

# PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL

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6 September 2023

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| To: ALL MEMBERS OF PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL |
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I hereby give notice that a Meeting of Ponteland Town Council will be held on **WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 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.**

Yours sincerely



K MAVIN  
*Clerk to the Council*

## AGENDA

- 45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- 46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
- 47. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2023
- 48. MATTERS ARISING
- 49. PLANNING
  - (i) Planning Committee – Minutes of meetings held on 4 and 18 July, 1 and 15 August 2023 – copies attached for information
  - (ii) Report on recent planning decisions
- 50. GRANT APPLICATION
  - (i) Application from Sport Tynedale – see attached
- 51. ENVIRONMENT WORKING PARTY - Minutes of a meeting held on 24 July – Minutes attached
- 52. EVENTS WORKING PARTY – Minutes of a meeting held on 25 July are attached for considerations.

- 53. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT
- 54. MAYOR'S REPORT
  - (i) Mayor's report – see attached
- 55. REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
- 56. ACCOUNTS/BANK RECONCILIATION/BUDGET REPORT – See attached

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – Councillors are asked to pass the following resolution** - That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the disclosure of the following item on the agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of schedule 12A in the 1972 Act.

- 57. STAFFING COMMITTEE – Minutes of a meeting held on 19 July 2023 are attached.

**PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Report by Clerk to the Council**  
**Report to September 2023 Council meeting**  
**Report re grant application**

**Agenda item number 50(i)**

A grant application has been received from Sport Tynedale.

A grant of £250 was made to the organisation in October 2022. (Minute 56 refers).

Councillors are reminded that the sum of £4000 is available in the donations budget heading and an amount of £1880 has already been expended from grants awarded between April and July 2023. This leaves the sum of £1620 remaining in the budget heading.

Councillors are asked to consider the grant application from Sport Tynedale.

**Recommendation –**

**The Council is asked to consider the grant application from Sport Tynedale.**

Enclosure

(i) Grant application and accounts from Sport Tynedale.



# Ponteland Town Council

## GRANT APPLICATION FORM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24

|   |   |
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| Applicant   | John Maude  |
| Organisation & Charity Number if applicable                     | Sport Tynedale  |
| Address   | c/o Mrs. Kathie Keady, Secretary,<br>Sport Tynedale,<br>100-102, The Green,<br>Ponteland, Newcastle, NE20 9JG   |
| Telephone Number & Email address                                | Telephone: 01670 831111<br>Email: <a href="mailto:info@sporttynedale.co.uk">info@sporttynedale.co.uk</a>  |
| Bank Details<br>Sort Code and Account number                    | Sort Code: 20-00-00<br>Account Number: 1234 5678 9010   |
| What year was your Organisation formed?                         | 1975  |
| What is your current membership and how much are subscriptions? | <p>Membership is required of any organisation we grant aid; In 2022/23 21 sports clubs were members, and we were supported by 23 town and parish Councils. Our constitution provides for nominated membership from sports and community bodies. Our work is carried out through an executive committee of 11 chaired by Edward Heslop; our president is international athlete and BBC athletics commentator Allison Curbishley.</p> <p>Membership is open to all sports clubs, on payment of a subscription - £10 (small), £20 (medium), £30 (large)</p>  |
| Organisation's Aims and Objectives                              | <p>Sport Tynedale is a voluntary body that supports and champions sporting activity throughout the Tyne Valley and surrounding areas of West Northumberland (broadly defined as Hexham constituency area). We work for people of all ages and abilities.</p> <p>We give financial assistance to athletes and teams, both adult and of school age, who are achieving excellence and gaining representative honours; and to coaches and officials who are seeking new qualifications.</p> <p>Normally over 100 clubs, teams and individuals are recognised at our annual awards night for the contribution they make to local sporting life in West Northumberland.</p> <p>As well as participants, we recognise people like coaches, administrators and grounds staff who do so much to support local sport.</p> |



