

WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL



# RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019 Issue



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New 20 Acre  
Play Area



Neighbourhood  
Plan Update



Spotlight On Our  
Community Volunteers



# Foreword from Christine Taylor Mayor, West Bedlington Town Council

## Welcome to our second newsletter of the year, I can't believe how quickly this year has gone.

I would like to use my little spot in the publication to highlight some activities and achievements undertaken by the Council over the last six months. To start with we finally have CCTV in the town, working with Northumbria Police we have identified specific areas of concerns as well as providing coverage for Town Council property. I know the police have already found this a useful addition to aid policing within the town.

We hope to secure planning permission for our new play area on 20 Acres, this area will be for under 12's and a small football pitch with goal posts. County Councillor Russ Wallace has very generously made a donation from his Small Scheme Fund to support this venture. We have also looked at the road safety aspects of the location of the park and Northumberland County Council have agreed to provide a chicane to slow traffic down. We felt the need to provide the play area following several requests from local residents for facilities for their children. We are

aware that this is a dog walking area so we will be fencing the play area to ensure it remains clean and free from dog fouling.

We have also recently installed speed awareness signs; two in Nedderton Village and two beside Hartford Home Farm. This has been achieved working with County Councillor Malcolm Robinson who very generously made a donation from his Small Scheme Fund. We also have to thank Isabel Esson who donated over several hundred pounds from her fund raising activities, Isabel works tirelessly raising funds to support road safety following the unnecessary death of her daughter Beth Fisher two years ago.

I have been following concerns raised regarding Westlea Cemetery. While this isn't the responsibility of West Bedlington Town Council I have visited the cemetery and have seen there are a number of issues, so I asked for and have a number of volunteers who are taking up the mantle by forming a "Friends of Westlea Cemetery Group". If you are interested in joining this group please get in touch.

We are continuing to work with our schools to put their art work in our bus shelters, this will continue during this

year so watch out for changes in the bus shelters coming soon. This project started in the hope of giving children some ownership of our Town Council property and I can report that we have seen some reduction in the damage.

As we move towards the year end we have two events left, 2nd November is our Spooktacular which is a Halloween/ Fireworks event with fancy dress and disco followed by fireworks. Tickets will be priced at £1.00 to prevent people picking up more tickets than they actually need and allow everyone the opportunity to attend. Our final event is the Christmas Light Switch-On, on the 30th November, in the Market Square. We will have a traditional switch on with an ice rink, traditional stalls and Christmas fayre.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has worked with us during this year. We are truly grateful for your continued support. As this is our last publication prior to the festive period I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and very best wishes for 2020.

Best regards,

*Christine Taylor*  
Mayor

# A Sun Dial for Bedlington

Regular readers of this newsletter will be aware of The Councils plans to install a public sun dial in Bedlington Market Place.

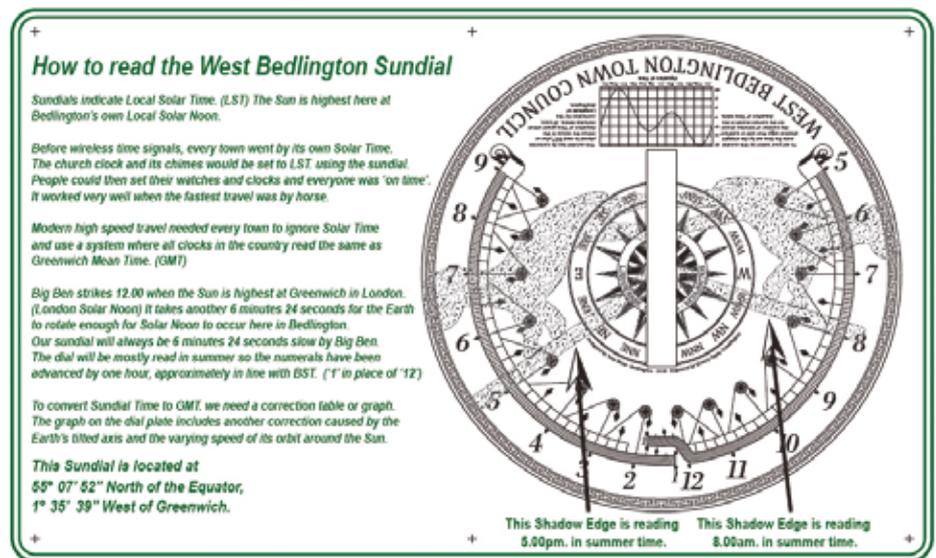
Delays initially with obtaining planning permission, suppliers and a requirement to change the location have resulted in the project running much longer than at first anticipated. Let's hope the sun is still shining by the time the sun dial is actually installed.

In anticipation of a successful completion we wanted to remind residents of the design of this unique sun dial which will be located in Bedlington Market Place. This is to be the final project of local resident Tony Moss of Lindisfarne Sun Dials who has been designing sun dials for more years than he cares to remember. Tony had decided that his final sun dial will be here in Bedlington.

You may have seen some of Tony's work right here in the North East as he designed the 20 meter diameter dial on the hill at Silverlink.

We asked Tony about the current project and his love for sundials.

"My first encounters with sundials as a small boy left me wondering where they were wound up and why nothing seemed to move. Seventy years later and after indulging my paying hobby, designing and making sundials while trading as 'Lindisfarne Sundials' I leave instruments both very large and very small from Vancouver Island in the far west of Canada to Hong Kong in the other direction. Amongst forty+ instruments in the USA, is my very special dial to celebrate the founding of the first English colony at Jamestown. After seven sundialling visits to the USA and Canada and even one to design, make and install the most northerly sundial on Earth, on the island of Spitsbergen (the Norwegians call it Svalbard) it is now time to design something for my home town of 50+ years. My own preference was for a very rugged design that would withstand rough weather, time and New Year 'celebrations' and the like.



Early consultations however, resulted in an elegant design incorporating several iconic images from early locomotives to the Trotter Memorial and the Market Cross or 'Nail'. Unfortunately, by the time various permissions were obtained, the company which has carried out the hazardous deep etching of several stainless steel plates for me in the past no longer offered this service. A new design, speaks strongly of Bedlington, its roots in coal mining and the local metalworking tradition which has wrought it to my designs. Our famous terrier is the proud supporter of the shadow-casting 'gnomon' - an ancient word arising from early Greek and meaning something like 'the wise one'. All is placed on a hexagonal mounting based on pit winding gear. The dial

plate is surrounded by a contrate (crown-like) gearwheel: hopefully a deterrent to would-be climbers and edge-sitters.

Basic sundials are really very simple things to understand. Stick a pencil in the snow at the North Pole pointing directly upwards at the Pole Star and its shadow from the Sun will move in 24 equal steps (15°) each day/night so there are your 24 hours. Move down to Bedlington and Polaris is no longer overhead so the gnomon has to be sloped to align with that pencil at the pole. The hour and minute lines are no longer equally spaced.

The Reading Plate nearby will give more information to allow users to convert sundial time (local Solar Time) to clock time."

# Events and services at St. Cuthbert's Church,

*The Church of England Parish Church of Bedlington*



## ST. CUTHBERT'S GRAND AUCTION

**Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
From 2:00pm**

(viewing from 10am-noon)

**Entry by catalogue : £1**  
(buy at the church door)

China, jewellery, ornaments, toys,  
electricals, and much, much more at  
bargain prices!



## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>  
10:00am- 1:00pm**

**ENTRANCE FREE**

Featuring music from local schools

Home Produce Refreshments Craft stall  
Chocolate Tombola Toys & Games Tombola  
Wine or not? Bag-O-Fun Soft Toy Tombola  
Raffle White Elephant Grand Prize Draw  
Christmas stall...and Santa! (from 10:30am)



## Cuthbert 950 ANGLO-SAXON SERVICE

**Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**

Marking the 950<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the monks of  
Durham resting in the church in Bedlington  
with the remains of St. Cuthbert.



## Christmas Concert

**FEATURING  
ASHINGTON AND DISTRICT  
MALE VOICE CHOIR**

**Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
From 3:00pm**

**Tickets £7** (includes  
seasonal refreshments)

Tickets from church members or  
tel. 826719 or 828493

## MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

**Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

(with Christmas stall and bargain Christmas cards)

**Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>**

**ALL FROM 10:00am-12noon**

## Baptisms and Weddings can be booked at Office Hour

(in church 6-7pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month)

Tel 829631 for further information

## SPECIAL SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS

**Sun Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 9:30am** : Toy Service – which includes a  
collection of **new** toys for disadvantaged local  
families.

