

**Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on
Thursday 9th July 2015
in St James Church Rooms, Pottergate, Alnwick at 7.15pm**

Present Cllrs S Allcroft, P Allcroft, D Farrar, W Grisdale, M Harrington, P Holt, J Humphries, G Mavin, S Mavin, K Moore, R Roberts, M Swinbank, A Shilton and A Symmonds.

In attendance W Batey, Chief Officer and Town Clerk; J Pibworth, Assistant to the Town Clerk; County Councillor Heather Cairns, Martin Murphy.

C15/33 Questions from the public
None.

C15/34 Apologies for absence
Cllr. P Broom, G Castle and S Patience.

C15/35 Declarations of Interest
Councillors Farrar and Roberts declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 9 as they were involved in the Neighbourhood Plan.

C15/36 Response to the Alnwick Sustainable Transport Audit

The Town Clerk had circulated a draft response to the Alnwick Sustainable Transport Audit which he had prepared following comments from councillors. He advised that the Town Council were supportive of the audit and had chosen four out of the 10 listed items in the audit to add comments:

No 1 item most supported by councillors

No 2 generally supported

No 3 some support

No 4 some support

He explained that he had added comments about the cobbles including the need for a more cohesive plan that needed to be developed with the Town Council as a long term plan.

Councillor G Mavin said he agreed with everything except number 4. He would prefer to see the cycle routes to the school and pedestrian routes.

Councillor S Allcroft agreed with Councillor G Mavin.

Councillor Roberts said, that whilst she agreed these had not been presented to the Town Council for comment and number 4 would support children from Shilbottle.

Councillor Cairns advised that the items were not mutually exclusive. She also added that cycle routes were important and that there may be money available from different pots to find these.

The Town Clerk advised that there was money in the 2015/16 LTP for routes to schools. He added that the Town Council could add something into the comment about the cobbles about cycle and pedestrian routes.

Councillor advised that it needed to be joined up thinking.

Councillor Holt advised that she had been previously been involved in the opening of a new school and that cycle and pedestrian routes were important.

Councillor Swinbank said that links across the town was key not just to the school. He advised that he had done some work on this with Councillor Cairns and that the new school would change the dynamic of the town. He also felt that the Town Council should focus their response to the items NCC had given.

Martin Murphy (ADNP Transport Lead) agreed that transport links need to be looked at more widely as many people do not start their journeys outside the town centre. He also felt it was important the Town Council's comments agreed with the ADNP.

Councillor Farrar felt that it was a risk if the Town Council waited for NCC to ask them to be involved, so the Town Council should produce something and present it to NCC.

Councillor G Mavin suggested adding additional comments to the response to item 4.

Councillor Cairns advised the Town Council to be careful that they did not muddy the waters with other items or comments. She also advised that routes to the new school site will have to be provided and funded.

RESOLVED: To approve the Town Council's response to the Alnwick Town Centre Audit and forward it to NCC with the suggested amendments.

C15/37 Minutes of the Last meetings - 11th May 2015 and 11th June 2015

Minutes of the Full Council meeting on (14th May 2015 and 11th June 2015) were tabled for approval.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2015 and 11th June were agreed as a true record and duly signed.

C15/38 Matters Arising

MAY 14TH

C15/08 Councillor G Mavin to be added to the Planning Committee.

C15/16 Councillor Holt asked if the Project Officer post had been advertised. The Town Clerk advised that it hadn't.

C15/20 Councillor Moore advised that the white lining had still not been done.

JUNE 11TH

C15/27 Councillor S Allcroft asked if anything had been done about the suggested boundary changes. Councillor Farrar advised that Alnwick Town Council had asked NCC to carry out a governance review.

C15/29 Councillor Moore advised that Time Kommune is the district and not a town. He also asked that the Friends of Time Kommune be involved in any visits.

Councillor Grisdale advised that there French Exchange students in the town that week. He also advised that sports events were being planned for 2017.

C15/39 Mayor's Report

Councillor Grisdale reported that the Mayor's Report is on his blog www.alnwickmayor.wordpress.com.

C15/40 Minutes of Committees

Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee Meetings (14th May 2015 and 11th June) were tabled for approval.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transport Committee meeting held on 14th May 2015 and 11th June 2015 were agreed as a true record.

Minutes of the Cemetery Committee Meeting (21st May 2015) were tabled for approval.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Cemetery Committee held on 21st May 2015 were agreed as a true record.

C15/41 Approval of the Submission Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan

The Town Clerk explained the three consultations that had been undertaken: September 2011, Winter 2013, and Summer 2014.

He also explained that some changes had been made to the Plan by the Topic Leads following comments made:

HOUSING - increased number of houses from 1,000 to 1,100 over the plan duration.

EMPLOYMENT LAND - increased from 11 hectares to 12 hectares following the NCC land audit.

There had also been two new policies covering BIODIVERSITY and LIGHTING added to the plan.

ALLOTMENTS SITES - one site (Allerburn Lea) moved slightly.

Some minor changes had also been made to reflect current situations.

He explained that, subject to Alnwick Town Council and Denwick Parish Council approval, the Neighbourhood Plan would be submitted to NCC later in July or August 2015.

If NCC advise it is ok there will an examination in public followed by a referendum at the end of the year (2015). It will need to be approved by 50% of people voting.

RESOLVED: The Town Council endorses the draft Alnwick and Denwick Neighbourhood Plan.

C15/42 Local Transport Plan Priorities 2016/17

The Town Clerk advised the council that he had received a letter from Richard Mackenzie at NCC asking for the Town Council's LTPs (Local Transport Priorities) by September 25th.

