

**New Website**

The new website is up and running but is also being further developed and improved. The office is prioritising those items that are legally required under the Transparency Code, and recent news items; other items will be added in time.

**Christmas Lights Displays**

Following the receipt of our inventory from the current Christmas Lights contractor. Tender documents will be drafted and brought March FGS Committee Meeting for approval.

**NCC Partnership Agreement**

An overall map of cleansing schedules has been received. We have asked for separate maps for each day so that streets can be deciphered.

The Clerk is visiting our neighbouring Clerk at Blyth to research their enhanced services delivered by NCC.

The Clerk has written to Paul Jones and Stephen Wardle to request information relating to the delivery of Core services county-wide.

Reports received into the office are being input into a new system designed to properly monitor the service received. Reports received are numerous; some can be dealt with immediately via the Neighbourhood Team, whereas Environmental Enforcement issues must follow a procedure and there will be a delay between reporting and a result.

**Tree Planting Schemes**

The contracts for tree planting at Woodhorn Villas, North Seaton Industrial Estate and off the A197 have been offered and accepted. A press release was put out celebrating the scheme.

[Tree Planting Plans for Ashington \(ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk\)](http://ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk)

The Assets and Facilities Manager is meeting with NCC Tree Officer and contractors this week.

It has been suggested that the Council could consider further tree planting in support of '[The Queens Green Canopy](#)', which encourages tree planting during the official season October – March. Any future tree planting brought forward by the Climate Change Group will be asked to consider this initiative.

**Budget and Precept Demand**

The precept demand was sent to NCC immediately after the budget meeting. A press release relating to the budget was put out.

[Ashington Town Council is raising the bar, but not the precept](#)

The Finance section of the website is being further developed so information can be added.