**Sun Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm** : Service of Nine Lessons and  
Carols – traditional service with favourite carols.

**Christmas Eve -Tues Dec 24<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00pm** : Crib Service – our very popular  
introduction to Christmas especially for families,  
children and the young at heart.

**11:30pm** Midnight Communion.

**Christmas Day - Wed Dec 25<sup>th</sup>**

**10:30am** Christmas Day service.

## REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

### **8:00am Sunday services:**

Said Eucharist, Common Worship

### **9:30am Sunday services:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sun of the month** : All-age morning  
worship.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of the month** : Sung Eucharist (with  
Sunday Club for Children).

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sun of the month** : All-age Holy  
Communion.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sun of the month** : Sung Eucharist (with  
Sunday Club for Children).

**5<sup>th</sup> Sun of the month** : United Benefice  
service – check our website to see which  
church this will be held in.

### **9:15am Wednesday services:**

Said Eucharist, Common Worship.

Check up-to-date information on our  
services and events at :

[stcuthbertsbedlington.org.uk](http://stcuthbertsbedlington.org.uk)

**Note** : We have disabled access and toilet facilities.



# Salvation Army Summer Club

**Summer Club this year was later than usual and we think the change worked well.**

In previous years we always offered the first week of the six-week summer break, but this year we broke with tradition and activities took place in the last week of the six. This was intended to give the children something to look forward to at the point in the holidays they're usually bored as well as give the parents a week of respite from entertaining and coughing up cash.

The week was a full programme of games, crafts, cooking, songs and bible teaching. The week for children over 6 and under 12 years old was fully subscribed with our maximum of 40 children each day. Each day finished off with lunch for all the children before they were collected. Fish fingers, sausages, burgers, bolognaise and a buffet over the five days with ice cream each day covered in enough raspberry sauce to fill a lake. Half way through each morning the children all stopped for a snack and a drink. We are very

grateful to Morrisons who supplied crisps, chocolate biscuits, bananas, apples and squash for the whole week.

The finale to the week was presentation to the parents by the children on Saturday morning and we all ate our buffet lunch together.

We are very grateful to West Bedlington Town Council who gave us a grant of £500 to cover the shortfall between the minimal charge we make for each child and the outlay to cover the weeks food, crafts and activities. As always, we tried to spend it wisely on games and equipment that are sustainable and will be used for many events and summers to come.

Many of the items we bought will go on to be used in our DV8 Youth Club which is every other Friday from 6pm until 7.30pm for 6 to 12-year olds (please call for places (£1 per child) or as part of Messy Church which takes place on the last Friday of each month. Messy Church is a family evening which starts at 6pm with crafts, bible stories and songs and ends with

everyone sharing a meal. There is no charge for Messy Church, please feel free to come and join us as a family. Family Film Club on the 'vacant' Friday evening at 5.30pm. All families are welcome to join us. Entry is free; all we ask is that you buy hotdogs, popcorn, chocolate and drinks from our tuck shop and don't come armed with your own goodies. All tuck shop items are only 50p each. Again, we are grateful to West Bedlington Town Council who last year paid to have our cinema equipment updated and for the purchase of the first six films to get the ball rolling. Please check our Facebook page for details of films and other events.

Wherever we do have to charge for activities the cost is kept to a minimum in order to keep the programme running, but no profit is made.

Anyone who would like information on any part of our programme please drop into the centre or give us a ring on 01670 829356 or like us on Facebook to follow regular updates.

DR PIT PARK,  
PARK ROAD,  
WEST  
BEDLINGTON,  
NE22 5DB



# WEST BEDLINGTON SKATE PARK EVENT MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER 12AM - 5PM



DARYL DOMINGUEZ



PRO DEMO'S, COMPETITIONS  
AND FREE WORKSHOPS



JACK CLARK

## FREE BMX AND SKATEBOARD WORKSHOPS

Skateboards and helmets provided

All welcome to take part

West Bedlington Skatepark,  
Dr Pit Park, NE22 5DB

29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of October

BMX: 10-12am  
Skateboard: 12-2pm

Carers come in all shapes and sizes, it could be a wife caring for her husband; a husband caring for his wife; parents caring for an adult child with physical and /or mental illness; adult children caring for one or both parents; grandparents or other older relatives; adult siblings caring for one another following the death of their parents and as we see more and more, older couples mutually caring for each other with often complex physical and mental conditions.

A carer can be someone who looks in on an elderly neighbour once a day, or someone who is carrying out intensive 24 hour a day support. Caring can be short term, where a person being cared for is recovering from an illness or injury, sporadic, where the effects of a condition can change the level of caring and support required such as an ongoing mental illness or long term - this could be caring for someone with a life limiting condition or a condition which becomes progressively worse over time.

Carers Northumberland is a charity dedicated to improving the lives of carers by responding to the needs of carers, informing carers of their rights and entitlements, supporting carers to access help for the person they care for, reducing

the social isolation that so many carers feel and empowering carers to have a voice.

If you would like to know more about carers Northumberland as a carer or someone who would like to volunteer, please visit our website [www.carersnorthumberland.org.uk](http://www.carersnorthumberland.org.uk) or contact us on [info@carersnorthumberland.org.uk](mailto:info@carersnorthumberland.org.uk). Carers Northumberland is a registered charity, and appreciates any fundraising opportunities or donations. Please get in touch for more information on 01670 320025 or [info@carersnorthumberland.org.uk](mailto:info@carersnorthumberland.org.uk)

Online Donations are welcomed via our Just Giving page [www.justgiving.com/carersnorthumberland](http://www.justgiving.com/carersnorthumberland)

Charity Registration Number: 1122972

## Neighbourhood Watch now recruiting in Bedlingtonshire area

**We are looking to recruit volunteers to run Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in the Bedlingtonshire area taking in all parts of Bedlington, Bedlington Station, Nedderton, Choppington, Guide post, Stakeford, West Sleekburn, North Blyth and Cambois. We will provide information and support to anyone wanting to set a scheme up in their street.**

Stephen Armstrong ( Chairman ) said "this is a great opportunity for residents to become involved in their community and meet new people". He said "There are several schemes already running very successfully in the Bedlingtonshire area and we are hoping to add even more". "we are trying to make our Bedlingtonshire a safer and more friendly place to live".

Neighbourhood Watch Schemes are run solely by residents and are headed up by a coordinator from within your street, the rest of the residents then become members of that particular scheme. Coordinators are invited to quarterly meetings with neighbourhood Police officers and coordinators from other areas.

If you would like to join us or require information on how to set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (NHW) in your street you can contact us via



email; [steve.5265@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.5265@btinternet.com) or Telephone me Stephen Armstrong (chairman of Bedlington NHW) on 07931277266 or Dawn Coutas (Secretary of Bedlington NHW) 01670 813825

If you wish to speak to a Neighbourhood Police officer ring 101 ext 63726 ask for PCSO Bev Sellar.

# Flying the flag

West Bedlington Town Council recognises that flags are emotive symbols which can boost local and national identities and strengthen community cohesion. They are a way for communities to express feelings of joy, pride and loyalty.

Like all symbols, flags are open to wide-ranging interpretation and, therefore, also have the potential to cause controversy and create tension between community groups whose opinions may differ. The flying of any flag must be viewed in the context in which it is flown or displayed. Factors affecting

the context include the manner, location and frequency with which flags are flown.

The Council has a responsibility to carefully consider the potential impact upon its communities of flying flags from its properties and how that action may be interpreted.

**The Council recently installed a flag pole at The War Memorial, Front Street West and has agreed a policy with regard to which flags and the dates those flags are to flown. Details are shown below:**

| Date                             | Occasion   | Flag                                      |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 9th January                      | Birthday of the Duchess of Cambridge                         | The Union Flag                            |
| 20th January                     | Birthday of the Countess of Wessex                           | The Union Flag                            |
| 6th February                     | Her Majesty's Accession                                      | The Union Flag                            |
| 19th February                    | Birthday of the Duke of York                                 | The Union Flag                            |
| 1st March                        | St David's Day   | The Union Flag                            |
| 10th March                       | Birthday of the Earl of Wessex                               | The Union Flag                            |
| 13th March                       | Commonwealth Day (second Monday in March)                    | The Union Flag                            |
| 21st April                       | Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen                            | The Union Flag                            |
| 23rd April                       | St Georges Day   | The Cross of St George                    |
| 2nd June                         | Coronation Day   | The Union Flag                            |
| 10th June                        | Birthday of the Duke of Edinburgh                            | The Union Flag                            |
| 17th June                        | Official celebration of Her Majesty's birthday (date varies) | The Union Flag                            |
| 21st June                        | Birthday of the Duke of Cambridge                            | The Union Flag                            |
| 24th June                        | Armed Forces Day   | The Armed Forces Flag                     |
| 17th July                        | Birthday of the Duchess of Cornwall                          | The Union Flag                            |
| 15th August                      | Birthday of the Princess Royal                               | The Union Flag                            |
| Week Prior to Remembrance Sunday | Week of Remembrance  | Remembrance Flag - not Remembrance Sunday |
| Remembrance Sunday               | Remembrance Sunday   | The Union Flag                            |
| 14th November                    | Birthday of the Prince of Wales                              | The Union Flag                            |
| 20th November                    | Her Majesty's Wedding Day                                    | The Union Flag                            |
| 30th November                    | St Andrew's Day  | The Union Flag                            |
| TBC                              | Date of Local Pride Festival                                 | The Rainbow Flag                          |

# Flag Trivia

## The Flag Protocol of the United Kingdom

The national flags of the United Kingdom (ie. the Union Flag and the flags of England, Scotland and Wales) should be displayed only in a dignified manner befitting the national emblems. They should not be displayed in a position inferior to any other flag or ensign.

It is improper to use the national flags as a table or seat cover or as a masking for boxes, barriers, or the intervening space between a dais or platform and the floor. The use of any of the national flags to cover a statue, monument or plaque for an unveiling ceremony is discouraged.



The First Union Flag

## Flying the Flag

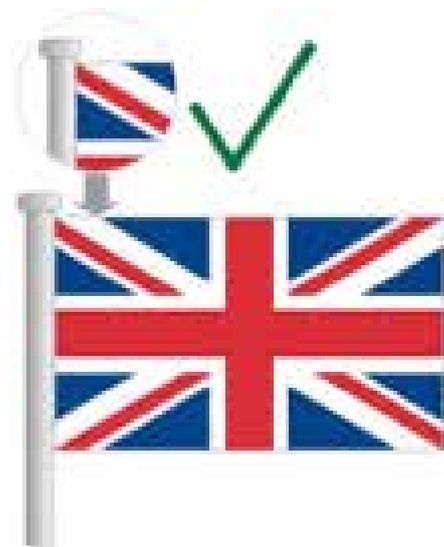
Flags may be flown on every day of the year. Government and local authority buildings in England, Scotland and Wales are encouraged to fly national flags every day of the year (the flying of flags at certain locations in Northern Ireland is constrained by The Flags Regulations [Northern Ireland] 2000 and Police Emblems and Flag Regulations [Northern Ireland] 2002).[2]

Flags are normally flown from sunrise to sunset but they may also be flown at night, when they should be illuminated.

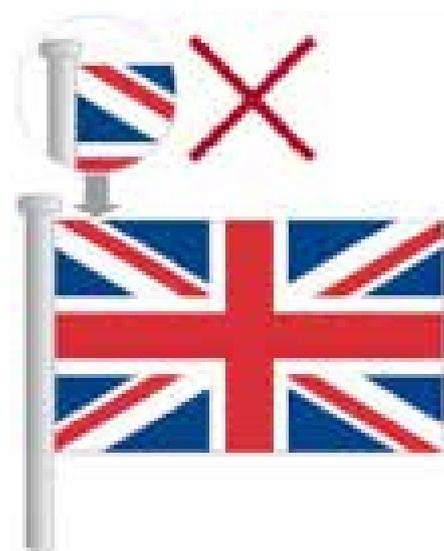
No permission is needed to fly the national flags and they are excluded from most planning and advertising regulations (but flagpoles may not be).

National flags should never be flown in a worn or damaged condition, or when soiled. To do so is to show disrespect for the nations they represent.

Important: the Union Flag has a correct way up - in the half of the flag nearest the flagpole, the wider diagonal white stripe must be above the red diagonal stripe, as Scotland's St Andrew's Cross takes precedence over Ireland's St. Patrick's Cross. It is most improper to fly the flag upside down.



The Modern Union Flag



This Flag is Upside Down!

## Did Somebody Say “Slow Down”?

### Speed reduction signs at Nedderton Village and Hartford Road.

After a long and protracted campaign by both residents at Nedderton Village and Hartford Home Farm, West Bedlington Town Council is delighted to have been able to contribute to the installation of new road speed reduction signs at both these locations.

The new signs have been financed jointly with Northumberland County Councillor Malcolm Robinson and The Town Council, who will also pay for the ongoing repair and maintenance of the new signs.

Our thanks again to Councillor Robinson for his contribution from his Small Schemes fund.

Lets hope that the introduction of the signs will contribute to a reduction in speeding vehicles and improve road safety.



# Spotlight on our Community Volunteers... and our cry for more help!

**Did you know your Town Council is made up of 9 Councillors?**

**Did you know they are all volunteers and are unpaid?**

**Did you also know that none of them has claimed any expenses for the time and work they do for The Council.**

**Perhaps you did.**

But more importantly are you aware of a varied band of dedicated and conscientious volunteers who carry out selfless work on behalf of their community?

We would like to offer up a little space within this newsletter to acknowledge the work of some of the volunteers, register The Council's sincere thanks to them all and make a request for additional volunteers to help support and improve our community.

If you are part of a group that would like to be acknowledged in future editions please let the Council know of your activities so they can be shared with the whole town.

If you have a little spare time and would like to make a positive contribution to your parish please consider the volunteer opportunities detailed in this newsletter – all help is greatly appreciated by both The Council and your community and is much needed.

## Litter Picking

Throughout the town there is a small group of diligent and time generous litter pickers, who acting upon their own initiative take themselves to far flung corners of the town to collect litter discarded by irresponsible people. These anonymous, motivated and unrewarded individuals expand the litter collection services already provided by Northumberland County Council.

The Council would like to place on record its thanks and gratitude to all those resident volunteers who perform this valuable undertaken.

Earlier this year The Council successfully bid for funding to help support community litter picks to help make the town litter free. A supply of litter picking equipment (pickers, gloves and high viz jackets) together with rubbish bags has been purchased and are available to community groups, schools and individuals who would like to make a positive contribution to the parish by undertaking regular litter picking. If you would like use of the equipment please contact The Council via the Town Clerk our contact details are at the back of this newsletter.

## Blooming Bedlington

The record breaking summer, as well as bringer higher temperatures and an increase in ice cream sales has also made the maintenance and watering of flower pots, tubs and hanging baskets problematic for gardeners. The blooms provided by West Bedlington Town Council, enjoyed by residents and visitors alike throughout Front Street and other areas of town are complemented by additional blooms planted, maintained and watered by a group of resident volunteers. The volunteer group (Bedlington in Bloom) has undertaken this invaluable and often overlooked venture for a number of year on behalf of residents. Their noble and devoted efforts, together with their knowledgeable endeavour is very much appreciated and The Council would like to thank the group as a whole and its individual members for its continued commitment and enterprise.



The group is always looking for new members, new pairs of hands who can contribute an hour or so every now and again to help support their efforts in making the town look its very best. If you are interested in joining the group please contact the group are as follows:

Post Box which is located in reception area of Bedlington Community Centre.

Bedlington in Bloom Face Book Page.

E-Mail: [brendadadiws@outlook.com](mailto:brendadadiws@outlook.com)

Tel: 07397188430



## Bedlington Community Centre Trustees and Volunteers

Look out in this newsletter for all the interesting, varied and entertaining activities that take place at your Community Centre on Front Street West, Bedlington.

The Community Centre is run by a small dedicated group of unpaid volunteers who are committed to doing the very best they can for the benefit of the community. The group is always on the lookout for extra pairs of hands and anyone who can spare some time to help out. If you think you could help please contact the Community Centre directly they will be very appreciative.

The Council is very grateful to everyone involved in making the Community Centre the success it is and wishes to add its own thanks to those of the many regular users of the Community Centre.

## Thanks for donation - Cake helps with road safety

You will read in other articles in this newsletter about our newly installed Road Speed Reduction Signs at Nedderton Village and Harford Road and the fund raising tea party at Meadowdale Academy hosted by Isabel Easson.

The Council would like to express its sincere and grateful thanks to Isabel for her most generous and benevolent donation of £767 in making this invaluable contribution to help improve road safety in the town.

Thanks also to Northumberland County Council Malcolm Robinson who contributed the majority of the cost of the project from his County Councillor Small Schemes Fund.

## Defibrillator Guardians help save lives?

Through this newsletter The Council has tried on a number of occasions to reach out to the community for volunteers to become "Defibrillator Guardians".

The Council along with Bedlington Masonics and Beadling Manor have provided three Community Debribrillators in the town. These potentially lifesaving pieces of equipment require a regular health check of their own to ensure they are working as they should be.

A guardian is a loyal, responsible person who volunteers to carry out a regular cabinet and defibrillator inspection. A simple questionnaire is completed and returned to the Ambulance Service via the Town Council office and this confirms to the Ambulance Service whether or not a defibrillator is operational.

Without the support of loyal guardians, many Public Access Defibrillators sites and initiatives would not be possible to operate. We would very much like to ensure this service continues and possibly extended in the future to provide a wider network of defibrillators. However do need the support of volunteers from the community to assist with the regular checks.

We are delighted to announce that local residents Lucie Archbold and April Orr have very kindly volunteered to act as guardians to our public access defibrillators. The Council would like to thank both Lucie and April for fulfilling this very important role, it is very much appreciated by both The Council and the community as a whole.

We are still on the lookout for more volunteers, so if you wish to help in your community as a guardian and help ensure this valuable piece of emergency equipment is available at all times please contact The Town Clerk (contact details at the end of this newsletter).



## Seeking volunteers to help raise and lower the flag.

Could you spare a few minutes to help either raise or lower a flag at the Flag pole?

The Town Council Is seeking a number of volunteers who can contribute their time on scheduled days throughout the year either on a morning or late afternoon to assist with flying the flag. Full training will be provided and a schedule / rota of the days / times will be drawn up in advance to ensure your contribution fits in with your own commitments. Please contact the Town Clerk if you would be interested in helping your community by helping to raise and lower the flag.

## Watch Your Speed - Our Volunteers Are - Community Speed Watch in Northumberland

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using calibrated speed detection devices.

Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are reported to the Police and a warning letter is issued with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated (even across county borders), enforcement and prosecution follow.

CSW Volunteers are employed and vetted by the Police and are working on behalf of the Police and communities to organise and coordinate CSW activity. Speeding is not just a local phenomenon - neither is Speedwatch.

Speeding continues to be a concern

for many communities in both rural and urban environments. Therefore, Community Speedwatch is not restricted to villages and rural towns. Neighbourhood Policing Panels have an important role to play in developing safer urban communities and the adoption of Speedwatch schemes.

Volunteers receive appropriate training, and are supported by their neighbourhood policing team (NPT) staff with an aim to:

- Reduce death and injury on the roads
- Improve the quality of life for local communities
- Reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit
- Increase public awareness of inappropriate speed

Community Speed Watch is a

proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in the community.

In conjunction with Choppington Parish Council, West Bedlington Town Council has been able to provide funding to help support the Community Speed Watch volunteers operating in the joint parish areas.

The Council would like to thank the Community Speed Watch volunteers for their continued commitment to road safety in the parish, their efforts are very much appreciated.

To help strengthen public awareness of road safety issues the Town Council has commissioned local school children to produce road safety themed art work to be displayed in bus shelters around the town. We hope to have the project completed later this year.



**Fancy a cuppa  
with a coppa?**

Come and have an informal chat with your local  
**Neighbourhood Policing Team** on **Tuesday 22nd October  
2019 at 6pm** at **Bedlington Community Centre**

# West Bedlington Town Council and Bedlington FC Team Up!



Over the summer we teamed up with Bedlington FC to provide two weeks of summer soccer camp training to the boys and girls of West Bedlington.

The sessions ran for 4 days for ages 7 to 12 and were attended by over 40 children using the Meadowdale Academy site.

The weather smiled on us each week and the children had a fantastic time. West Bedlington Town Council is proud to subsidise these sessions to make sure all kids in the area get a chance to come along. Bedlington FC facilitate the sessions alongside their partner First Step Coaching to make sure that no matter the ability everyone can get involved for minimal cost.

The club has strong ties with the town council operating at a number of sites each week to offer training for boys and girls aged 6 and up, you can find out more [www.bedlingtonfc.org](http://www.bedlingtonfc.org)



## Children and Families enjoyed a Summer of Pilates

Children and families looking for a fun, healthy, free activity came along to Bedlington Community Centre to try out Pilates, funded by West Bedlington Town Council.

The sessions were delivered by Jillates – Pilates with Jill, who is the first to be delivering Pilates for children in the area and is passionate about the benefits of Pilates for all ages.

The sessions were a great success amongst the families and included balancing, strengthening, stretching, giggles and the children exercising with their favourite adult.

### Families said:

“We’ve loved the classes and we’d love to do it again”

“Thank you so much Jill, it was great, we wish we could come to them all”

“It was fab, my child loved it”

### Jill of Jillates said:

“With so much research on the benefits of exercise on mental health and obesity and with Summer being an expensive time for families, I loved delivering the free sessions and see the families having fun and exercising together over the Summer”

### Pilates has many benefits for all ages:

- Improved flexibility
- Increased muscle strength
- Improved balance
- Improved posture
- Supports other sports
- Good for the body and mind

Jillates – Pilates with Jill has plans to continue to deliver sessions to help with family wellbeing, if you are interested you can follow her Facebook page to be the first to hear about new sessions. [www.facebook.com/jillatespilates](https://www.facebook.com/jillatespilates)



## Bedlington Climate Change Action Group

**Climate Change is absolutely the most important issue for our children's futures.**

In 2015 the Government signed the Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and Northumberland County Council has recently declared a Climate Emergency. Both measures were supported by all political parties, and in particular by our own MP.

In Bedlington we have national clean-energy projects on our doorstep - Energy Central and North Sea Link will soon join Catapult in making a national impact. This area, once so important in providing coal to power the nation's industries, is set to be recognised as a national centre for cleaner energy.

This is not enough. Every business and individual in Bedlington should also be making a contribution. Recognising this, a number of our young residents, passionate to protect their futures, have now formed an action group, to make us all more aware of how renewable energy can have an impact on our Town - for example clean-energy investments, solar panels for social housing, and electric public transport.

The Group's objective is to make Bedlington eco-friendly and proud. More meetings and events are planned soon, and the Group is looking to talk to groups of young people. Please encourage your family to be involved.

Contact us by email [laurenmariepitt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:laurenmariepitt@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 07450974851



## Tea Party for Bedlington Road Safety Campaign

**On 19 August 2017, Bethany Fisher was tragically killed whilst in a car that was being driven at excessive speed on Rothesay Terrace, Bedlington. To compound this tragedy, the crash occurred outside her house and her Mother, Isabel Easson was one of the first on the scene.**

A month later, Isabel (Issie), presented a petition to the Local Area Council to have speed cameras installed on Rothesay Terrace. It was a privilege for me to help Issie in this venture. Eventually, two speed indicator signs (SID) were installed on that stretch of road.

Since that day, Issie has campaigned tirelessly to get more speed signs erected in Bedlington. To help raise funds for these projects, she has organised two Tea dances at Meadowdale Academy. As a result of the first event in 2018 she was able to contribute to the SID sign that is now evident on Stead Lane and this year following a similar event she has donated funds to West Bedlington Town Council for speed awareness projects in their area.

Issie should be commended for the time and effort she puts into organising these events to make Bedlington a safer place for us all to enjoy.

**Bill Crosby**  
Cllr. Bedlington East

# Northumberland Empowering Communities Project

**Northumberland Empowering Communities Project, aims to use asset-based, community centred approaches to improving wellbeing and health in Northumberland.**

Northumberland County Council, in partnership with Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, have committed to support the employment of a Locality Coordinator in each of the five local area council areas (localities) until March 2021. Using participatory methods and focusing on “what is strong rather than what is wrong”, the Locality Coordinators will seek to map and mobilise the knowledge, skills and time of individuals and the resources

of community groups (“assets”), link people to those assets, and increase the control people have over their lives.

Locality Coordinator details for the **Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley** area is:

**Maggie Martin**

Email

Maggie.Martin@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk

Telephone

07814 592813

**Host Organisation - Active Northumberland**

## BEDLINGTON ATC 2522 SQUADRON

Tel: 01670 829947

Located in Waverley Drive Bedlington

**NOW Recruiting for boys and girls aged 12 and over.**

Activities include participation in :-

- Duke of Edinburgh Awards - 4 cadets recently achieved silver awards and 2 further cadets are undertaking their gold awards.
- Some have Bronze flying wings and 5 cadets are going to Cumbria for wing training.
- Shooting practice.
- Archery.

The training provided to cadets is of a very high standard which is recognised by potential future employers when leaving school.

The Squadron also needs adult volunteers 21+ and members of the public to join a civil committee to support the ATC.



You may have seen some members of the squadron participate every year in the Remembrance Day Service or collecting for the Poppy Appeal around the town.

# Bedlington Community Brass Band

# Blow your own horn!

**Brass bands have been and remain a huge part of community life in our area from the time when the landscape was dotted with coal mines.**

You can follow the history at Woodhorn Museum, with its amazing display of miners' banners, and Durham Miners' Gala fills the streets of the city each year with brilliant bands; but Bedlington hasn't had its own band for many years ... that is, until five years ago.

Music Partnership North, the music development organisation for young people in our region, gained funding from Youth Music to start a big brass playing project in Bedlington's schools. Whole classes were able to try out and learn brass instruments, with schools forming 'minibands' and special projects to bring the players together each year at the Miners' Picnic in Ashington.

Brilliant! But what happens when the children get really hooked? What happens when they want more, but they're not good enough to join one of the local competition bands? That's where, for us adults, the genius of the project kicks in. A key part of it was to begin a Community Brass Band in Bedlington, and five years ago Bedlington Community Brass Band was formed. It's a Brass Band, but not as we used to know them, because absolutely anyone can join. And they do. Chris has played brass instruments all his life, but his wife hadn't - he dragged her along three days after she'd first blown into a trombone to see what would happen - she was made welcome and is still blowing! Band members include children who've been part of the Schools' Brass Project, parents who've been inspired by their children, people who used to play long, long ago and fancied picking it up again and players new to brass and even new to music. Members comment that one of the best things about the band is the friendliness, the people, and the fact that all generations come together in it. Sometimes the grown-ups wish the young ones were a bit less chatty, and sometimes the young ones wish break times at band practice were longer, but everyone agrees that getting along together and making music together is fantastic.

With professional support from our tutors and lots of help and encouragement from band members old and young, new members are really made welcome and have fun. The great thing about a band is that if you make a mistake, no one minds, and there are usually plenty of other players to cover it up!

So far it's been an exciting ride. We've made friends with other bands and performed with them in churches and community venues; we've helped out at fundraisers and community events. A big highlight has been playing each year at the Miners' Picnic alongside competition bands and the minibands, in sunshine and in rain (remember those ponchos, everyone?). We've played music specially written for us. We've played with international star brass ensembles



and we've even played Hall One at the Sage. We play all kinds of music from traditional hymns and marches to pop music and movie tunes, and all the band members have noticed how much we've improved over the years - but we still welcome all newcomers, whatever their playing level!

From the beginning, the band has been funded through amazing support from MPN, who have raised funds from Youth Music. But we always knew this could not go on for ever. So band members formed a Trust to look after the community band part of the project and to give us the chance to build a band for the long-term future. We still have very close links with MPN; our conductor and tutor are MPN people and MPN sends members from minibands and the 'trainer band' to us when they are ready; but we have also been able to secure support from local businesses and West Bedlington Town Council to help with band expenses: room hire, tutors, music, instruments, insurance and our ('very cool', according to band members) uniforms. Without that kind of support, we couldn't survive and we couldn't remain open to all.

For the future, our band wants to play the best part we can in our local community. We love to be involved in local events and with local life; we've recently been invited into a care home and we are excited to see what memories and enjoyment we will spark with the residents. Music is woven into our lives in so many ways, and the more we do, the more fun life is!

So for our future we need two things: we need supporters who can help fund the band or join our lovely committee who do the behind the scenes work to run the band; and we need players. We are really keen to grow the band and to welcome anyone who used to play or who fancies having a go. We can provide instruments and help with learning, and the band subs are low because we want to be accessible to all. We rehearse on Tuesdays in termtime (but not every single week - check our facebook page for details) from 7-8.30 at Bedlington Community Centre. If you think that might be you, find us on facebook (Bedlington Brass Family) and leave a message, or come along and see us - and give us a try. We need you!

Bedlington Community Brass Band at the Ashington Miners' Picnic, 8th June 2019

## Bedlington Community Centre Classes

### As at Jan 2019

#### Monday

##### Pilates

9.30 - 10.30pm

##### Zumba

7.00 - 8.00pm

#### Bedlington Singers Community Choir

7.30 - 9.00pm (Term time only)

#### Bedlingtonshire Local History Society

7.00 - 9.00pm  
(Last Monday of each month)

#### Tuesday

##### Bedlington Creatives

10.00 - 12.00noon

##### Stretch and Tone

10.00 - 11.00am

##### Lilia Jane Tiny Tots (2/3 years)

4.30 - 5.00pm (Term time only)

##### Lilia Jane Mini Stars (4+ years)

5.00 - 6.00pm (Term time only)

##### Basics of Brass

6.00 - 6.45pm (Term time only)

##### Brass Band

6.45 - 8.30pm (Term time only)

##### WI

7.00 - 9.30pm

(First Tuesday of each month)

#### Wednesday

##### Pilates

10.00 - 11.00am

##### Hartbeeps

1.00 - 3.00pm

##### Yoga

7.00 - 8.30pm

#### Thursday

##### Pilates

9.30 - 10.30am

##### Bedlington Ukulele Band

11.00 - 12.00am (Term time only)

##### Modern Jive

8.00 - 10.00pm

#### Bedlington Central Councillor Surgery

6.30 pm (First Thursday of each month)

Contact: Russ Wallace 07779 983775  
or email

russ.wallace@northumberland.gov.uk

#### Friday

##### Pilates

10.00 - 11.00am



**B**EDLINGTON  
COMMUNITY CENTRE (WEST)

## ROOM HIRE

We have a variety of spaces available to hire.

### Meeting rooms downstairs:

#### The Phoenix / £15 per hour

A multifunctional room accommodating up to 40 people.

#### The Shire / £15 per hour

A multifunctional room accommodating up to 40 people.

### Rooms upstairs: (Stair lift available)

#### The Green Room/Buffer Room / £10 per hour

Approximately 10 people can be accommodated around a table or long tables can be set out in a buffet arrangement around the room.

#### The Blue Room / £10 per hour

Approximately 10 people can be accommodated around a table or long tables can be set out in a buffet arrangement around the room.

#### The Longridge Suite

/ £20 per hour (includes Buffet room and Bar)

Large multifunction room accommodating up to 150 people.

#### The Bar

The fully licenced bar is included in the hire price of the Longridge Suite.

### Additional information

A 25% Non-Returnable Deposit to be paid within 14 days of a Provisional Booking. Prices are all inclusive of the use of tables and chairs.

## CONTACT US

We look forward to hearing from you!

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Address           | Community Centre, Front St West,<br>Bedlington. NE22 5TT   |
| Website           | <a href="http://www.bedlingtoncommunitycentre.com">www.bedlingtoncommunitycentre.com</a>             |
| Email             | <a href="mailto:bedlingtoncommunitycenter@hotmail.co.uk">bedlingtoncommunitycenter@hotmail.co.uk</a> |
| Facebook          | <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bedlingtoncommunitycentre">bedlingtoncommunitycentre</a>           |
| Telephone         | 01670 824141   |
| Office open times | Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 - 1.30pm<br>Wednesday, Friday 9.30 - 11.30am                       |
| Charity No.       | 1151177  |

## Take to the ice in Bedlington Market Place

No we aren't privy to a long range weather forecast! Get your skates on and come and enjoy our synthetic ice rink in Bedlington Market Place this festive season.