Councillor Farrar suggested that the Town Council ask for feedback from NCC, including scores, on the last LTPs the Town Council submitted in 2014.

Councillor Swinbank asked if NCC gave any information on producing LTPs. The Town Clerk advised that they didn't give very much information.

Councillor Roberts suggested that the Town Council ask how some of the other town councils scored and what actually got done.

Councillor Cairns advised the Town Council that she made a fuss about the requirement for yellow lines on The Peth and had been told that NCC were consulting with the relevant people about getting these done.

Councillor Moore asked if the Town Council could enquire how far down The Peth the yellow were planned.

Councillor G Mavin reminded the other councillors that the LTP sub group was open to all councillors.

RESOLVED: To set up a working group of Planning, Highways & Transport to which all councillors will be invited.

C15/43 Correspondence

The following correspondence has been received since the last meeting:

Date	Detail	Action
12th June	Resident – Request for Dog bin/Litter Bin – Top of Alwynside Estate (See i) below)	Councillors to consider
17th June	NCC - Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (See ii) below)	Comments to clerk by 25th July
19th June	NCC – notification that not proceeding with proposed Chapel Lands affordable housing scheme	Councillors to note
30th June	Music Festival – Civic Reception 2nd August (See iii) below)	Councillors to note
3rd July	NALC – Survey on use of Business Rates (See iv) below)	Response required by 31st July
3rd July	NALC - eNews	Available from the clerk on request
9th July	Road closure notification - not happening	Councillors to note
9th July	Tour of Britain - advised Alwick will host a King of the Mountain and Sprint in Bondgate Within	Councillors to note

i) The Town Clerk suggested that the Town Council ask NCC if they would empty the new bin and if they were then a bin could be provided.

ii) The Town Clerk advised that NCC are asking T&PCs to review the structure of polling wards and locations of polling stations.

Councillor Harrington commented that some people had reported being asked how they had voted at the last election and wondered if the Town Council could do anything about it. The Town Clerk advised that no one was obliged to give any information.

Councillor Farrar thought that although Willowburn Sports centre was used for the whole of Castle Ward which is very large he was not sure there were any other buildings suitable.

iii) Councillor Symmonds reminded councillors that the Gala Concert was on August 5th in the Guest Hall at Alwick Castle. Replies to him as soon as possible.

iv) The Town Clerk advised that NALC were consulting with larger councils about the idea of T&PCs getting a % of business rates in their towns/parishes and advised that 1% had been suggested. Councillor Farrar asked if e knew how much 1% would be. The Town Clerk said he would find out.

Councillor Symmonds asked that, in the light of the issues with The Peth including speeding cars Graham Luke be invited to a council meeting. The Town Clerk advised that he would invite him to attend a full council meeting.

The Town Clerk also advised that the Schools Consultation would be on the next Full Council agenda.

RESOLVED: To accept the correspondence.

C15/44 Feedback Local Multi-agency Crime Prevention Initiative Meeting

Councillor Moore advised councillors that he had missed the last meeting.

C15/45 Financial Matters – a) Payments

The following invoices had been received for payment.

PAYEE	TOTAL PAYABLE	VAT ELEMENT	DESCRIPTION
HMRC	£2473.05	£0.00	Tax/NI payment for June
Wages Account	£5000.00	£0.00	
W R Batey	£145.57	£7.93	£9.98 Insecticide, £10.46 refreshments for Volunteers Fair, £17.65 gift for Magna Carta Cyclist, £75 Magna Carta school prizes, £6.48 Stamps, £36 French Exchange refreshments
Bailiffgate Museum	£56.50	£0.00	Room Hire
Streetscape	£672.00	112.00	Wet Pour repair kits
CBS World	£58.50	£9.75	Photocopying
NRP Foods Ltd	£56.00	£0.00	Refreshments for Armed Forces Week
Assoc. of Natural Burials	£100.00	£0	Membership (1 year)
Rickerbys	£69.40	£2.40	Boots and parts
Thomas Sherriff	£49.53	£8.26	Machine Parts
Thomas Sherriff	£80.61	£13.44	Machine Parts
Argyle Planning Consultancy	£1740.00	£0	Neighbourhood Plan Consultancy
Fantasy Prints	£99.60	£16.60	Cemetery record books
J Pibworth	£51.05	£8.58	Entertaining Lance Allen
J Pibworth	£45.95	£7.66	Magna Carta merchandising
CPS Ltd	£198	£33	Spacers for Stage
Marmax	£397.44	£66.24	Play area benches
Local Living	£600.00	£0	Willowburn unit rent
TOTAL	£11,893.20	£285.86	

The following payments are now paid by direct debit and were reported for information

BT	£78.82	£13.13	Phone Bills Cemetery and Cemetery Lodge (Paid 28th June)
BT	£24.07	£4.01	Phone Bills Fenkle Street (Paid 23rd June)
npower	£97.71	£4.65	Electric - Town Hall Clock paid 29th June

Councillor Holt advised that Alnwick on Bloom would appreciate a grant payment.

RESOLVED: i) To approve and authorise the above payments amounting to £11,893.20 and note the direct debit payments of £200.60.

C15/46 Any Other Urgent Business

Councillor Roberts asked if the new play equipment at Glovers Green had been installed. The Town Clerk advised there had been a mix up between the suppliers and the installers but that it would be installed the following week.

Councillor Symmonds advised that there was still a lot of advertising at the Sainsbury's roundabout.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm
