



ALNWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Cemetery Lodge Office
South Road
Alnwick
Northumberland NE66 2PH

Your Ref:

Our Ref: FC/12/2014

Clerk to Council

Bill Batey

Tel: 01665 714922

Mobile: 07971 810267

Dear Councillor

5th December 2014

The next meeting of the Council will be held on **Thursday 11th December 2014 in St James's Church Centre, Pottergate, Alnwick at 7.00pm**. You are hereby requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

Bill Batey

Clerk to Town Council

Agenda

1. Questions from the Public
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (13th November 2014)
5. Matters Arising
6. Consultations
 - a) Removal of phone box opposite Shepherds Rest
 - b) Pharmacy Needs Assessment
 - c) NCC budget proposals
7. Outside Body appointment – Alnwick in Bloom
8. Employee 2014-16 Pay Award
9. Minutes of Committees
 - a) Planning Committee Meeting (13th November 2014)
 - b) Cemetery Committee (20th November 2014)
Recommendation on the 2015/16 Cemetery Fees
 - c) Recreation & Amenities Committee (27th November 2014)
10. Agenda for Next Joint Meeting with NCC
11. Correspondence
12. Financial Matters – Payments
13. Feedback Local Multi-agency Crime Prevention Initiative Meeting
14. Any Other Urgent Business

In Private

15. The co-option of a new Town Councillor for the Clayport Ward

Declarations of Interest

To receive disclosures of pecuniary interests from Councillors, on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If you become aware, during the course of the meeting, of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item you must immediately disclose it.

Agenda Item 6

Consultations

The Council's views are requested on the following consultations:

a) Removal of phone box opposite the Shepherds Rest

BT has announced their intention to remove 65 low usage pay phone boxes across the county. One is in our parish and is listed below. A first stage of community consultation has been completed by NCC/BT by posting a notice of intent in the phone box and inviting objections. No community comments were received. The NCC view at this stage, subject to a final consultation is to agree with the proposed removal. The final stage of consultation runs until 18th December 2014. There is a good mobile signal in the area and the nearest alternative payphone is on Cedar Grove.

- Alnwick 01665 603426 Opposite the SHEPHERDS REST ALNWICK MOOR
- Phone calls made in the last 12 months = 14.

b) Pharmacy Needs Assessment

Northumberland County Council is consulting on a Pharmacy Needs Assessment for Northumberland. Copies were sent to councillors on 21st November. Comments are requested by 30th January 2015. The report highlights the distribution of 100 hour pharmacies. These are currently located in Cramlington, Blyth, 2 in Ashington, 1 in Berwick and 1 in Hexham. The assessment comments that:

“Since the last PNA was written in 2010, a 100 hour pharmacy has opened in Berwick.... Two 100 hour pharmacies have closed in Hexham and Morpeth. The 100 hour pharmacy in Morpeth has recently amalgamated with a 40 hour pharmacy and now provides extended hours from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 3pm on Saturdays....

“... Northumberland has six 100 hour pharmacies which guarantee access to pharmaceutical services in the evenings and at weekends. This is down from eight 100 hour pharmacies at the time of the last PNA. The extended opening hours provided by the 100 hour pharmacies are essential to provide guaranteed access to services outside the 40 hour core contract. In a large geographical area like Northumberland it is important to maintain a network of 100 hour pharmacies in population hubs which are known and advertised and can be accessed by those living in rural areas albeit by private car. The loss of the 100 hour pharmacy in Morpeth leaves a community (and its hinterland) without a Sunday and Bank Holiday service, with patients having to travel an extra 7 miles to Ashington. ...

“After considering all the elements of the PNA, Northumberland County Council concludes that there is adequate provision of NHS pharmaceutical services across most of Northumberland, but recognises gaps in service in Morpeth on Sundays and Bank Holidays. Northumberland County Council considers that the network of extended hour

pharmacies are essential to meet the needs of patients by extending access to pharmaceutical services outside core hours when other pharmacies are closed.”

Alnwick has three pharmacies. Boots in Bondgate Within offers a seven day service and is open a total of 57 hours, Boots on Paikes Street offers a six day service over 53 hours and the pharmacy at Infirmary Close is open for 5 days a week for a total of 47.5 hours.

c) NCC budget proposals

NCC is currently consulting on their budget for the next 2 years. The Clerk circulated all councilors with the letter and links to the proposals. The proposals include the following savings which could impact on Alnwick.

