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Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

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Enquiries to: Heather Bowers

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Date: Tuesday, 12 July 2022

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **CRAMLINGTON, BEDLINGTON AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA COUNCIL** to be held in **EAST BEDLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, 16 & 17 STATION ROAD, BEDLINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND, NE22 7JN** on **WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2022 at 4.00 PM.**

Yours faithfully

Daljit Lally
Chief Executive

To Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council members as follows:-

L Bowman, Chicken, W Daley, C Dunbar, P Ezhilchelvan, D Ferguson, B Flux, S Lee (Vice-Chair), M Robinson, M Swinburn (Chair), C Taylor and R Wilczek (Vice-Chair (Planning))



Daljit Lally, Chief Executive
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AGENDA

PART I

It is expected that the matters included in this part of the agenda will be dealt with in public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES

(Pages 1
- 16)

Minutes of the meetings of the Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Delaval Local Area Council held on 18 May and 26 June as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required where a matter arises at a meeting;

- a. Which **directly relates to** Disclosable Pecuniary Interest ('DPI') as set out in Appendix B, Table 1 of the Code of Conduct, to disclose the interest, not participate in any discussion or vote and not to remain in room. Where members have a DPI or if the matter concerns an executive function and is being considered by a Cabinet Member with a DPI they must notify the Monitoring Officer and arrange for somebody else to deal with the matter.
- b. Which **directly relates to** the financial interest or well being of a Other Registrable Interest as set out in Appendix B, Table 2 of the Code of Conduct to disclose the interest and only speak on the matter if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain the room.
- c. Which **directly relates to** their financial interest or well-being (and is not DPI) or the financial well being of a relative or close associate, to declare the interest and members may only speak on the matter if members of the public are also allowed to speak. Otherwise, the member must not take part in discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room.
- d. Which **affects** the financial well-being of the member, a relative or close associate or a body included under the Other Registrable Interests column in Table 2, to disclose the interest and apply the test set out at paragraph 9 of Appendix B before deciding whether they may remain in the meeting.
- e. Where Members have or a Cabinet Member has an Other Registrable Interest or Non Registrable Interest in a matter being considered in exercise of their executive function, they must notify

the Monitoring Officer and arrange for somebody else to deal with it.

NB Any member needing clarification must contact monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk. Members are referred to the Code of Conduct which contains the matters above in full. Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this agenda letter.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To reply to any questions received from members of the public which have been submitted in writing in advance of the meeting. Questions can be asked about issues for which the Council has a responsibility. (Public question times take place on a bimonthly basis at Local Area Council meetings: in January, March, May, July, September and November each year.)

As agreed by the County Council in February 2012, the management of local public question times is at the discretion of the chair of the committee.

Please note however that a question may possibly be rejected if it requires the disclosure of any categories of confidential or exempt information, namely information:

1. relating to any individual;
2. which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual;
3. relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person
4. relating to any labour relations matters/negotiations;
5. restricted to legal proceedings
6. about enforcement/enacting legal orders
7. relating to the prevention, investigation of prosecution of crime.

And/or:

- is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- it is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of this or another County Council committee in the past six months;
- the request repeats an identical or very similar question from the same person;
- the cost of providing an answer is disproportionate;
- it is being separately addressed through the Council's complaints process;
- it is not about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility or which affects the county;
- it relates to planning, licensing and/or other regulatory applications
- it is a question that town/parish councils would normally be expected to raise through other channels.

If the Chair is of the opinion that a question is one which for whatever reason, cannot properly be asked in an area meeting, he/she will disallow it

and inform the resident of his/her decision.

Copies of any written answers (without individuals' personal contact details) will be provided for members after the meeting and also be publicly available.

Democratic Services will confirm the status of the progress on any previously requested written answers and follow up any related actions requested by the Local Area Council.

5. PETITIONS

(Pages
17 - 22)

This item is to:

(a) Receive any new petitions: to receive any new petitions.

(b) Consider reports on petitions previously received.

- i. **An extension/amendment to existing speed limit and extent of the road safety scheme in Seaton Sluice.**

Extend current 30 mph past the properties at Seafield Mews to look at a range of traffic calming measures including the potential to relocate the fixed camera speed site further to the north as the current location is potentially affected by the signalised control crossing point (to the Astley Arms Public House) which was installed after the speed camera.

Seafield Mews has no calming features. Improve the crossing point at Seafield Mews and improve safety with traffic calming measures.

(c) Receive any updates on petitions for which a report was previously considered: any updates will be verbally reported at the meeting.

6. FOSTERING SERVICES

Officers to give a presentation which provides an overview of the Service.

7. LOCAL SERVICES ISSUES

To receive a verbal update from the Area Managers from Technical Services and Neighbourhood Services in attendance about any key recent, ongoing and/or future planned Local Services work for the attention of members of the Local Area Council, who will also then have the opportunity to raise issues with the Area Managers.

