

To: **ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

You are hereby summonsed to attend the meeting of **WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL** to be held at **Bedlington Community Centre**, Front Street West, Bedlington.  
On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 6.30pm.



The agenda for the meeting is set out below.  
Michelle McTeer – Assistant Town Clerk.  
6th February 2025.

**PRESENTATIONS and REPRESENTATIONS**

- There are no presentations for this meeting.

**QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

- The Chair will invite members of the public present to put questions and bring matters to the attention of the Council.
- This question time will last for a period of up to 15 minutes overall (which may be extended if the Chairman deems it necessary).
- To give every member of the public a fair chance of asking a question, the number of questions asked by any individual person may be limited at the Chair’s discretion. The above covers both verbal and written submissions.
- Any member of the public who speaks should first state their name and address.  
*Please note that members of the public are not permitted to speak after question time is completed.*

**PART A - ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

<b>Attendance / Apologies and declarations of interest</b>	
a.	<b>Apologies for absence</b> i. To receive and note any apologies for absence from councillors. ii. To consider and determine any dispensations for absent councillors.
b.	<b>Declarations of interest</b> i. Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest, (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest), they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 12th July 2012. ii. To consider any requests for dispensations. Members are reminded, if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature, they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room. Any member needing clarification should contact the Town Clerk.

**PART B – MATTERS FOR DECISION**

**1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS / SUMMARY OF DELEGATED DECISIONS**

<b>Details of meeting or delegated decisions</b>	
a.	To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of West Bedlington Town Council Meeting held on 9th January 2025.
b.	To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting that are not included as agenda items.

## 2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

Matters for discussion / decision										
a.	<p><b>Revision to May’s Town Council meeting date</b> The Council are asked to APPROVE the proposed revised date to the scheduled May Council meeting date, to take into account the forthcoming election on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025. Legislation provides that the first meeting of the Council following an election must be within 14 days of new members that have been elected. There would be insufficient time to issue an agenda for the scheduled 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025 meeting date, so the proposal is to change it to <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>.</p>									
b.	<p><b>Annual Meeting of the Town 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Council is requested to APPROVE a proposal to hold the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Town on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April. The meeting will start after the conclusion of April’s Council meeting, so it is scheduled for the same evening, but will not start before 7pm.</li> <li>ii. A suggested draft meeting agenda is distributed to members for approval. If approved, the notice of the meeting will be distributed on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025.</li> </ul>									
c.	<p><b>Christmas lights</b> The Council are requested to discuss and decide in principle only (until costs are known) upon a residents’ request, to extend the Christmas lights to the entrance to The Broadoaks estate. (Note – to date, Northumberland County Council have not provided their quote for the installation of commando sockets, erection, taking down, storage and safety checking of any additional lights). Estimated costs for the purchase of “refurbished” light features is £250 - £450 per light feature.</p>									
c.	<p><b>Community defibrillators</b> The Council are asked to discuss and decide upon a request from Northumbria Police to host a community defibrillator on an accessible outside wall at Bedlington Police Station. Estimated costs – one-off £300 for electrical connection, £365 annual leasing cost for cabinet, £402.23 annual leasing cost for defibrillator.</p>									
d.	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Planning applications – where comments have been requested</b> The Council are asked to discuss and decide if it wishes to make any comments in relation to the planning applications received for comment.</li> </ul> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Ref.</th> <th style="width: 60%;">Description</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Response Due Date*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>25/00030/VARYCO</td> <td>Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on approved application 24/01508/FUL in order to alter the garage to an office/room Location: 18 Hartford Road East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6HZ.</td> <td>3rd February 2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24/04112/OUTES</td> <td>Outline planning application, with all matters reserved, for the erection of up to ten data centre buildings of Class B8 use, totalling up to 540,000 square metres (sqm) gross internal area (GIA) in addition to ancillary structures, substation, emergency generators and other associated works. Location: Land at Former Power Station Site on Northern Side Of Cambois, Cambois, Northumberland.</td> <td>19th February 2025</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Where the response date is before the date of the meeting, an extension has been agreed to allow consideration of the application at the meeting and an opportunity to submit comments. Note: recent notified planning decisions and other planning applications (where comments have not been requested) are shown in PART C for information only).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. <b>Notice of planning appeal</b> Planning Appeal Notification: Land to South of Hartford Drive, Hartford Bridge, Northumberland NE22 6AJ. Application refused - any additional comments to <a href="https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/">https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/</a> by 25th February 2025.</li> </ul>	Ref.	Description	Response Due Date*	25/00030/VARYCO	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on approved application 24/01508/FUL in order to alter the garage to an office/room Location: 18 Hartford Road East Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6HZ.	3rd February 2025	24/04112/OUTES	Outline planning application, with all matters reserved, for the erection of up to ten data centre buildings of Class B8 use, totalling up to 540,000 square metres (sqm) gross internal area (GIA) in addition to ancillary structures, substation, emergency generators and other associated works. Location: Land at Former Power Station Site on Northern Side Of Cambois, Cambois, Northumberland.	19th February 2025
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e.	<p><b>Working groups / committees (items for decision or discussion)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Any recommendations from working groups for decision by full the Council. To consider taking out bad weather insurance to cover cancellation of outdoor events.</li> <li>2) Any other Items from working groups – the Working Group Chair will feed back to the Council about any other items discussed, any ongoing and future matters by the working group.</li> </ul>									

f.	<p><b>Bank reconciliation</b></p> <p>The Council are asked to APPROVE a checked bank reconciliation of £20,265.25 as of 31st January 2025 for current account, a Deposit Account Balance of £347,101.02 as of 31st January 2025, and a CCLA account balance of £25,000.</p>
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**PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR TO BE NOTED**

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a.	<p><b>Chair’s update and any reports from external meetings</b></p> <p>i. The Chair will make any relevant announcements and provide updates to members.</p> <p>ii. To receive feedback from councillors from any external meetings since the date of the last Council meeting.</p>																																																														
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d.	<p><b>Schedule of payments and receipts</b></p> <p>Details of payments and (receipts) to be noted since last Council update. All payments gross of VAT.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;">Payee</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Amount £. p</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Description</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>CCLA Deposit Fund Interest</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-100.89</td> <td>Interest from Investment</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Service and Disabled Lifts Ltd</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6,755.40</td> <td>Bedlington Com. Centre Lift</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Smart Office Systems Ltd</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12.55</td> <td>Printer Costs</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gala Lights Limited</td> <td style="text-align: right;">804.00</td> <td>Bedlington Terrier Light</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stacey Dodds</td> <td style="text-align: right;">580.00</td> <td>Electrical Work - Defibrillators</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transfer In from Deposit Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-20,000.00</td> <td>Account Transfer</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Orangutan Landscapes Limited</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,345.88</td> <td>Winter Planting Front Street Flower Pots and Troughs</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Widescope Web Design</td> <td style="text-align: right;">96.00</td> <td>.gov website domains</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security</td> <td style="text-align: right;">83.04</td> <td>CCTV Church Lane</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security</td> <td style="text-align: right;">83.04</td> <td>CCTV Cemetery Gates</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security</td> <td style="text-align: right;">809.64</td> <td>CCTV Bedlington</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Talk Talk Business</td> <td style="text-align: right;">59.42</td> <td>Telephone + Internet</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Service and Disabled Lifts Ltd</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,400.00</td> <td>Bedlington Com. Centre Lift</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reay Security</td> <td style="text-align: right;">446.40</td> <td>Meadowdale Gates</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Payee	Amount £. p	Description	Notes	CCLA Deposit Fund Interest	-100.89	Interest from Investment		Service and Disabled Lifts Ltd	6,755.40	Bedlington Com. Centre Lift		Smart Office Systems Ltd	12.55	Printer Costs		Gala Lights Limited	804.00	Bedlington Terrier Light		Stacey Dodds	580.00	Electrical Work - Defibrillators		Transfer In from Deposit Account	-20,000.00	Account Transfer		Orangutan Landscapes Limited	1,345.88	Winter Planting Front Street Flower Pots and Troughs		Widescope Web Design	96.00	.gov website domains		Reay Security	83.04	CCTV Church Lane		Reay Security	83.04	CCTV Cemetery Gates		Reay Security	809.64	CCTV Bedlington		Talk Talk Business	59.42	Telephone + Internet		Service and Disabled Lifts Ltd	2,400.00	Bedlington Com. Centre Lift		Reay Security	446.40	Meadowdale Gates	
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Northumberland County Council	-3,000.00	County Councillor Wilczek Funding Contribution towards Bedlington Com Centre Lift	
Widescope Web Design	94.69	.gov emails	
CCLA Deposit Fund Interest	-100.89	Interest from Investment	
Amazon	59.00	Mobile Phone	
Wireless Logic Limited	539.14	CCTV Sim Card Charges	
HMRC	-10,369.18	VAT Reclaim	
Service and Disabled Lifts Ltd	2,251.80	Bedlington Com. Centre Lift	
Service and Disabled Lifts Ltd	1,200.00	Bedlington Com. Centre Lift	
House of Hamilton	1,600.00	Deposits for 2025 Street Fair	
House of Hamilton	1,000.00	Deposits for 2025 Summer Music Festival.	
Northumberland County Council	6118.02	January 2025 Payroll Costs	
Northumberland County Council	-3,000.00	County Councillor Taylor Funding Contribution towards Bedlington Com Centre Lift	
M Wilkinson	84.00	Internal Audit Charges	

e. **Other planning applications**  
Where comments have **not** been requested.

Ref.	Description
	None for this meeting

f. **Planning decisions notified to West Bedlington Town Council by Northumberland County Council**

Ref.	Description	Decision
24/03941/PRUTPO	Tree Preservation Order Application to: T1 (Sycamore) prune to provide a 3-meter clearance from the house. Location: Street Record Footway Outside 7-16 Oakapple Close Bedlington Northumberland.	PERMIT
24/04124/FUL	Converting the garage into a habitable space, extending the rear of the garage and fitting a roof lantern into a new flat roof. Location: 9 Winchester Way, The Chesters, Bedlington, Northumberland NE22 6JN.	GRANTED
24/03951/FUL	Replacement garage with kitchen diner extension, first floor bay, extended entrance canopy, new fence and driveway. Location: 6 Windsor Gardens, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 5SY.	GRANTED
24/03905/FUL	Proposed alteration works including new dining room window to end elevation, new external metal fencing / gate surround to existing external metal fire escape staircase and new kitchen extract vent to front elevation. Location: Howard House School, Netherton Colliery, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 6BB.	GRANTED

g. **Police report**  
No Police report for this meeting.  
The next scheduled regular report is for the March 2025 meeting.

h. **Matters for information only**  
Any matters pertaining to the Council, that members would like to bring to the attention of other members and residents. For Information only, no proposals or voting on these matters.

1. Councillors – any matters for information only.
2. Town Clerk – the Neighbourhood Plan consultation is to be included within the next edition of Update (the Town Council's newsletter) which is scheduled for distribution the first week of April. Also, a short presentation about the Neighbourhood Plan will be part of the Annual Meeting of The Town (if approved at Part B 2b. above).

	3. Chair – to provide an update about the replacement of the bus stops along Ridge Terrace via external funding on the Bedlington Active Travel Corridor.
i.	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 6.30pm in Bedlington Community Centre, Front Street West, Bedlington.</p> <p>The agenda for this meeting to be issued on Wednesday 5th March 2025.</p>

**PART D – EXEMPT BUSINESS**

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

	<b>Matters for Discussion / Decision / Information</b>
	Nothing for this meeting.

**WEST BEDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL - COUNCILLORS:** Bill Crosby, Paul Hedley, Cath Henderson, Adam Hogg, Christine Taylor, Victoria Thompson, Jane Todd, Diane Wallace, Russ Wallace.