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| Description of project or purpose for which a grant is required | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provision of grants to individuals to encourage them to gain coaching qualifications. Sports Governing body coaching qualifications typically cost £250 plus for the award (plus travelling costs and a substantial amount of time).</li> <li>2. Provision of grants to individuals to help them to pursue sporting excellence – we support (usually) young people who are achieving county/regional success with training or equipment costs, helping them to move on in their chosen sport.</li> <li>3. Provision of prestigious and well-attended annual awards night celebrating sporting achievement and involvement at all levels. (note at present the specific costs of the Awards night are fully covered by sponsorship)</li> <li>4. Management of a Facebook page to connect sports people in the area - a great opportunity for clubs to promote themselves and their activities.<br/><a href="https://www.facebook.com/SportTynedale">https://www.facebook.com/SportTynedale</a></li> <li>5. During 2023 we are developing a new website to promote local sport and local clubs. Each club will be able to set up a page to promote its activities and post news items. This will benefit all clubs, but particularly smaller clubs unable to afford or maintain a web presence of their own.</li> </ol> <p>We respond to nominations and applications from clubs, schools and individuals; last year we distributed £2,780 to talented sports players and coaches.</p> |
| Estimated Total Cost  | £4,500 per year (depending on applications received – see also below)  |
| Amount Requested from Ponteland Town Council                    | £250 is suggested for the larger Town Councils; any grant towards our work will be greatly appreciated. 23 West Northumberland Councils made contributions, ranging from £30 to £250, in 2022/23.  |

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| What funds are available from your Organisation towards this Project?                       | We aim in each year to raise enough from subscriptions, donations and sponsorship to cover the costs of the Awards night, and grants for coaching and sports development, in that year - topping this up from reserves if necessary. Reserves are also held to enable the work of the organisation to continue for a period of time should new sources of income be needed. |
| Have other Authorities or sources for funds been approached for funds towards this project? | We are applying to all Town and Parish Councils, and sports clubs in our area. We also approach local companies for sponsorship.  |
| What were the results from these applications? (Please indicate amounts pledged)            | Applications have been made recently and are being considered by Councils and sports club committees. Sponsorship from Egger (UK) and NFU mutual insurance is secured for 2023/24.  |
| Have you any plans for raising the additional finance for this project?                     | In 2022/23, Council and Sports Club contributions were £3,120 and we are hopeful of a similar amount this year.   |

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| Please confirm the proportion of the grant that will be spent in Ponteland | This will vary from year to year depending on nominations and applications, which are open to (and promoted to) all Ponteland Clubs. Ponteland area residents have had a very good record of achievement at recent awards nights. The major Ponteland sports clubs support us each year through subscriptions, and we welcome applications to our coaching development and sports development awards funds which are open to them. |
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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare on behalf of Sport Tynedale:

That:

This application is submitted on behalf of a non-profit making Voluntary Organisation  
To the best of the Organisation's knowledge, the particulars on this application are correct.

I undertake, on behalf of the Organisation, that the grant or such part of it as Ponteland Town Council may determine, will be repaid in the event that the Organisation is found to be in breach of the above, or if the facilities cease to be used for the purpose for which the grant is given, or if the project winds up within five years.

**Signed:**

**Status:**

**Date:**

Committee Member

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023

**PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT WORKING PARTY HELD ON 24 JULY 2023 AT THE  
TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES**

**Present:** Councillors C Greenwell, S Ahmed, K Overbury and K Wilson

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor N Sehgal.

**2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 22 MAY 2023**

The Minutes were accepted.

**3. SPREADSHEET REPORTS**

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

**(1) Rockery on Main Street.**

All the scheduled work at the rockery had been carried out other than the plaque for the coronation seat to the right of the access to Peel House. That had now been received and would be installed within the next few days.

Members agreed that this project was complete, but the area would continue to be maintained by a designated contractor.

It was noted that some additional shrubs and a lilac tree would be planted in the Autumn.

Members were very pleased with the work carried out at the area.

**(2) Sensory garden**

This area had been tidied and cleared although there was more work to be done as a project. It was suggested that there should perhaps be a move to rename this the Coates Garden rather than the sensory garden.

The Clerk was asked to discuss suitable planting with the gardening contractor and report back to members.

It was agreed that a site visit be held by members in August.

**(3) Project for resurfacing the path between Callerton Lane and Waitrose bridge**

The order had been placed for the work with NCC. A start date was awaited.

**(ii) Report re items discussed at previous meetings**

There was nothing to raise under items 1-3.

**(4) Ash trees in the Park**

The Clerk reported that tree surveys for works both inside and outside of the park had been received.

Request for quotes for urgent works outside of the park had been sent out. A request for quotes inside of the park would be sent out shortly. There was substantial work to be carried out in the park.

It was further reported that permission had been given to remove the two dead Ash trees next to the bus stop at the park entrance.

**(5) Remedial work at the Pele tower**

The Clerk had contacted the Conservation officer at NCC who had advised that as the structure was a Scheduled Ancient Monument and a grade II listed building, an application for permission to carry out any works had to be made to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. The Clerk was also advised to contact Historic England in relation to any intended work. A survey of necessary work would be needed from a company who was qualified to carry out this type of work.

**(iii) Watching brief items**

It was reported that the two commemorative tree guards had the number '11' instead of 'II' in respect of Queen Elizabeth. The Clerk had contacted the company who had carried out some remedial work. The Clerk agreed to send out photos to members seeking their views on the work that had been done.

Councillors asked if the gardening contractor could be asked to select an appropriate location for a tree commemorating the coronation of King Charles III. The Clerk was asked to order an appropriate tree as soon as possible so that it was ready for planting season.

#### **4. MEMORIAL SEATS AND TREES**

A report by the Clerk had been circulated. This related to three recent requests for memorial seats in Ponteland.

Councillors were reminded that that a decision had been taken some years ago to stop offering memorial trees and seats due to the problems caused.

A survey had been carried out by the gardening contractor and there were currently four council seats without plaques.

There was a lot of discussion on the topic of memorial seats, and it was suggested that going forward multiple memorial plaques could be placed seats owned by PTC. The size of plaque and number of letters would need to be determined first to see how many plaques could be fitted onto a seat. Applicants would need to cover the cost of the plaque and fitting, and it would be made clear that the plaque would be in place for five years, following which time, they would be asked if they wanted their plaque to remain on the seat and a further fee would be required.

The Clerk was asked to write a policy to this effect which would require approval by the Town Council. This would then be publicised on the website etc.

There was some discussion on memorial trees. The Council had stopped offering this service due to the problems experienced when trees were damaged or had died.

The Clerk mentioned a metal memorial tree she had seen some time ago which was supplied by the Columbaria company. The metal leaves were engraved and hung on the tree. She agreed to send details to members. Councillor Overbury had seen one of these at St Oswald's and she also showed a decorative wall feature which the Clerk was asked to investigate for the cemetery.

Councillor Wilson suggested putting a tree guard around one of the trees in the park and offering plaques to go on the guards as an alternative to separate trees. Members liked this idea, and this would be investigated further.

It was agreed –

- (i) The Clerk be asked to draft a policy in relation to the suggestion for offering multiple plaques on council owned seats which would require approval of the Council. See draft policy attached for approval at the Council meeting.
- (ii) The Clerk send out details of the metal memorial tree mentioned above to Councillors and research the memorial feature wall.
- (iii) Further examination of the suggestion for a tree guard around a suitable tree in the park for memorial plaques be undertaken.

#### **5. REPORT RE REPLIES TO PROPOSED NEW ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT**

The Clerk had circulated a report re replies received to the new tenancy agreement which had been sent to tenants on 30 May. Seven responses had been received and 31 tenants had been contacted.

The Clerk was asked to circulate the responses to the Northern Counties Allotment Association (NCAA) Adviser for his comments following which, a meeting would be held with him, if necessary, prior to organising a meeting with tenants.

Members were reminded that the new tenancy agreement became operational from 1 October. This did not leave a lot of time to get the documents signed.

A number of comments had been made about the lack of water. Members were reminded that this was investigated as recently as 2019 and there was a lack of agreement between tenants. Other alternatives to provide water were discussed.

The Clerk was also asked to ask the adviser about any suggestions for the provision of water.



It was agreed – The Clerk would send the report and comments to the NCAA Adviser and report back on his response.

## **6. REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY ORCHARD ON LADYWELL ESTATE**

Councillors were reminded of the request that had been made re the planting of a community orchard on the Ladywell Way estate. This was on land owned by the Town Council.

At the last EWP meeting it was agreed that the tenants bordering the area in question be asked for their views on this proposal.

Letters were sent out to 13 residents who lived in close proximity to the site and 7 responses had been received. Three were in favour and four were against. Several reasons for objecting to the proposal were given.

In view of the concerns of some of the residents who bordered this area it was agreed that permission would not be given for this proposal. The applicant would be advised accordingly.

It was agreed – That the Clerk inform the applicant of the decision made at the meeting.

## **7. RIVER PONT**

The Clerk had noticed several comments on social media regarding the condition of the river and riverbanks at the Ponteland bridge.

She had contacted the EA for comments in case the Town Council were contacted by residents.

She provided a copy of the email for information. The EA had said they were happy to deal with any complaints received. They also outlined the work that they were planning to do to remove some reeds from the channel in September. They also planned to remove as many brambles from the banks as possible, as these offered some resistance to high flows on the Pont whereas grass will simply flatten. The timing of the work to remove the brambles was not yet known.

It was agreed to note the information provided.

## **8. DISCUSSION RE INSTALLATION OF TOILETS IN PONTELAND PARK**

This item had been included for discussion following comments made at a recent Council meeting.

It was envisaged that if toilets could be installed, they would only be open for events such as party in the park etc. This issue was discussed however, it was agreed this would be revisited once other issues such as the allotment agreements etc had been dealt with.

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(i) Request from NCC for PTC to provide planters at the Zebra crossing at Broadway**

Councillors were informed that a request had been received from NCC Highways for the Town Council to consider placing some planters on the hatched areas behind zig-zag markings at the zebra crossing at Broadway. Vehicles were parking on the hatched areas at school drop off and pick up and one solution was to install some planters to stop this happening.

Members were not averse to this suggestion however; they asked the Clerk to obtain more information from the officer at NCC and forward his email to them. Depending on the response it was agreed that the gardening contractor be asked to measure up the area and recommend the size and height of planters to be used. This would be recommended to the Town Council meeting in September for approval.

**It was recommended – That the Council be asked to approve the provision of two planters for the above area and the approximate cost would be reported at the meeting.**

**(ii) Request received via NCC for a bin at the old High School field site on Callerton Lane**

A request had been received via NCC for a waste bin to be installed at the gate onto the old High school field on Callerton Lane. The correspondent stated that the field was used by many sports clubs and there was rubbish being left on the field including dog waste bags.

Councillors agreed to the request subject to obtaining permission from the landowner and NCC agreement to empty the bin.

**It was recommended – That the Council agree to provide a bin at the above location subject to permission and agreement to empty the bin as outlined above. The cost would be reported at the meeting.**

**10. Report re FOPP**

A letter had been received from the Chair of FOPP seeking a site visit in the park. The main purpose of the meeting would be to locate areas in need of attention and to formulate a plan of action.

After some discussion, the Clerk was asked to write to the Chair of FOPP asking her to list the areas she felt needed attention and what actions she hoped could be undertaken. The Town Council would then consider what could be undertaken with the resources available.

**11. Any other business**

There were no items raised.

**12. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 25 September 2023 at 10.00 am. at the Town Council offices.



## **POLICY FOR MEMORIAL PLAQUES ON COUNCIL OWNED SEATS**

In response to recent approaches made to the Town Council for memorial seats, the Environment Working Party have examined the situation relating to such requests. There is a current moratorium on the installation of memorial benches. Presently the Town Council has many memorial seats at various locations in the parish area and available space is now very limited. Further requests for memorial seats will not be accepted until additional space becomes available.

There are a limited number of locations where plaques will be allowed on existing council owned seats and multiple plaques will be allowed on each of the seats detailed below:

Click-em-in (on the right-hand side of the road leading out of Ponteland near Cheviot View)  
North Road  
Ponteland Park (2 seats)

There may be potential to add a further seat on Coates Green, the garden next to Coates Institute and one in the park. These will be added to the list as and when they are installed.

There will be up to between three and five plaques allowed on each seat (depending on the style of seat and up to a maximum of five). Applicants will be asked to pay a fee of £50 to cover the cost of the plaque and installation. This will ensure the plaque is left in place for a period of five years, following which donors will be contacted to ask if they want the plaque to remain in place for a further 5 years and a fee will be payable if this is the case. The fee will be increased as necessary and must cover the cost of the plaque and installation.

If, at the end of the five-year period the space is no longer needed, the plaque will be returned to the donor.

Plaques must be of a standard size of 280mm long X 75mm width and will be a gold laminate material with black lettering. An application form is attached to this policy and this must be completed and sent to the Clerk to the Council at [k.mavin@ponteland-tc.gov.uk](mailto:k.mavin@ponteland-tc.gov.uk) or by post to Ponteland Town Council, Unit 1 Meadowfield Court, Meadowfield Industrial Estate, Ponteland, NE20 9SD. To follow.

Plaques will be sourced and installed by the Town Council.

### **Conditions**

1. It is the responsibility of the donor to ensure their contact details are kept up to date. If no response is received at the end of the five-year period, the plaque will be removed and retained at the Ponteland Town Council offices.
2. The Town Council takes no responsibility for any damage or defacement of the plaque.
3. If the plaque is lost or damaged the donor must meet the cost of replacement.
4. No additional mementoes such as vases, statues, flowers, wreaths or other ornamentation will not be permitted on or around the seats. These will be removed by the Town Council without reference to the donor.

Applications will be dealt with by the Clerk to the Council in conjunction with the Chair of the Environment Working Party. The Environment Working Party has the right to reject any request where it is felt that the wording is inappropriate. Their decision is final.

**Ponteland Town Council**

**Events Committee**

**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2023**

**Present:** Councillors K Overbury, S Ahmed, L Darwin, A Hall and N Sehgal

**1. Appointment of Chair for 2023-24**

Councillor K Overbury was appointed as Chair for 2023-24.

**2. Appointment of Vice Chair for 2023-24**

Councillor A Hall was appointed Vice Chair for 2023-24.

**3. Apologies:** Councillor R Dodd

**4. Minutes of last meeting**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 26 April 2023 were noted.

**5. Remembrance Sunday 2023**

Arrangements for the event were already in hand. The Memorial Hall had been booked and refreshments were being provided. Other arrangements would be made in the coming weeks. A meeting with Reverend Paul Allinson would be needed in early September to discuss the order of service.

The silent soldiers for display at the Pele tower would be ordered in the next couple of weeks as the expenditure had already been approved.

There was some discussion about the possible provision of refreshments at the Leisure Centre as well as at the Memorial Hall for the youth groups who were taking part. After much discussion it was agreed that this was unnecessary. It was agreed to provide some water and juice at the leisure centre prior to the parade departing if required. It was also suggested that the youth groups could be asked to request that parents ensured participants had food before taking part in the event as there were concerns at the number of young people who had fainted in the past.

Councillor Dodd had previously offered to take on the role of co-ordinating the parade at the leisure centre and it was agreed that a site visit would be held with him in advance of the Sunday where he would be needed from 10.15 a.m.

**6. D-Day 80**

Information relating to D-Day 80 which was taking place on 6 June 2024 had been received.

A list of key information which councils and organisations could participate in was circulated to members. Communities were being asked to light a beacon on the evening of 6 June at 9.15 p.m.

There was a lot of discussion about whether the Town Council should participate as there were concerns that there would not be a great deal of interest. The event was on a Thursday evening and was late for schoolchildren to attend. It was felt that entertainment would be inappropriate due to the nature of the event. It was suggested that grants could be offered to organisations who wished to commemorate the event.

The membership was split on whether to participate in the beacon lighting event or not and it was agreed that this should be discussed further at the September Town Council meeting when a decision could be made about this issue.

