



Ashington Town Council
Town Hall
65 Station Road
Ashington Northumberland NE63 8RX
Town Clerk: Mike Slaughter
Tel: (01670) 624520 / 624521
E-mail: mikeslaughter@ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk

ASHINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 6:00pm on Tuesday 4 September 2018, at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Station Road, Ashington.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mark Purvis (Chair)	Eleanor Armstrong
Marjorie Chambers	Avril Chisholm
Matthew Cuthbert	Stephen Fenwick
Brian Gallacher	Lynne Grimshaw
Lawrence Henderson	Jim Lang
Liam Lavery	Bob Walkinshaw
Tom Wilson	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mike Slaughter – Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
Stephen Humphrey – Funding & Projects Officer
Sharon Parmley – Senior Administration Officer
Members of the Public – 0

C18/790 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Victor Bridges, Nicola Chambers, Kris Lavery, Ken Parry and Pauline Thompson.

C18/791 2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS.

There were no disclosures of interest from members present.

C18/792 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17 July 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record.

C18/793 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

C18/787 8. WILDLIFE & COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 – REVIEW OF DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ALLEGED PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY: MILBURN ROAD, ASHINGTON.

The Town Clerk informed members that the review process was still active and that Cllr. Wilson was undertaking to collect the required evidence forms from residents.

C18/794 5. CIVIC HEADS REPORT.

The Civic Head, Cllr. M. Chambers, reported that she had attended the following events;

- **Wednesday 18 July** - Ashington Grange Care Home, with buffet and live entertainment.
- **Tuesday 24 July** – Ashington Sea Cadets - Presentation of the Captains Cup, the Unit of the Sea Cadets had come third in the whole of the UK.
- **Monday 30 July** - Friendship Day Garden Party.
- **Saturday 25 August** – Station Court Summer Fayre.
- **Sunday 26 August** – Woodhorn Park Dog Show.
- **Monday 3 September** – Ashington Town Council Gardens Competition Awards evening.

C18/795 6. LEADERS REPORT.

The Leader, Cllr. S. Fenwick, reported that a number of recent meetings had taken place, including;

- (i) Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting, to initially start discussing the options and format for any new agreement to be effective from 2019-20.
- (ii) A meeting with the Northumberland County Council litter and street cleansing team to try to address the ongoing problems around the town; and
- (iii) Discussion around the Town-Wide Survey and the impact of the results on the Neighbourhood Services priorities.

C18/796 7. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES.

Cllr Gallacher, Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Partnership, reported that considerable work was currently underway to thoroughly review and look at the full range of options available to the Town Council for the future delivery of quality Neighbourhood and Environmental Services in the Town.

Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the current standard of service delivery and referred to the recent survey results with residents highlighting their priority of seeing real improvement in litter clearance and street cleansing.

Members were of a firm view that the format and structure of any new Neighbourhood Services Partnership with Northumberland County Council would need to incorporate defined outcomes and see changes to current working arrangements. Members were unanimous in the view that the current Partnership had failed to deliver the expected and required improvement particularly in the light of the significant level of revenue investment made by the Town Council.

Cllr.Gallacher reported that he would be looking to prepare recommendations and a Full Motion regarding the format of any new Neighbourhood Services Partnership for the consideration of Finance & General Services at the meeting to be held on 25 September 2018.

C18/797 8. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

Tuesday 6 November 2018, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 65 Station Road, Ashington, NE63 8RX, commencing at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm