



Room 5, 27 Fenkle Street, Alnwick  
Northumberland NE66 1HW

Your Ref:

Our Ref: FC/12/2015

Clerk to Council

Bill Batey

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Dear Councillor

4th December 2015

The next meeting of the Council will be held on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015** in St James Church Rooms, Pottergate, Alnwick at **7.15pm**. 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. Consultation on proposed changes to the fire and rescue service – Chief Fire Officer, Alex Bennett will attend the meeting
5. Minutes of the Last Meeting (12<sup>th</sup> November 2015)
6. Matters Arising
7. Mayor's Report
8. County Council issues:
  - a) Feedback on Economic Development in Alnwick meeting
9. Minutes of the Committees
  - a) Planning, Highways & Transport Committee Meeting (12<sup>th</sup> November 2015)
  - b) Cemetery Committee (19<sup>th</sup> November 2015) incl. recommendation of Cemetery Fees for 2016/17
  - c) Recreation & Amenities (26<sup>th</sup> November 2015)
10. Correspondence
11. Feedback Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving Initiative Meeting
12. Financial Matters – Payments
13. Any Other Urgent Business

### In Private

1. Approval of Private Minute – Full Council (12<sup>th</sup> November 2015)
2. Funding Request from Alnwick Young People's Association Ltd (Gallery Youth)

## **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 4**

### **Consultation on proposed changes to the fire and rescue service**

Correspondence has been received from the Fire and Rescue Service which outlines that the service has to save £500,000 in 2016/17 on top of the £3m already cut since 2010. Detailed analysis, and the professional expertise of firefighters, have been used in developing the proposals. Should the proposed changes be approved the fire and rescue service will continue to have 21 emergency response vehicles across the county and, through the introduction of smaller fire appliances and flexible staffing, in some areas cover will be increased. The proposals are:

- Removing the retained (on-call) fire appliance from West Hartford Community Fire Station. The station will still have two fire appliances staffed round the clock. The retained fire appliance only attended 8.4% of incidents within the last five years. There is also cover from Pegswood Community Fire Station.
- Replacing the second retained (on-call) fire appliance at Alnwick Community Fire Station and the retained (on-call) fire appliances at Ponteland, Seahouses and Wooler Community Fire Stations with smaller fire appliances. Alnwick will continue to have a retained (on-call) appliance as well as a smaller fire appliance. The smaller appliances can attend all of the incidents the larger traditional fire appliances can attend. With the introduction of flexible staffing arrangements the appliances could respond to certain incidents staffed by less than four firefighters; as a result it will increase the amount of times they are available and enhance the emergency response cover. The smaller appliances are also much more cost effective to lease and run than larger traditional fire appliances.
- Closing Haydon Bridge Fire Station with cover to be provided by Hexham, Haltwhistle and Allendale Fire Stations. Over the last five years there were only 96 incidents in Haydon Bridge and over half (57%) of these incidents were small fires or false alarms. A third of incidents (33%) within the Haydon Bridge area were attended by surrounding stations.
- More joint working with other Fire and Rescue Services and agencies to reduce costs.

Alex Bennett, Chief Fire Officer, will attend the meeting to outline the proposals and answer questions from Councillors.

## **Agenda item 6**

### **Mayor's Report**

An update on the mayor's diary can be obtained at <http://alnwickmayor.wordpress.com/>

## **Agenda item 8**

### **County Council matters – feedback from Economic Development in Alnwick meeting**

A report on the recent meeting with NCC and ARCH will be given

**Recommendation: To note the update**

**Agenda item 10**  
**Correspondence**

The following correspondence has been received since the last meeting:

Date	Detail	Action if any
26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	NCC – briefing on the devolution agreement for Town & Parish Council's on 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec at either 2.30pm or 5.15pm at County Hall. (also update on proposed move of County HQ).	Councillors to inform clerk if they wish to attend
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Sow Wild Project. Details of project running in Spring 2016	Available from the clerk on Request
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	NCC – Book bank service withdrawn at certain locations (20 including Denwick Lane)	Circulated to Councillors

**Recommendation: That the correspondence received be considered.**

**Agenda item 12**  
**Financial Matters**

**a) Payments**

The following payments are due (as at 4<sup>th</sup> December); this list will be updated at the meeting, if necessary.

PAYEE	TOTAL PAYABLE	VAT ELEMENT	DESCRIPTION
HMRC	£2,634.81	0	Tax/NI payment for November
Wages Account	£5,000.00	0	
Northumbria In Bloom	£200.00	0	In Bloom entry fee (paid 20 Nov)
KW Purvis	£84.60	£14.10	Aggregate for Cemetery
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	£1,084.94	£180.82	New Team Swing
NCC	£12,960	£2,160	Planting in 2015/16
MBC Badge Co	£420.00	£70.00	Alnwick Badges
Azure	£154.58	£0.00	Remembrance Sunday orders of service
BT	£87.60	£14.60	Broadband (Nov-Jan)
CBS World	£18.86	£3.15	2016 Diaries/calendars
WR Batey	£738.88	£113.52	Laptop & software (£654.99), Postage £57.78, Refreshments £22.11, Key £4.00
Local Living	£612.50	£0.00	Unit rent Oct - Dec
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£23,996.77</b>	<b>£2,556.19</b>	

The following payments are now paid by direct debit and are reported for information			
BT	£87.29	£14.55	Phone Bills Cemetery and Cemetery Lodge paid Nov 26th
BT	£24.86	£4.14	Phone Bill Fenkle Street paid 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov

**Recommendation: To approve and authorise the above payments amounting to £23,996.77 and to note the direct debit payments of £112.15**