

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11 June 2013
at 7 pm at the Newbiggin Sports and Community Centre.**

PRESENT:

Councillors: S Todd (Vice-Chairman)
M Boon L Burns M Cholerton
R Dixon A Thompson W Rogers

Officer: D Earl – Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 members of the public and 2 Northumbria Police Officers

C018/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from the Mayor Councillor M Peden

RESOLVED that: Councillor Rogers be appointed to chair the opening of the meeting

PUBLIC QUESTIONS There were no questions submitted by members of the public

Vice-Chairman Councillor S Todd in the Chair

PC Neil Hall from Northumbria Police gave an update report following his transfer to cover the local area in April and introduced Jonathan the new Community Services Officer. They were getting to grips with some local issues with an operation regarding burglaries which had now stopped and had introduced higher visibility. Overall crime figures had reduced but it was stressed that the police relied on the public making reports particularly to stop the build up of anti-social behaviour so that hot spots could be targeted with patrols and plain clothes work if necessary. Work regarding motor cycles would commence shortly.

The police drop-in session would be held on Friday 20 June between 1 and 2.15 pm at the Salvation Army Hall and they were keen for Town and County Councillors to attend so that it was multi-agency. References were made to damage at the new paddocks and that tethered horses were increasing again with a possible connection to truanting children.

There was some discussion of the problem of parking within the restricted area of the Quay Wall Piazza highlighted by a vehicle that had driven onto the promenade to turn on a Saturday afternoon. That needed advisory intervention by the police and some Members felt that a further approach should be made to the County Council to introduce bollards and a locked barrier to prevent access by unauthorised vehicles. A new bollard would be installed shortly on the promenade ramp but may not prevent the additional problem of horses and traps.

C019/14 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2014 had been circulated and were agreed as a correct record following an amendment to reflect a minority against the Front Street development.

C020/14 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

No further interests were declared in relation to the business on the agenda.

**C021/14 NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION
LIMITED WAITING BAYS IN FRONT STREET**

The County Council had commenced consultation with the Town Council and the community regarding the intention to provide '20 minute Limited Waiting' Parking Bays in place of the existing Loading Bay in front of commercial premises 51 – 59 Front Street as shown on the plan that was circulated at the meeting.

The proposal was being considered to preserve or improve the amenities of the area and comments were requested in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. These bays were parallel to the road and it was not considered feasible to introduce diagonal parking because of the width of the remaining carriageway.

Members agreed to accept the proposal as it would increase the parking availability in this area.

RESOLVED that: the Town Council agree with the proposed Order.

C022/14 LOCAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

The Town Clerk updated Members regarding the final payments for the service in 2013/14 with a reduction in cost for the Spital Play Area that could not be transferred owing to an existing Lease and some outstanding work to public seats.

The agreement for 2014/15 would also reflect a reduction for the play area amounting to £790. The inspection and minor repair of the other play areas and the floral bedding would remain separate from the local scheme partnership.

RESOLVED that: the report be received.

C023/14 PUBLIC REALM SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS – LOCAL SCHEME PARTNERSHIP

The local partnership had been progressed quickly with the appointment by the County Council of two seasonal employees who some Members had the opportunity to meet the previous week with the Neighbourhood Services Managers.

Initial discussions had been held regarding the enhancement works and incorporating the scheduled work for the cleansing and maintenance of public seats; bus shelters;

litter bins. It was recommended that the identification and prioritising of enhancement works should be done through the Environment Working Group with an initial emphasis on the bay environmental projects and town centre for the summer period. A process would have to be agreed with Neighbourhood Services Managers and a Partnership Board was likely for strategic decisions.

Another aspect of public realm enhancements had been discussed between the Town Clerk and two Portas Team Trustees and a joint project was proposed to provide visitor information with the display of large versions of the Event Leaflet Plan at the bus shelters at the entrance to Sandy Bay which could also be located in other selected bus shelters and possibly on information boards in suitable locations. Members agreed with the principle to provide such positive features around the town and felt this should be coupled with the communications issue currently being investigated.

RESOLVED that: the proposal be agreed and a further report incorporating communications issues be presented to a future meeting.

Signed by the Chairman:

Date:.....