The synthetic Ice Rink along with the community Christmas tree will form the back drop to this year's Community Carol singing and Christmas lights switch on.

The "Switch On" event will take place on Saturday 30th November 2019. We expect to switch on the Christmas lights at 4pm. The Salvation Army Band will open the event at 2pm ahead of Community Carol singing led by our local schools at around 3.00pm - come along and add your voice to the festive celebration. A Christmas Fair with lots of Christmas related goods will be located inside Bedlington Community Centre (Stalls will be open from 10am onwards).

Use of the Ice Rink will be by advance booking only. Skating will be available for 7 hours each day of the weekend (Saturday 1pm to 8pm and Sunday 10am to 5pm). Skates will be available for hire. Booking details will be advertised on both The Councils website and Facebook page in due course. Session numbers are restricted for safety reasons and a small nominal charge is required - but you must book your session in advance.

West Bedlington Town Council wishes all of its residents a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2020.



## Act of Remembrance



Monday 11th November 2019

Gather from 10.45pm at Bedlington War Memorial,  
Front Street West, Bedlington

West Bedlington Town Council invite you to free Tea and Coffee from 10.30am and again at the conclusion of the Act of Remembrance in Bedlington Community Centre.

Observation of 2 minutes  
silence

Reciting of the Exhortation  
of Remembrance

The Exhortation:

They shall grow not old, as we that are  
left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the  
years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in  
the morning

We will remember them.

EVERYONE  
WELCOME



# Message from your Northumberland County Councillors

## County Councillor Russ Wallace



**In the two and a half years I have had the privilege of being the Independent County Councillor for Bedlington Central I have realised more than ever that the strength of our town lies in the people who live here.**

For example, the last few months has seen new businesses opened and, with the support of the community, are establishing themselves as part of our town. Also both Bedlington Live at 20 Acres and Gallagher Park Live were such a success because Bedlingtonians turned up in their numbers to support the events.

I am delighted that work has restarted on the Market Place development. I share the frustration we have all felt at the delay as the development is crucial to the future of Bedlington. The transformation of our town centre into what I am confident will be a thriving and successful retail development is what the people of Bedlington have been waiting for and richly deserve.

I continue to enjoy supporting residents over matters that are of concern to them. These include parking, where I have supported residents with the introduction of permit parking on Windsor Gardens and in the near future, in Clovelly Gardens. Road safety across the town continues to be an issue with work now in hand to make Hartford Road and Church Lane safer. I have also asked NCC to review the area around the Lidl/Morrison roundabout, which is a concern to us all.

I wish to acknowledge the support I have had from West Bedlington Town Council. I have enjoyed working with WBTC on a number of projects, most recently in the provision of new bus shelters and am pleased to support the new playpark on 20 Acres with a donation from my Councillors' Small Schemes Fund. The Council does an outstanding job and are a pleasure to work with.

I continue to realise how important it is to be accessible to residents. If you feel I can be of help please do not hesitate to contact me at: russ.wallace@northumberland.gov.uk or 07779 983775 and I hold a surgery at Bedlington Community Centre at 6.30pm on the first Thursday of every month. I also have a Facebook page which can be found at: <http://bit.ly/RussWallaceBedlingtonCentral>

Finally, can I thank you for the support I receive from residents - it is much appreciated! I am confident that by continuing to work together we can make Bedlington an even better place to live.

Best wishes - and thank you for reading.

## County Councillor Malcolm Robinson



**Another 6 months has gone by and quite a bit has been going on.**

Starting off with what was mentioned last time we now see the new play area open and extremely well received at Plessey Woods. In fact its help propel our Park into one of the most recommended parks in the North East!

On top of this great new feature we now see events using the park. The last one was the Twilight Classical Concert which again seems to have been something many people really enjoyed. Working on more events for the Park right now and I hope if I can get them funded again we will see quite a variety of productions for all age groups! In fact the next one is aimed at our younger children with a heritage twist, but as I said it will depend on getting the funding.

Speaking of Plessey Woods, again I make an appeal for anyone interested in starting up a 'Friends of Group' please get in touch, I'm sure there are many more upgrades we can enable to happen.

Another new 'Friends of Group' has been started, this one focussing on the cemetery at West Lea. Some really great ideas came out of the inaugural meeting for this group and I'm sure progress will soon be forthcoming.

After many months of trying to get new interactive speed cameras, to help and try to slow traffic down, at last they have been installed. Each side of Netherton Village on the B1331 and before and after Hartford Home Farm on the A1068. After agreeing to purchase three out of my NCC smalls scheme funding, WBTC agreed to pay for the other one. Many thanks to them, especially the Mayor Chris Taylor and again I think its testament to what can be done working together for resident's benefit. This is just a first stage in an attempt to make our roads safer for us all.

It took 2 years to get the footpath renewed from the Town up to Hartford Bridge and both Councillor Russ Wallace and myself have relayed our disappointment with NCC about the current state. We have been assured this will be sorted out but I still wonder if fertilizer instead of weed killer was used before any work was done!

Can't not mention our Town Centre development and again we have been at the forefront of efforts to get this back on track. I expect we will all see how that is to progress very shortly.

Talking of track the much anticipated reopened new line to Newcastle with a station in Bedlington is progressing, with NCC and the new combined North of Tyne Authority providing the seed funding and the government still looking favourably at the project.

Lastly I would like to wish all residents an early Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

I hold monthly ward surgeries at Netherton Club on the first Monday of every month 6.30pm -7.30pm.

Email [malcolm.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:malcolm.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk)

Tel **07779 983080**



# WEST BEDLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - UPDATE

**As you may have read in the last issue of the West Bedlington Town Council newsletter, we have started the process of drawing up a Neighbourhood plan.**

Thanks to all those who responded to our questionnaire in the last issue.

So where are we with the Neighbourhood Plan since the last update?

We have drawn up a number of DRAFT policies for our core values of the neighbourhood plan which are:

- Housing.
- Town Centre/Local Economy.
- Heritage.
- Environment.
- Community Well-being.
- Transport and infrastructure.

At the moment we have to work on two things which are called a habitats

regulations assessment (HRA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA).

These are required due to the fact we want to cover areas which could effect development and the growth of the town.

While work is ongoing on the HRA and SEA we have worked on a policy regarding Local Green Space and Protected open Space.

So what is the difference between Local Green Space and Protected open space?

- Local green space (LGS) designation is a way to protect green areas or open spaces against development where they are of particular importance to local communities. LGS designations are made for use in local plans or neighbourhood plans. These plans can identify on a map ('designate') green areas for special protection. Once designated, LGSs receive protection consistent with national Green Belt policy.