The Area Managers have principal responsibility for highway services and environmental services, such as refuse collection, street cleansing and grounds maintenance, within the geographic boundaries of the Local Area Council.

- 8. MEMBERS' LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES** (Pages 23 - 48)
- Details of the Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Members Local Improvement Schemes for the period 2022-23 are provided for information only.
- 9. LOCAL AREA COUNCIL WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 49 - 56)
- To note the latest version of agreed items for future Local Area Council meetings (any suggestions for new agenda items will require confirmation by the Business Chair after the meeting).
- 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
- The next meeting of the Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Local Area Council is scheduled for 17 August 2022 (planning only).
- 11. URGENT BUSINESS**
- To consider such other business, as in the opinion of the Chair, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST AT THIS MEETING, PLEASE:

- Declare it and give details of its nature before the matter is discussed or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- Complete this sheet and pass it to the Democratic Services Officer.

Name:		Date of meeting:	
Meeting:			
Item to which your interest relates:			
Nature of Interest i.e. either disclosable pecuniary interest (as defined by Table 1 of Appendix B to the Code of Conduct, Other Registerable Interest or Non-Registerable Interest (as defined by Appendix B to Code of Conduct) (please give details):			
Are you intending to withdraw from the meeting?		Yes - <input type="checkbox"/>	No - <input type="checkbox"/>

Registering Interests

Within 28 days of becoming a member or your re-election or re-appointment to office you must register with the Monitoring Officer the interests which fall within the categories set out in **Table 1 (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests)** which are as described in "The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012". You should also register details of your other personal interests which fall within the categories set out in **Table 2 (Other Registerable Interests)**.

"Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" means an interest of yourself, or of your partner if you are aware of your partner's interest, within the descriptions set out in Table 1 below.

"Partner" means a spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners.

1. You must ensure that your register of interests is kept up-to-date and within 28 days of becoming aware of any new interest, or of any change to a registered interest, notify the Monitoring Officer.
2. A 'sensitive interest' is as an interest which, if disclosed, could lead to the councillor, or a person connected with the councillor, being subject to violence or intimidation.
3. Where you have a 'sensitive interest' you must notify the Monitoring Officer with the reasons why you believe it is a sensitive interest. If the Monitoring Officer agrees they will withhold the interest from the public register.

Non participation in case of disclosable pecuniary interest

4. Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to one of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in **Table 1**, you must disclose the interest, not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that you have an interest.

Dispensation may be granted in limited circumstances, to enable you to participate and vote on a matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

5. Where you have a disclosable pecuniary interest on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

Disclosure of Other Registerable Interests

6. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your Other Registerable Interests (as set out in **Table 2**), you must disclose the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

Disclosure of Non-Registerable Interests

7. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to your financial interest or well-being (and is not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest set out in **Table 1**) or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate, you must disclose the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

8. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **affects** –

- a. your own financial interest or well-being;
- b. a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate; or
- c. a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under Other Registrable Interests as set out in **Table 2** you must disclose the interest. In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied

9. Where a matter (referred to in paragraph 8 above) **affects** the financial interest or well- being:

- a. to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b. a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise, you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

Where you have an Other Registerable Interest or Non-Registerable Interest on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

Agenda Item 2

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

CRAMLINGTON, BEDLINGTON AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

At the meeting of the **Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth on Wednesday, 18 May 2022 at 4.00 pm.

PRESENT

M Swinburn (Chair) (in the Chair for items 1- 4 and 9 – 15)
R Wilczek (Vice Chair) (in the Chair for items 5 – 8)

MEMBERS

L Bowman
E Chicken
W Daley
C Dunbar
D Ferguson

B Flux
S Lee
M Robinson
C Taylor
R Wilczek

OFFICERS

H Bowers
M Carle
T Crowe
T Gribbin
R Laughton
J Murphy
A Wall

Democratic Services Officer
Neighbourhood Services Area Manager
Solicitor
Neighbourhood Services Manager
Planning Officer
South East DM Manager
Environmental Health Officer

ALSO PRESENT

S Wardle

Neighbourhood Services Divisional Manager

Around 6 members of the public were present.

01 MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED that the Membership and Terms of Reference for the Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council agreed by Council on 04 May 2022 be noted and that Councillor Lee should be listed in the Independent Group in the membership list.

02 PROCEDURE AT PLANNING MEETINGS

The Chair explained the procedure which would be followed at the meeting.

03 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Councillor Ezhilchelvan.

04 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Local Area Council held on 22 February and 23 March 2022, as circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

(Councillor Wilczek in the Chair)

05 DETERMINATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The report requested the Committee to decide the planning applications attached to the report using the powers delegated to it. Members were reminded of the principles which should govern their consideration of the applications, the procedure for handling representations, the requirement of conditions and the need for justifiable reasons for the granting of permission or refusal of planning applications.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

06 21/01423/FUL

Retrospective: Siting of upcycled shipping containers, installation of 2 no. Areas with tented roof covering and installation of a fixed roof with timer clad walls to provide a mixed use of land with bar, seating, toilet facilities and a venue for entertainment including live music (sui generis) (as amended 29.22 21) (amended red line boundary 03.02.2022) (description amended 04.05.2022)

J H Laidler Storage Yard, Double Row, Seaton Delaval, NE25 0PP

R Laughton, Planning Officer provided updates on the recommendations:-

Update 1 – Car parking Plan

For condition number two in the report, it was recommended to include an additional plan to ensure the disabled car parking bays, cycle parking and electric points are secured. The reference number was LM-PL- 012 Rev C.

Update 2 – Opening hours

The report did not acknowledge the opening hours of the establishment therefore it was recommended to impose an additional condition if the application was approved.

The premises hereby approved shall not be open for business outside the following hours:

*Sunday – Thursday 12pm – 11pm
Friday and Saturday 12pm – 12am*

Reason: In the interests of amenity and in accordance with the NPPF.

Update 3

After discussion with the highways team, it was also considered appropriate to impose a condition for a crowd management strategy for highway safety purposes. The condition would read as:

“Within 1 month of the date of this permission, an external areas crowd management strategy shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The crowd management Strategy shall set out all matters pertaining to the external areas which will be used for ancillary purposes associated with the use. The approved crowd management Strategy shall then be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

In the interest of highway safety to ensure unfettered use of the public highway”

Update 4

To ensure the compliance of the noise levels of condition 10, it was recommended to also secure a noise verification report if approval is granted, to read as:

With 3 months of the date of this permission, a noise verification report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The report must detail the findings of an acoustic monitoring exercise which will determine the venues compliance with Condition 10 during all hours of operation. The Sound Level Meter must conform to the requirements of Section 5.1 of BS 4142: 2014+A1:2019. In the event that the report identifies a breach of the requirements of Condition 10 the report shall detail a scheme of suitable mitigation for approval within the report. Once approved the mitigation measures must be retained for the lifetime of the development unless varied in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the occupiers of nearby properties.

Mr Laughton then introduced the application with the aid of a presentation..

Councillor Henderson, Seaton Valley Community Council was in attendance and her comments included the following:-

- Seaton Valley Community Council objected to the proposed development as it conflicted with the recently adopted local plan particularly employment land and supporting town centres
- The officer's report referred to the existing buildings which currently accommodated a café and food outlet were permitted development and the proposed development was ancillary. No lawful development certificate had been granted for these uses.
- The lawful planning use for the site was a wholesale cash and carry which fell within the B8 Planning Use Class
- No evidence had been provided to demonstrate the previous reasons for refusal, with the adoption of the local plan therefore the previous reasons for refusal remained valid and strengthened
- If the Committee granted the application this would undermine employment allocations within the newly adopted local plan
- The proposed development would result in main town centre use being located outside the defined town centre boundary and loss of allocated employment land
- Local plan policy ECN 6 was clear that the purpose of allocating employment land was to support the strategic plan for employment development to enable the south east of the county to offer a range and quality of employment
- LP ECN8 supported land generated for employment use, however, that specific criteria must be met, and the officer's report explained these had not been met, as the development would provide continual access to members of the public who did not work in the employment area. If the application was approved, the policy was being ignored by the Council, setting a dangerous precedent.
- Local Plan policy ECN 9 provided further criteria should also be met
- It was also suggested in the officer's report that the proposed development would deliver significant community and economic benefits, the benefits outlined did not override the need to maintain an allocated employment site with the local plan that had just been adopted
- The applicant had referred to the site not being viable for employment uses, yet no further details had been provided
- The policies of the local plan would further be undermined contrary to policies TS4 and TS5
- Seaton Valley Community Council also had concerns about highways safety and amenity, however, it was noted that the Highways and Public Protection Teams had no objections to the proposal
- The Committee was asked to refuse the application in accordance with the detailed requirement of the newly adopted local plan

Daniel Miller, Applicant addressed the Committee in support of the application. His comments included the following: -

- He had purchased the site in July 2020 after the business had gone into administration and then liquidation with the loss of 24 jobs
- He had purchased the freehold of the site and now the current level of employment was more than double that it had been when it was trading