- a) Review of grounds maintenance service, predicted saving £100k (7% of budget)
- b) Reduced weekend overtime of street cleansing, £68k (1% of budget)
- c) Fundamental changes in working practices, incl. revisions to services standards in Neighbourhood Services, £500k (6% of budget)
- d) Public conveniences review, £240k (41% reduction in budget)
- e) Public protection review of fees and charges bringing in £69k
- f) Public protection reducing services standards in discretionary areas, £240k in 2016/17
- g) Transport increasing income bringing in £70k
- h) Review of supported bus services, £200k (10% of budget)
- i) Leisure savings, £760k (18.78% of budget)
- j) Library Services –review of service provision, location and management, £200k (8% of budget)
- k) Review of tourism and TIC services, £100k 5.6% of budget)
- l) Library/visitor information estates rationalization, £1m in 2016/17 (16% of budget)

Agenda item 7

Outside Body appointment – Alnwick in Bloom

At present the council only has one councillors appointed to Alnwick in Bloom (Cllr Broom), Councillor Pat Holt has indicated that she wishes to volunteer to fill one of the vacant positions.

Recommendation: Councillor Holt be appointed to be one of the council’s representatives on Alnwick In Bloom.

Agenda item 8

Employee 2014-16 Pay Award

The town council uses the NJC salary grades for its employees. The national 2014-16 pay award had just been determined. The settlement is more complicated than usual, with both a new scale of salaries and non-consolidated (one off) lump sums. The new pay scales for 2014-2016 are to be implemented from 1 January 2015 together with a ‘lump-sum’ for payment in December 2014 with a subsequent lump sum payment to be paid on salary points 26 and above in April 2015. The pay increase is 2.2% and the lump sum in December for all our staff is £100 (prorata for part time employees) and in April 2015, is £33 for the Town Clerk. The financial implication for the council for 2014/15 amounts to an approximately an additional £800. The full year implications will be built into the base budgets for 2015/16.

Recommended: The Council makes additional budgetary provision for the 2014-2016 pay award.

Agenda item 9**Cemetery Fees 2015/16**

At the Cemetery Committee meeting on 20th November the cemetery fees were reviewed following a comparison with other councils and it was resolved to recommend the following revised fees to the Full Council for inclusion in the 2015/16 budget (with effect from 1st April 2015).

	ATC Proposed 2015/16
BURIALS	
Burial Rights for up to 100 years incl. right to erect headstone	£470
Burial of person over 12 years old	
- Depth 4ft	£275
- Depth 5ft	£410
Burial of child (1 month old up to 12 years old)	
- Depth 4ft	Nil
- Depth 5ft	Nil
Burial of child (stillborn or child up to 1 month old)	Nil
CREMATED REMAINS	
Burial Rights for up to 100 years incl. right to erect headstone	£250
Burial Charge	£140
Scattering of Ashes	£90
MEMORIALS ETC	
Right to erect headstone for graves prior to 1/4/12	£120
Right to place vase/shield/cross etc.	£60
Extra Inscriptions	£35
Headstone foundation	£100
Search of Cemetery records (by post)	£30
Search of records with superintendent in attendance	£30
Use of Chapel	£130
Non residents	+100%
Saturday increase	+100%
Public Holiday and 24 th Dec-2 nd Jan increase	+100%

Agenda item 10**Agenda for Next Joint Meeting with NCC**

The next joint meeting with NCC takes place on Monday 26th January 2015 at 6.30pm in the Mechanic's Institute. Draft agenda items are requested.

Agenda item 11**Correspondence**

The following correspondence has been received since the last meeting:

Date	Detail	Action if any
27 Nov	NCC- Removal of weekly planning list document on website	Councillors to note
26 Nov	NCC Schedule of Joint meetings 2014	Available from the clerk on request
4 Dec	RAF Boulmer Lookout magazine	Available from the clerk on request
	NCC temporary road closure – Wagonway Road/Willowburn Avenue likely to be from 16 th March 2015 – 29 th March 2015.	To Note

Recommendation: That the correspondence received be noted.

Agenda item 12**Financial Matters –Payments**

The following invoices have been received for payment (as at 5th December); this list will be updated at the meeting, if necessary.

HMRC	£1,982.74	Tax and NI
Wages Account	£5,000	
BT	£47.35	Phone and internet bill Fenkle Street
John Gray Ltd	£60.46	Machine part
Rickerby Ltd	£51.60	Protective Clothing
Northumberland County Council	£325.57	Installation of banners for Town Team (to also include their removal) (town team budget)
NCC	£150	Occupation of Fenkle Street 13nov - 12dec
CBS Ltd	£20.59	Stationary
Azure	£199.02	Remembrance Day – order of service
Glasdon UK Ltd	£877.95	2 new seats
WR Batey	£53.00	Postage
Glendale Gateway Trust	£60	Cost of visit to Trust
Alnwick Markets	£612.50	Rent of Willowburn Unit Oct – Dec 14
Glasdon UK Ltd	£1,424.59	2 new litter bins and 2 replacement bin liners
National Pen Promotions Ltd	£169.79	Town Council pens – for Mayoral gifts
TOTAL	£11,035.16	

The following payments are now paid by direct debit and are reported for information		
BT	66.51	Phone bills cemetery and cemetery lodge Paid 27 th Nov 14
npower	£22.49	Cemetery Store
npower	£29.00	Town Hall Clock

Recommendation: To approve and authorise the above payment amounting to £11,035.79 and to note the direct debit payments of £118.