



The Council Offices, Greenwell Lane,
Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 1HB

Your Ref:

Our Ref: FC/08/21

Dear Councillor

Clerk to Council

Peter Hately

Tel: 01665 602574

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6th August 2021

The next meeting of the Council will be held on **Thursday 12th August 2021 at 7.00pm**. You are hereby summoned to attend. The meeting will be held in the St James' Church Centre, Pottergate.

Yours faithfully

Peter Hately
Clerk to Town Council

Agenda

1. Questions from the Public
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (8th July 2021)
5. Matters Arising
6. To receive a letter to the Council from George Watson (age 12)
7. Boderlands Funding – Tony Kirsop (Northumberland County Council)
8. Mayor's Report
9. Updates:
 - a. County Council
 - b. Advisory Groups
10. Filling Vacancies on the Council
11. Chairman of Advisory Groups – Non Councillors
12. Appointments to Committees
13. Minutes of the Committees
 - a. Planning, Highways & Transport Committee (8th July 2021)
 - b. Cemetery Committee (22nd July 2021)
 - c. Recreation & Amenities Committee (15th July & 5th August)
14. Recommendation to Council from Recreation & Amenities Committee – (Thomas Percy Site)
15. Christmas in the Town Centre
16. Special Motion – Alnwick Youth Hostel Cycle Hub – Request for Funding
17. Freeman of Alnwick Award
18. Financial Matters – a) Payments b) Bank Reconciliation c) Budgetary Control
19. Correspondence
20. Any Other Urgent Business

Agenda Item 3**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

To consider the minutes of the previous meeting (8th July 2021)

Recommendation: To APPROVE the minutes of the previous meeting

Agenda Item 7**Borderlands Funding – Tony Kirsop (NCC)**

Tony Kirsop will brief the Council on Borderlands funding for the town.

Agenda Item 8

The Mayor will update Councillors on events of the past month.

Recommendation: To NOTE the update

Agenda Item 9

Councillor Castle & Councillor Swinbank will update the Council of issues relating to Northumberland County Council. Advisory Group Chairs will provide brief updates from groups that have met since the last meeting.

Recommendation: To NOTE the updates

Agenda Item 10**Filling Vacancies on the Council**

Two vacancies exist on the Council. The deadline for applications was the 30th of July and two applications were received from Lisa Aynsley and Barry Slapp. Under normal circumstances the applicants would be invited to informally meet members of the Council prior to the meeting. However, due to the Covid restrictions of the venue this will not be possible. Information on the applicants will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Recommendation: To APPROVE the Co-option of Lisa Aynsley and Barry Slapp.

Agenda Item 11**Chairman of Advisory Groups – Non Councillors**

It is always not possible to appoint a Chairman of Advisory Groups from members of the Council. Councillors could agree that where appropriate a non councillor should be permitted to chair advisory groups.

Recommendation: To APPROVE the appointment of non councillors to advisory group chairman roles where it is desirable.

Agenda Item 12**Appointments to Committees**

Councillor Dianne Watson has requested membership of the Cemetery Committee to fill a current vacancy.

Recommendation – Councillor Dianne Watson is appointed as a member of the Cemetery Committee**Agenda Item 14****Recommendation from the Recreation & Amenities Committee – Thomas Percy Site**

The Recreation & Amenities Committee have recommended that the Council acquire the Thomas Percy Site as a community asset transfer. Details will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Recommendation – The Council acquire the Thomas Percy Site from Northumberland County Council**Agenda Item 15****Christmas in the Town Centre****Background**

Councillors will recall that at the June Full Council meeting a request for ATC funding was received from the Retail and Town Centre Advisory Group towards the urgent production, by New Skills Consulting, of a document in the correct “green book” format, for bidding for external funding for the proposed Alnwick Christmas and New Year offer which will take place from late November 2021 to early January 2022. This Town Council funding was approved and New Skills Consulting are currently working on the documentation, to be officially submitted by the Chamber of Trade, which will be used in the first instance to apply for North of Tyne funding. The deadline for the North of Tyne bid is the day after this Council meeting, Friday August 13th 2021. The document will also be used to apply for other funding such as Borderlands. The document produced by New Skills Consulting identifies all events, requirements, costs and funding identified/raised so far along with quantified outputs and outcomes such as jobs created, accredited training undertaken, additional revenues generated for town centre businesses, etc., which will be an essential condition of any external grant awards.

Request for Town Council non-financial support in-principle

As well as the familiar and excellent Christmas Lights created by the Christmas Lights Team volunteers, there will also again be a Christmas Lights Trail from The Alnwick Garden via the Bondgate Tower and Bondgate Within to the Market Place. Part of the grant funding being sought would be used to provide enhancements to this year’s lights trail including the provision of light created messages, Christmas patterns and images, etc. projected onto the pavement in Bondgate Within to act as illuminated pavement guides into the town centre for visitors. It is also intended that the external grant funding being sought should provide, throughout the Christmas and New Year period from the end of November to the first week in January, a 100 sq. m. ice skating rink and a helter-skelter as additional attractions located in the town centre to attract many more visitors from outside Alnwick into the town and therefore many more potential

customers to the Alnwick markets, to town centre shops, bars, pubs and restaurants and to any other town centre attractions.

It was initially proposed that the ice rink and the helter-skelter would be located within the Market place itself from the end of November to the first week in January and the Freemen of Alnwick have expressed their great enthusiasm for this. However the new market operator, Market Place Europe, has expressed concerns that the rink and helter-skelter will take away stall space for market traders to whom they must give priority so Bondgate Within is being proposed as an alternative location for the rink and helter-skelter.

The Chamber of Trade and individual traders have all pledged their (non-financial) support for these proposals and their written expressions of support will be submitted as part of the funding bids.

The (non-financial) support of the Town Council is, similarly, hereby being sought for the offer described above, to be added to the applications for grant funding.

Recommendation – That the Town Council gives its in-principle support to the Christmas and New Year offer proposals described above, to be expressed within the grant applications for the proposals.

Agenda Item 16

Special Motion – Alnwick Youth Hostel Cycle Hub

Councillor Swinbank and Councillor Symmonds at a site visit with the MD of Alnwick Youth Hostel discussed a revised application for a reduced funding amount similar in nature to the Alnwick Cycle Hub application refused by members at the July meeting. The hostel has found half the £10K they needed from another source but cannot proceed without the additional £5K to reach a total of £20K, the minimum amount needed to complete the first phase of the cycle hub project. To resubmit this application (as a special motion) requires six signatories from town councillors. I confirm that this requirement of the constitution is met and members are asked to consider the revised application.

Recommendation – To consider the revised application for funding.

Agenda Item 18

- a) Payments – A list of payments for approval will be circulated at the meeting
- b) A bank reconciliation will be circulated at the meeting for approval
- c) A budgetary control report be circulated at the meeting

Recommendation: To APPROVE the payments schedule, To APPROVE the Bank Reconciliation & to NOTE the Budgetary Control Report.