**It was recommended – To discuss participation further at the September meeting as outlined above.**



## **7. Christmas Lights switch on event**

A suggestion had been made last year to hold a switch on event.

It was too late to organise this last year and members were asked to discuss this further for 2023.

A suggestion was made to tie this in with the start of the Rotary Santa's Sleigh event which was on Friday 1 and Saturday 2 December. It was suggested that a switch on by Santa Claus could take place at 4.00 p.m. on Friday 1 December

The Clerk said that she would need to check with NCC operatives as they would need to be present to do the actual switch on. It was likely they would provide a dummy switch for the Rotary Santa Claus. They were often booked up in other places so she would check as soon as possible and report back.

It was agreed – That the Clerk would make early contact with NCC re the switch on taking place on 1 December.

## **8. Any other business**

### **(i) Meeting with Northumberland Communities Together**

The Chair reported that she and the Clerk had had a meeting with Tracey Wilson from NCC Northumberland Communities Together (NCT) on 17 July.

The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness of the services offered by the NCT team at NCC. After much discussion it was suggested that a drop in event in Ponteland may be organised in the next few months to share information about what assistance was available. She would report back to the Clerk if her superiors agreed to this. Miss Wilson had thought it may be possible to get other organisations such as the Fire Service and Age UK to participate. The event would be publicised in PNV.

The Chair mentioned that she had been in contact with Age UK about a recent 'anti scamming' event that had been held at the WI. Age UK would be giving a similar talk to the Senior Gentleman's Club soon on this subject.

The event had been useful, and the Chair was keen to hold a future event in Ponteland. and she had hoped the Council would meet the costs of booking a hall for an event. However, Age UK felt that 'pop up' events were more useful, and it was possible that this could be part of the NCT event referred to above. Age UK funding runs out at the end of this year, but it was hoped that banks would be keen to continue financing this.

### **(ii) Canine event**

Councillor Darwin mentioned a dog show event he had attended in Cramlington recently which had been jointly organised by NCC and a charity. NCC provided information on looking after dogs and checked dogs for microchips. The charity held several of dog shows and tombolas etc. He queried whether the Town Council would be interested in facilitating an event like this in Ponteland Park next year.

Members were interested in the proposal and Councillor Darwin agreed to provide more information at the next meeting.

### **(iii) Easter event 2024**

The Chair referred to the Easter event which had been well received last year. She mentioned that it had been problematic to find relevant pictures for the clues and she suggested having some drawings created by an artist she knew which would be easier for young children to understand. She did not believe the cost would be excessive and she agreed to report back to the next meeting.

## **9. Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 2.00 p.m.

**PONTELAND TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Report by the Mayor**  
**Report to September 2023 Council meeting**

**Agenda item number 54(i)**

**Mayor's report September 13, 2023**

Meetings and events attended by Coun Overbury representing Ponteland Town Council since the last meeting of the full Council's (July 12, 2023).

Please ask if you want further information.

**Mon, July 17**

Tracey Wilson, NCC Communities Together – with Town Clerk. NCC is keen that anyone in need, with concerns about a family member, neighbour or anyone, should be referred to them for food support, food and fuel vouchers, debt advice, drugs support and so on.

**Wed, July 19**

Visit to Ponteland Bereavement Café, Merton Hall, run by Tyneside Hospice at Home.

**Wed, August 2**

Fibrous UK – information-gathering meeting open to all councillors to hear the company's hopes to deliver broadband to Ponteland and Darras. The company was aiming for a Government contract to extend its network to rural areas.

**Tues, August 8**

100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party – Mrs Christine Robson, at the Royal Hampton.

**Saturday, August 12**

PTC written report to Conservative Branch meeting.

**Wednesday, August 16**

Northumberland Local Services Liaison meeting with David Laux, head of Technical Services, and Town Clerk. Matters discussed including Newcastle Airport parking issues, parking civil enforcement officers, anti-social behaviour in and around Ponteland (a problem throughout Northumberland), hedges overgrowing footpaths.

**Saturday, September 9**

Helping to judge Ponteland Flower and Craft Show.