



Ashington Town Council  
Town Hall, 65 Station Road  
Ashington  
Northumberland  
NE63 8RX

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

**To all Members of the Council**

You are hereby summoned to attend the **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**, in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 65 STATION ROAD, NE63 8RX**, on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025**, commencing at **6:00pm**.

The agenda for the meeting is set out below, along with supporting documents. If you have any questions about any of the items on the agenda, please contact the office.

The meeting is open to the press and public. As per the agenda and our standing orders, any resident wishing to speak should contact us prior to the meeting, 5:00pm on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September is the cut-off point.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Eden'.

**Sarah Eden**  
**Executive Officer/RFO**

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**AGENDA**

**1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR**

Welcome by Cllr Mark Purvis.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

*Members are also reminded that they need to regularly review their declarations of interest forms and ensure they remain up to date.*

**4. DISPENSATIONS**

To receive and consider any dispensations.

Tel: (01670) 624521

E-mail: [sarah.eden@ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.eden@ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Website: [www.ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/ashingtontowncouncil>

<https://www.instagram.com/ashingtontc/>

## **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair to receive any items put forward by members of the public and to put questions to or draw relevant matters to the attention of the Council. This is for a period of 15 minutes overall and is limited to 3 minutes per person.

*Please email/telephone the Executive Officer with questions on items on the agenda no later than 5.00pm on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025*

## **6. DRAFT MINUTES OF PREVIOUS FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

To agree as a true record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (enc)<sup>i</sup>

## **7. DRAFT MINUTES OF JUNE COMBINED FINANCE AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

To agree as a true record the minutes of the meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (enc)<sup>ii</sup>

## **8. REPORT FROM THE CIVIC HEAD OF ASHINGTON (CLLR PAULINE THOMPSON)**

To receive a verbal report from the Civic Head of Ashington.

## **9. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CIVIC HEAD OF ASHINGTON**

To receive nominations for the position of Deputy Civic Head of Ashington and in the event of more than one Councillor being proposed and seconded to take a vote and elect the Councillor with the majority.

## **10. PUBLIC STATEMENT ON RECENT EVENTS IN ASHINGTON (placed on the agenda by Cllrs Louis Brown, and John Tully)**

To consider endorsing and issuing a public statement addressing recent events in Ashington, including unauthorised flag displays on public assets, vandalism, and protests, following community feedback (enc)<sup>iii</sup> To agree that the Council:

- Endorses the attached draft statement "Standing Together: Ashington's Response to Recent Division" (enc)<sup>iv</sup>
- Authorises the Clerk to issue the statement on behalf of Ashington Town Council
- Agrees to coordinate release with participating community groups and organisations
- Delegates authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to make minor amendments following any final community group feedback

## **11. PROJECT SHIELD**

To receive a report on Project Shield's deployment in Ashington, hear a presentation from the Project Shield Team, and consider a funding contribution request (enc)<sup>v</sup>

## **12. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR), YEAR ENDING MARCH 2025**

### **a) External Auditor Report/Certificate**

To receive the External Auditor Report/Certificate (enc)<sup>vi</sup>

### **b) Notice of Conclusion of Audit**

To receive and endorse the publication of the Notice of Conclusion of Audit, on the Town Council's website, alongside Annual Governance and Accountability Return, year ending March 2025, and to agree any other action required.

To endorse the statement on the Council's website confirming the Notice of Conclusion, issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 (enc)<sup>vii</sup>

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### **13. HALF-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW**

To receive report, consider recommendation, and agree any action (enc)<sup>viii</sup>

### **14. DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 6:00pm at Town Hall.

### **ENCLOSURES**

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- <sup>i</sup> DRAFT Full Council Minutes, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025
- <sup>ii</sup> DRAFT Combined FGS and Full Council Minutes, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025
- <sup>iii</sup> Summary of community feedback
- <sup>iv</sup> Proposal and draft public statement
- <sup>v</sup> Project Shield Presentation
- <sup>vi</sup> Completed AGAR, External Auditor Report 24/25
- <sup>vii</sup> Statement confirming Notice of Conclusion of Audit 2024/25
- <sup>viii</sup> Half-Year Budget Report – Actual and Committed Spending (September)

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