

PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL

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1 February 2023

To: ALL MEMBERS OF PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL

I hereby give notice that a Meeting of Ponteland Town Council will be held on **WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2023 at 6.15 p.m. IN MERTON HALL. THE MEETING WILL BE PRECEDED BY PUBLIC QUESTION TIME WHICH WILL COMMENCE AT 6.15 P.M. PLEASE NOTE IF THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 6.15 p.m. PLEASE NOTE THE MEETING TIME AND VENUE.**

Yours sincerely



K MAVIN

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

- 110. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- 111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
- 112. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY AND ALSO MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2023. Copies attached.
- 113. MATTERS ARISING
- 114. PLANNING
 - (i) Planning Committee – Minutes of meetings held on 10 and 17 January 2023. Copies attached for information.
 - (ii) Report on recent planning decisions
- 115. GRANT APPLICATIONS
 - (i) Ponteland Beer Festival – see attached.
 - (ii) Dalton Village Hall – see attached

116. REQUEST FROM PONTELAND ROTARY CLUB TO USE THE PARK FOR DUCK RACE TO BE HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2023 – report attached
117. ENVIRONMENT WORKING PARTY – Minutes of the meeting held held on 25 January 2023 are attached.
118. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT
119. MAYOR'S REPORT
(i) Mayor's diary – report attached.
120. REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
121. ACCOUNTS/BANK RECONCILIATION/BUDGET REPORT - Reports attached

PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL
Report by Clerk to the Council
Report to February 2023 Council meeting
Report re grant applications

Agenda item number 115

Two grant applications have been received for consideration at this meeting.

(i) Ponteland Beer Festival

A grant application has been received from Ponteland Rugby Club who are the organisers of the Ponteland Beer Festival for funds towards their event to be held on the weekend of 2 and 3 June 2023.

The total amount spent on small grants is £2405 out of a budget of £4000. This leaves the sum of £1595 available.

The Beer Festival was awarded a grant of £250 in December 2021.
A copy of their grant application is attached.

(ii) Dalton Village Hall

A grant application has been received from Dalton Village Hall. They received their last grant of £1500 in December 2021.

A sum of £1500 is included in the budget in respect of an annual grant to the hall.

Recommendation – Councillors are asked to consider the attached grant applications.

Attachments

- (i) Grant application from Ponteland Rugby Club in respect of the Beer Festival.
- (ii) Grant application from Dalton Village Hall.

PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL

Agenda item number 116

Report by Clerk to the Council

Report to February 2023 Council meeting

**Report re request by Ponteland Rotary to use
the park for the Duck Race**

A request has been received from the Ponteland Rotary Club to use Ponteland Park for the annual Duck Race on Sunday 3 September 2023.

Rotary have indicated that it will be a similar event to last year although they are hoping to attract more classic cars. They said that they would extend an earlier invitation to owners.

**Recommendation – The Council are asked to consider the request from
Ponteland Rotary Club to use the Park on Sunday 3 September.**

**PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT WORKING PARTY HELD ON 25 JANUARY
2023 AT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES**

Present: Councillors C Greenwell, K Overbury and N Sehgal

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor S Ahmed.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 21 NOVEMBER 2022

The Minutes were accepted.

**3. DISCUSSION WITH MR DAVID BANKS FROM THE NORTHERN COUNTIES
ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (NCAA)**

The Chair welcomed Mr Banks Secretary of the NCAA to the meeting and thanked him for attending.

Mr Banks gave a brief resume of the history of the NCAA which was established in 1976. Initially it was mostly used to support tenants however, more recently it has been assisting parish and town councils.

There was a general discussion regarding the services that could be offered to parish and town councils by the NCAA. As discussed at the last meeting the Town Council had joined the NCAA.

Various issues were discussed such as a revised tenancy agreement which the Working Party considered in detail. Mr Banks stated that he did not believe every item included in the document would be needed but he asked to see a copy of this in advance of it being used by the Town Council. Mr Banks agreed to send further information relating to rules and policies to back up the tenancy agreement to the Clerk which would be discussed at a future meeting.

Mr Banks was thanked for his attendance.

4. SPREADSHEET REPORTS

(i) Report covering three main priorities of EWP for 2022-23

In view of the time taken up by the discussion on the allotments, it was agreed that only the most urgent items would be dealt with at the meeting.

(1) Rockery on Main Street.

The type of seat for inside the bus shelter had still to be agreed. The Clerk had produced several examples which were circulated. The gardening contractor had recommended two five-foot seats which could be arranged in a number of permutations. After some discussion it was agreed to purchase two of the WAVE seats from Marmax in black. Approval to purchase the seats had been agreed at the October 2022 Town Council meeting.

The Chair suggested installing a community noticeboard in the bus shelter. She knew of a local person who would make one for around £100 which would be a simple design which people could then place notices. A header plaque would also be needed. **Note – the Chair has asked if this issue can be discussed further at the next EWP meeting in March.**

The Working Party had also previously discussed installing a seat to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II. The Clerk had produced some available options which did not look comfortable. It was agreed that a seat to match the ones in the bus shelter should be acquired in black with an appropriate plaque. The Clerk was asked to check with the gardening contractor that the seat would fit in the allocated space outside of the bus shelter prior to ordering. **t was recommended –**

(i) To note the information relating to the seats and noticeboard for the bus shelter on Main Street.

(ii) The Council be asked to approve the purchase of another WAVE seat as a commemorative seat for Queen Elizabeth II at a cost of approximately £450 (including the plaque), subject to the size being checked with the gardening contractor. It should be noted that there were sufficient funds available in the amount agreed for the bus shelter seats in October 2022. Minute 61(i) refers.

2. Commemorative trees

It had been previously agreed that two commemorative trees would be planted. One to mark the Platinum Jubilee and the second in memory of Queen Elizabeth II.

The purchase of two tree guards for these trees had been agreed at the December 2022 Council meeting (Minute 89(ii) refers).

The tree guards had been ordered and the company had been on site to check final measurements etc before production and installation.

There was some discussion regarding involvement of Ponteland primary school pupils in a photoshoot at the Dunsgreen site either before or after the tree guards had been installed. Councillor Overbury agreed to liaise with the Clerk over this possible event.

5. Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on Monday 27 March 2023 at 10.00 am. at the Town Council offices.

The Chair asked for a site visit to the park either just before or in advance of the meeting to view the proposed site for a community orchard. This was agreed.