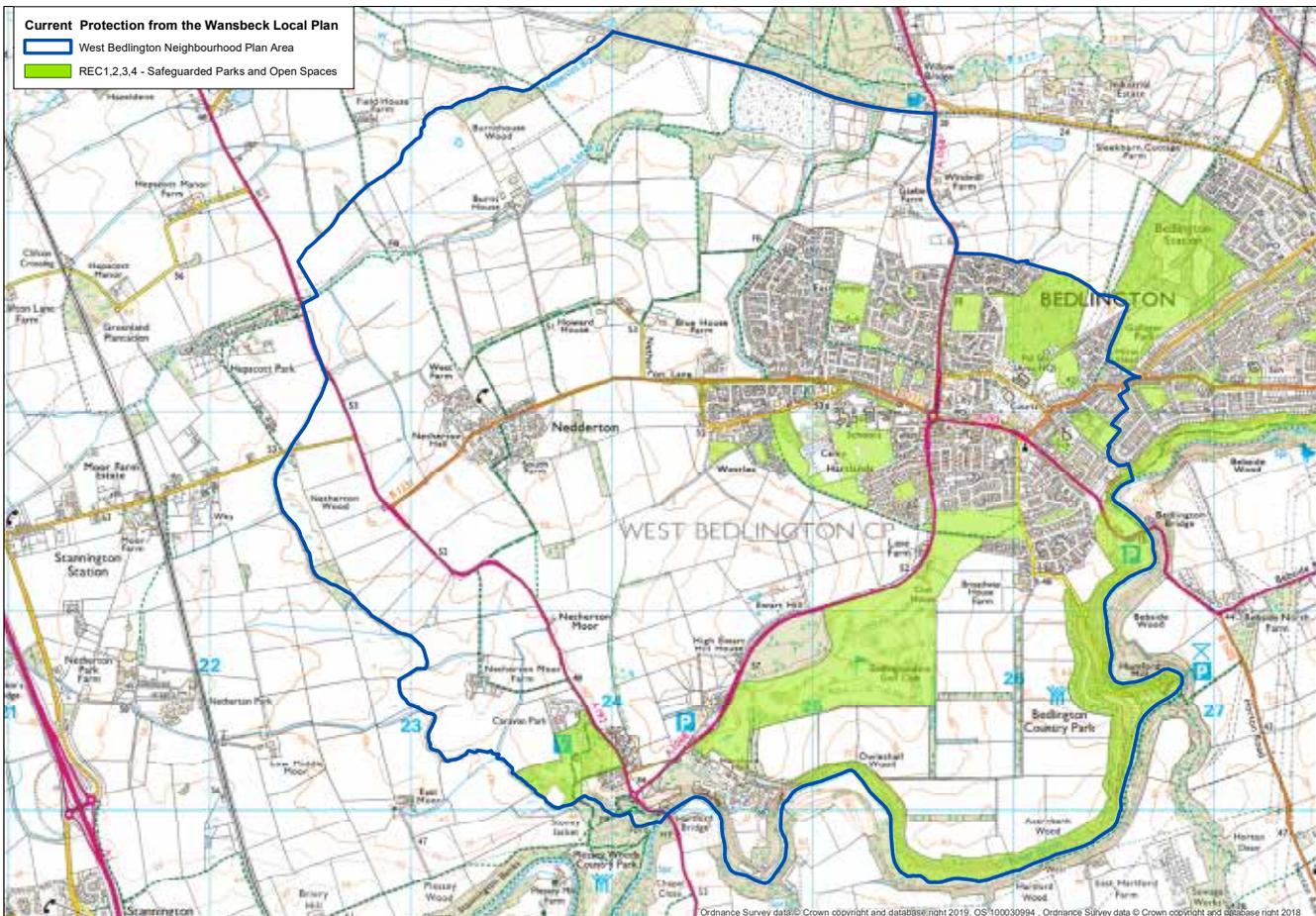
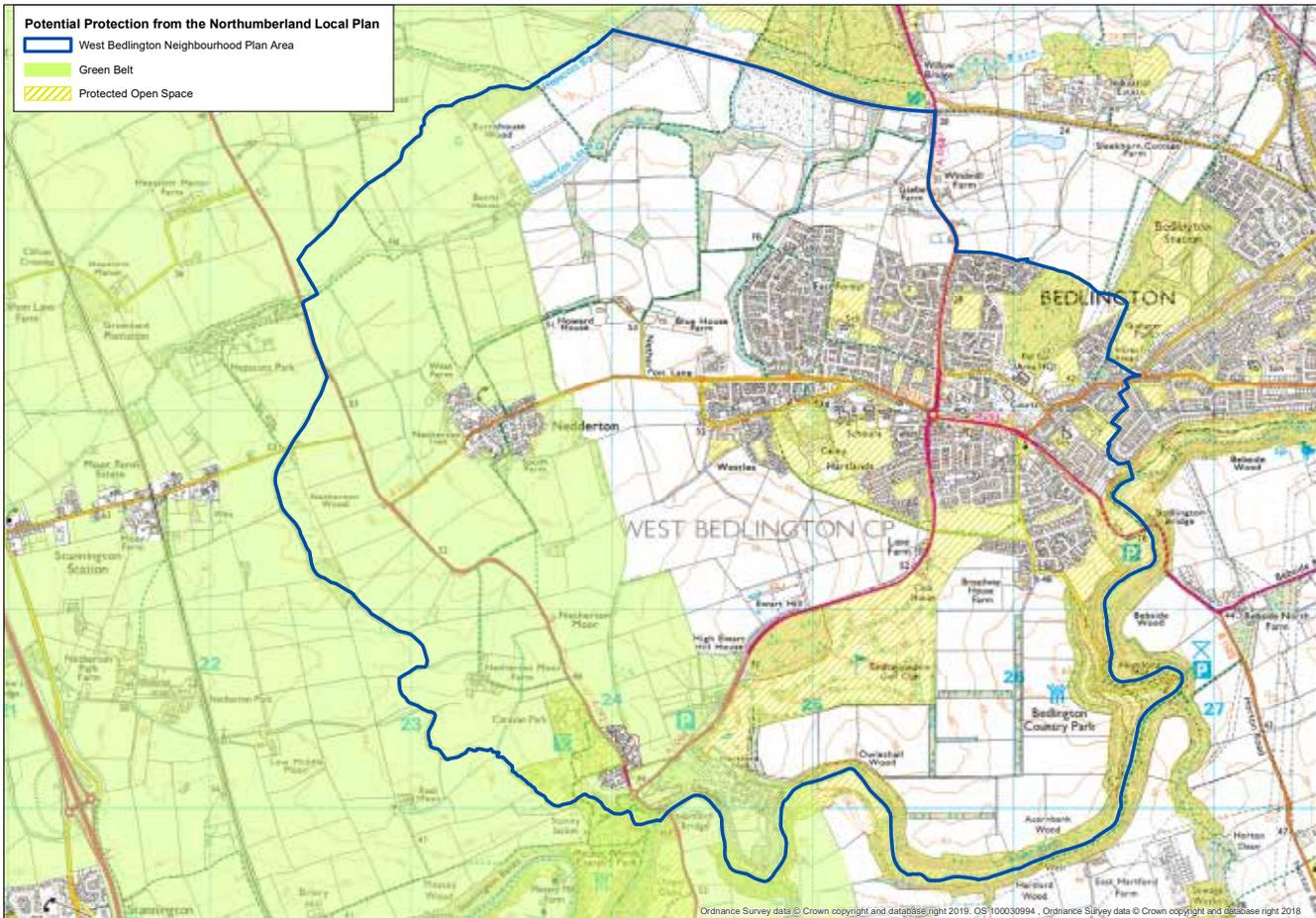
- Protected open space (POS) designation is a way to protect other areas of open space which are valued for their local amenity and for informal or formal recreational purposes, but which do not meet the full LGS criteria. Once designated, they should be safeguarded and only lost where a number of detailed criteria are met.

We have enclosed maps highlighting the areas we believe should be designated as Local Green space or Protected open space.

We would like to seek your views on whether you agree with the sites and their allocation as either Local green space or protected open space and if there are any other sites which should be included within this document.

Please reply via our office or email us with a description of the area, location and why you feel it should be included by 8th November 2019.

## Maps of areas allocated:



To view maps in greater details please visit our Neighbourhood Plan webpage  
<https://westbedlington.org.uk/neighbourhood-planning/>

# Two-day family festival on 20 acres



It has been many years since 20 Acres has been used to host an event of any great magnitude; I'm sure those of us of a certain age will remember the fair that was ever present on Picnic Day and that, once we had endured the speeches at Atlee Park with our parents, we couldn't wait to run up the bank to 'The Shows!'



This year, West Bedlington Town Council decided to try something different in an attempt to re-create those magical moments by holding a two-day family festival on that historic site. It almost didn't go ahead due to the monsoon-like conditions at the beginning of the week. However, although this led to one or two of the bigger rides being cancelled, and others having to arrive on-site days earlier than expected, thankfully the weather wasn't as bad as predicted.

There were some showers but it takes a lot more than that to deter the hardy folks of Bedlington from having a good time and it really was a heart-warming sight to see people dancing in the rain to the music of Showaddywaddy who closed the event on Sunday night and cheering when the sun once more made an appearance, with the bonus of a rainbow appearing over the stage.

Apart from an amazing compere in Glen Townsend, an array of children's entertainment, a DJ set playing soul and funk music and tributes to The Greatest Showman, Freddie Mercury and Lady Gaga, other acts to take to the stage over the two-day festival included 'the Voice' star Peter Dinklage, a one-time local lad who took the time to walk amongst the crowd, pose for selfies and relive his time living in the town before going on to give a great performance that was enjoyed by all, to include some of the songs made famous by his dad, Lonnie.

The event was well received by the public and work is already well under way for next year's festival, which will take place on Saturday 13 June and Sunday 14 June 2020. We have already lined up some great acts with something for all the family so put the date in your diary and we'll see you there.



