working Party held on 18 June 2018 had been circulated. There were no recommendations for approval.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

50. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Dodd reported on the Local Area Council meeting that had been held at the Ponteland Memorial Hall on 9th July.

51. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor submitted details of his diary engagements for June, July and August. In addition to the report, he had attended the NCC Local Area Council meeting held on 9th July and a Memorial service for Sheila Campbell on the 10th followed by the PTC Planning meeting.

52. REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

(i) Ageing Well meeting

Councillor Mrs Greenwell reported that it was likely that the Winter Warmer event would be held at the Ponteland URC Church. This still required confirmation.

**(ii) Richard Coates Education Foundation – 7-6-18 –
Councillor Mrs Greenwell**

A report of the above meeting had been circulated.

53. ACCOUNTS/ BANK RECONCILIATION/ BUDGET REPORT

The Accounts Committee approved payments totalling £ 68,944.48. A copy of the monthly budget report was also circulated, as well as the Bank reconciliation for June 2018.

RESOLVED – The reports be accepted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 8 AUGUST 2018 AT 6.45 P.M. AT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE