



Haltwhistle Town Council Meeting  
4<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
APPROVED MINUTES

168/23	<p><b>Grounds</b></p> <p><b>168/23.01</b> Orchard Gardens Two specifications were presented to members. One involved concreting the main path and placing sleepers along the north edge where the embankment is. The other was for paths similar to those in The Comb Hill play area and the embankment graded down to the level. It was thought that this area will not be greatly used by residents in the town and so there is no justification to spend huge sums of money. Therefore the 2nd specification was chosen. Adverts will be placed around the town and on Facebook for quotes to be received and considered at the grounds meeting on 25th September. Formal approval will be made at the October meeting. <b>PROPOSED Cllr C Banks                      SECONDED Cllr D Rogan-Mackie                      AGREED</b></p> <p><b>168/23.02</b> Coronation Park – It was agreed to move this item to the confidential section and take at the end of the meeting.</p> <p><b>168/23.03</b> Public Seating and Bus Shelters – Only one quote out of the three contractors contacted has been received for the seat maintenance program for this autumn. There are 39 wooden seats in total that need some repair/re-painting work. The quote was £3000 plus VAT. It was agreed that the contractor would be appointed with the aim to have the seats finished this autumn in preparation for the winter. <b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr M Ridley                      AGREED</b></p> <p><b>168/23.04</b> Public Footpaths, Lighting and Amenities The clerk has not heard anything back about lighting in the Memorial Garden. David Hunt will be asked about the proposal.</p> <p><b>168/23.05</b> Any Other Issues Arising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toilets- there is still concern over the use of the toilets for drugs. It was agreed to invite David Hunt to a meeting to discuss the problems and ask when the refurbishment is to be undertaken.</li> <li>• British Legion Tommy – NCC have said they did not destroy the statue. It was agreed to purchase another one in time for Remembrance Day.</li> </ul> <p><b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr M Ridley                      AGREED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter Picking Day – it was agreed on Sunday 17th September at 10.00am.</li> <li>• Free Trees – members did not think there was anywhere appropriate for more trees. The offer will be shared on Facebook.</li> </ul>
169/23	<p><b>Northumberland County Council (NCC)</b> No Matters.</p>
170/23	<p><b>Police in Haltwhistle</b> Members will meet informally with Inspector Kate Benson on Monday 11th September 2023.</p>
171/23	<p><b>Appointments to Other Bodies</b></p> <p>Haltwhistle Parentship Cllrs D Rogan-Mackie and A Cheverst volunteered to be representatives. There is still one vacancy. <b>PROPOSED Cllr M Bowes                      SECONDED Cllr M Ridley                      AGREED</b></p> <p>Staffing Committee – deferred.</p> <p>Police Liaison – Cllr J Hunter had worked closely with M Forrest over the years and so it was agreed to appoint her. However, Cllr C Banks and Cllr M Bowes also showed an interest and so it was agreed that all three could act as liaison members and between them cover all issues within the town. <b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr A Cheverst                      AGREED</b></p>



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<b>178/23</b>	<p><b>Reports on Financial Matters</b> Financial Matters:</p>			
			£	
178/23.01	Bank and cash balances as at 29th August 2023			
	Current Account		30,917.42	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>30,917.42</b>	
178/23.02				Included above
				<b>Not Included Above</b>
	JBC		563.70	Aug Pension & PAYE
	Clerk hours		189.00	Aug Hours
		Pay \method	Incl VAT	
178/23.03	Accounts for payment 4th September 2023		£	Included in Balance Above
	PPH		79.00	Felt for bus stop repair
	D Benson		70.00	strim seats and O Garden grass cutting
	D Benson		25.00	O Gardens
	<b>Total</b>		<b>174.00</b>	
				<b>Not Included Above</b>
	HDJBC		162.00	July Play Inspection and dog bags
	JRB Enterprises		278.40	Dog Bin bags
	HDJBC		10,304.96	2nd Tranche
	D Benson		75.00	Tree branches at Pig market, weed spraying
	Mrs Susan Saunders - Exp		62.75	Home allowance, Mileage, IA gift, Land Registry documents
	Tynedale Hospice		250.00	To be approved
	Railway FC		500.00	To be approved
	Age UK Northumberland		200.00	To be approved
	Monthly Amounts	direct/DDR	3,792.58	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>15,625.69</b>	
	<b>TOTAL FOR APPROVAL</b>		<b>15,799.69</b>	
	<p>The payments of £15,799.69 were approved and included the amounts agreed for grants and a late invoice for D Benson.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr M Bowes                      AGREED</b></p> <p><b>178/23.04 Bank Reconciliation/Inc &amp; Expenditure as at 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 – Noted</b></p>			
	<p><b>Other Financial Matters</b></p> <p><b>178/23.05 Xmas light purchases to approve – The Chamber of Trade have requested the purchase of some lights and will make a donation to the council to cover the costs which are £2888.88. Light boxes will need to be purchased from NCC at £450 each but the Chamber of Trade will donate to those too. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of the lights.</b></p> <p><b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr M Bowes                      AGREED</b></p> <p><b>178/23.05 Bank Mandate – It was agreed to update the bank mandate so that Cllr's A Sharp and J Hunter remain as signatories and to add M Bowes as a third signatory.</b></p> <p><b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr M Ridley                      AGREED</b></p>			
<b>179/23</b>	<p><b>Haltwhistle &amp; District Joint Burial Committee</b></p> <p>The cemetery land at Haltwhistle and Greenhead is still in the name of individuals. The council agreed that they support the Burial Committee in formally writing to the solicitors to try and progress the registration.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED Cllr C Banks                      SECONDED Cllr M Bowes                      AGREED</b></p>			
<b>180/23</b>	<p><b>The Post Office</b></p> <p>There is concern in the town that the post office may not continue in its current location. Members asked if The partnership would discuss other options should this occur.</p>			

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181/23	<p><b>Correspondence received since last Council meeting</b></p> <p>There is a Family Hub Teams meeting and an invite has been sent for a councillor representative to attend. Cllrs D Rogan-Mackie and M Bowes offered to attend and bring back a report.</p>
182/23	<p><b>Staffing Committee Report and Minutes</b></p> <p>Confidential Matters Resolution to Exclude Press and Public To consider a resolution to exclude the public and accredited representatives of newspapers from the following item relevant to a subject which affects the Council's area.</p> <p>Resolution "That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and, they are instructed to withdraw."</p> <p>This resolution is moved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp                      SECONDED Cllr M Ridley                      AGREED</b></p> <p>To receive the approved minutes from 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and draft minutes from 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023 – the minutes were noted. The grievance has been satisfactorily resolved and the case is now closed.</p>
183/23	<p><b>Dates and times of next meetings</b></p> <p>Town Council meeting Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 at 6.30pm Police Meeting Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 10.am, Haltwhistle Library. Grounds Meeting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September – 10.00am Staffing Committee Meeting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September – Haltwhistle Library.</p>