# CCTV in Bedlington

**The eagle's eye amongst you will have spotted the new CCTV cameras around the town.**

At long last, we hear some of you say. Regrettably the project has been plagued by a series of infrastructure supplier delays but these have been resolved and the system is now fully operational.

The Town Council has procured the services of Reay Security Ltd to provide an inclusive CCTV service for the supply, installation, and ongoing maintenance of the system.

Nine individual monitoring stations, each with two cameras have been located in prominent locations around the town to help reinforce crime prevention and public safety. Some of the chosen locations assist The Town Council to protect some of its public assets at The War Memorial and Meadowdale and Westlea Play areas but other locations have been selected in conjunction with Northumbria Police to provide the best coverage of existing problem areas.

Images from the cameras are not seen or recorded by The Town Council and The Council do not have access to the system. Any instances of crime or anti-social behaviour must on every occasion be first reported to Northumbria Police, who will determine how best to use any available images obtained from the system.



TICKET PRICE  
**£1**  
PER PERSON

ADMISSION STRICTLY  
BY TICKET ONLY  
(FOR VENUE CAPACITY  
SAFETY REASONS)



**BEDLINGTON**

# SPOOKTACULAR

**SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2019, 4PM TO 7.30PM  
AT BEDLINGTON CRICKET CLUB**

HIRST HEAD, BEDLINGTON NE22 5QH - NO PARKING AVAILABLE ON SITE  
FANCY DRESS JUDGED AT 6PM, FIREWORKS AT 7PM

**FIREWORKS, DISCO, FANCY DRESS COMPETITION, APPLE BOBBING,  
HOT FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS, KIDSRIDES**

**Tickets are £1.00 each and are on sale at the following Bedlington venues**

The Community Centre, Front Street West  
Vets for Pets, The Ridge Farm Hotel, Ridge Farm, Netherton Lane,  
The Front Street Post Office, Front Street West  
Confetti, Front Street East

Tickets on sale from Monday 21st October capacity limited for safety and available on a first come basis.



# Play Area 20 Acre Field

**At the time of going to print the planning application for the creation of a new children's play area at 20 Acre playing field is out to public consultation.**

Providing the appropriate planning permission is obtained The Town Council intends to install the play equipment and fencing at the contractors earliest convenience.

The funding for the provision and installation of the play equipment is met by ring fenced funding from the building developers fund (section 106).

An "illustration" of what the proposed new play area and a proposed site layout for both the play area and the adjoining mini football pitch are shown on this page. The equipment is specifically tailored for younger children, 12 years and under who would usually be accompanied to the play area by adults.

The entire project will be surrounded by an attractive bow topped fence, with wide access gates for buggies and wheelchairs.

You will read elsewhere in this newsletter about the introduction of CCTV around the town and specifically at the Councils existing play areas. CCTV cameras will also be installed at the new play area as a deterrent against any anti-social behaviour/vandalism.

The CCTV is only for the purpose of crime prevention and public safety.

The wider project, should the planning application be successful also includes the provision of a road traffic speed calming scheme. The Highways department of Northumberland County Council have already prepared an initial scheme which includes the use of "slow children playing signs" together with physical alterations to the road layout including a "chicane" and "pillows" to slow road traffic down and help make road crossings onto the 20 Acre Playing Field at Church Lane safer.



# BEDLINGTON VETERANS

On 29th June Armed Forces Day was commemorated in Bedlington for the first time as 17 former service personnel paraded at the war memorial on Front Street.

The proceedings commenced when the Mayor, Councillor Christine Taylor together with County Councillor Bill Crosby, both veterans themselves, gave welcoming speeches and then The Mayor read a very moving poem, which was followed by the raising of the Union Flag on Bedlington's brand new flag pole. The exhortation was given by Sydney Graham (Poppy Appeal Organiser) and Last Post and Reveille was played by Brian Storey of the Salvation Army. The formal ceremony was followed by a social event in Bedlington Community Centre.



**POPPY APPEAL ORGANISER BEDLINGTON & EAST SLEEKBURN**

**Mr. S. Graham**

T. 01670 731196 E. [sydneygraham804@gmail.com](mailto:sydneygraham804@gmail.com)

Wreaths, Poppy Crosses, Badges and all Poppy products available

## The Soldiers Life

The soldiers life is not for all  
A soldier must be willing to give his all  
He is overworked and underpaid  
A truer patriot was never made  
Ready to go at any time  
Wherever there is trouble or the first sign  
His courage and honor are unsurpassed  
Ready and willing to complete the task  
Travelling to lands both near and far  
He stands his post and looks at the stars  
Wondering what he might have done  
If he had not chosen to carry a gun  
Remember the next time that you are driving by  
And see the flag flying proud and high  
That somewhere out there a soldier stands  
Weary and cold in a foreign land  
Protecting our country from our foes  
Standing tall and proud come rain or snow.  
Author: SSgt. Scott E Hilligoss

## Remembrance Service

**Sunday 10th November 2019**

**Service 2.30pm at Bedlington War Memorial,  
Front Street, West Bedlington**



**Parade starts 2.15pm from Salvation Army  
Hartford Road, Bedlington.**

West Bedlington Town Council invite you to free Tea and Coffee from 1pm and again at the conclusion of the service in Bedlington Community Centre.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning.

**We will remember them**

John Maxwell Edmonds.

**EVERYONE  
WELCOME**



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

You can attend Town Council meetings (usually the second Thursday of the month at Bedlington Community Centre at 6:30pm)

Before each Town Council meeting there will be a 15 minute open Session. The Chair will invite members of the public present to put questions to, or draw relevant matters to the attention of the Council prior to commencement of business. In order to give every member of the public a fair chance of asking a question, each person will be limited to two questions at each session and each question is limited to 3 minutes per person.

Alternatively you can at any time contact the Council office directly to discuss any Town Council matters. (Our contact details are shown at the end of this newsletter).



## OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Allotments
- Bus Shelters
- Children's Play Areas
- Grit Bins - if the County Council won't supply the Town Council may supply
- Litter Bins - Provision of (not the emptying of)
- Public Seating
- War Memorial
- Christmas Lights
- Christmas Tree
- Notice board Provision
- Flower beds and bulb planting
- Town gateway features
- Additional grass cuts - The County Council cut the grass from April to October so we may pay for additional grass cuts outside of those months
- Support of Community Events

All other local Council Services (e.g. Housing, Refuse Collection, Council Tax and Housing Benefits), Public Toilets, Litter Bin Emptying etc are the responsibility of Northumberland County Council.

[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

Tel: 0345 600 6400

# COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS

West Bedlington Town Council has a 'Community Chest' scheme which gives local voluntary groups and organisations a chance to bid for funding.



This might be to help establish a new group or to carry out extra activities that they wouldn't otherwise be able to do - e.g. sporting activities, arts, music or craft group, new equipment for a youth club - but these ideas will be coming from the community themselves.

To qualify for an award the applicant must be able to demonstrate clearly that any funding from West Bedlington Town Council will benefit the Town, or residents of the Town.

Grant applications will be dealt with by the Full Council. In determining the validity of an application, the Council will refer to the following guidelines:

Applications will be considered for the following purposes:

1. For the purpose of purchasing equipment or materials either in part or in full.
2. For the purchase of services e.g. venue hire or transport that will enable group members to partake in a group trip or outing regardless of their incomes.
3. For running costs (but not wages) of a viable group that is experiencing a period of hardship.
4. For the provision of recreational activities and facilities.
5. For activities that raise the profile of the area.

Application forms are available from the Council's web page or from the Council's Office.

# WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

## COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS



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## Contact details for the Council Office



The Town Clerk is

*Steven Young*

You can contact Steven Young at the Town Council office:

Telephone  
**(01670) 457070**

Email  
**westbedlingtontowncouncil@gmail.com**

Post  
**Bedlington Community Centre,  
Front Street West, Bedlington,  
Northumberland, NE22 5TT**

### Office Opening times

The office is generally open Monday, Wednesday and Friday (9.30am - 5.00pm)

However and regrettably due to staffing levels we cannot guarantee any fixed opening times.

We would advise that in the first instance you contact us via telephone or email and we will endeavour to answer your query or if you prefer we can arrange an appointment at the office.