- The units that had been converted had been evidence to the Local Authority with regards to the shops where the public could buy goods and the café was subject to an application to change the elevation to be used as a cafe
- The businesses all traded as independents and were rented and funded by himself operated by a brand-new start up with zero risk
- He acknowledged that town centres were important
- He had over 100 sites, food related that were government backed incubators which removed barriers to give an opportunity for those who did not have the opportunity before
- The sites were very small and it was encouraged to use the site as a springboard to the high street and was a risk-free chance and opportunity to try with no bond or security
- He had shops in the high street himself and his intention was to use the site to enable movement for social mobility in and around Blyth
- The application site was the yard adjacent to the buildings which supported the businesses which employed new staff

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the following information was provided:-

- It was clarified that an independent competent acoustician would be employed by the applicant to carry out a noise and acoustic assessment.
- Since the application had been refused in April 2021, a sequential test had been carried out. The loss of employment land was still an issue but had been justified through another policy, with other circumstances to override that. In addition, temporary permission was being sought, and any concerns or issues would be monitored and addressed.
- The application before members was what the applicant had proposed, and the pods would be removed for a parking area.
- The yard had currently been used for cash and carry wholesalers and therefore had elements of employment use.
- The Planning Officer was not aware of any forthcoming plans but there was the intention for neighbouring sites to create hubs
- Fire risks were not a planning matter, and all issues would be dealt with by separate legislation by licensing.
- The rateable value of the site was not a material planning consideration.
- The additional noise condition would cover any noise issues. Essentially, the noise survey which was carried out was representative of the site as it was when members visited and when the survey was carried out in 2021.
- Permitted development was not an issue for this application.
- The Highways Officer did not have any issues with car parking and there was more than enough parking.
- With respect to the change of use, officers did not directly contact businesses, but part of the planning application was to consult those neighbours around the site.
- The fire exits and buildings regs was raised at the site visit and the applicant had confirmed that fire certificates and fire safety were in place.
- Policy EC9 of the new local plan offered flexibility in terms of employment areas. Employment was attached to the site, eg, taxi drivers, brewery. Permission was for a temporary, 2-year monitoring exercise. The applicant

had submitted a sequential test which showed that there were no other suitable sites.

Councillor Robinson proposed acceptance of the recommendation to approve temporary permission with the new additional conditions which was seconded by Councillor Ferguson.

Councillor Daley was concerned at the consistent theme of retrospective applications and was very aware of approving the application and the signal it sent out to other developers.

Councillor Chicken stated that the applicant had addressed all issues and the objections were not about planning at all. As the applicant had stated a business had been lost which had been a great loss to the community. Employment at the site was double than it had been before, which was important for the local economy. The applicant's idea was to support the high street and residents were happy to have this in the area. The application was for temporary permission which would be assessed again in two years.

Mrs Murphy provided clarification regarding the previous reason for refusal and explained that during this application the applicant had continued to provide information.

Discussion took place on the planning legislation for retrospective applications and the trend for industrial estates to be converted into leisure destinations and concerns were raised about the location of the site and parking.

Councillor Swinburn stated that the new conditions had met any concerns that he had.

Further debate took place on the location of the site and the use and operation of the premises.

Councillor Robinson summed up and had listened to all the points raised, the business was creating jobs and small business which was a policy in the local plan. He had no concerns in planning terms and that what was he was supporting.

A vote was taken on the proposal to approve the application as follows:- FOR 8; AGAINST 3; ABSTAIN 0.

RESOLVED that the application be **GRANTED** temporary permission subject to the conditions/reasons in the report together with the additional conditions.

07 APPEALS UPDATE

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

A short recess was held at this point.

(Councillor Ferguson left the meeting at 5:06 pm)

08 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions had been submitted in writing.

K Dalton, Bedlington asked why no information had been divulged to the public in relation to a report from the police regarding Arch which was in the public interest.

The Chair requested more information about the report and would seek further information from the relevant person and a written answer would be sent to Mr Dalton.

Councillor Robinson believed the report referred to be a KPMG audit report. He had asked the same question at Full Council and had learned that the report was not going to be made public but had been reported to the Audit Committee. The Chair reiterated that a written answer would be forwarded to Mr Dalton.

09 PETITIONS

A petition had been received requesting an extension/amendment to the existing speed limit and extent of the road safety scheme in Seaton Sluice.

A report would be presented to the Committee at the meeting of 20 July.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

10 LOCAL SERVICES ISSUES

Tony Gribbin, Local Services Area Manager provided the following updates:-

Waste Service

- Residual and Recycling waste collection services continued to perform well.
- Demand for the bulky waste service remained high
- Garden waste service is up and running and is also performing well. There was now a total of 10,000 plus customers in the south east
- Domestic bin collection teams would be out on Thursday 2nd June to prevent any disruption to services /public.

Grass Cutting

- Now on cut 3 in Cramlington / 4 in Seaton Valley and 4 Bedlington.
- The start to grass cutting season saw a few interruptions in the form of wet weather and bank holidays, this made the gap between some cuts a little longer, however the team was working to recover this and if necessary, have sanctioned overtime to cover lost days.
- Still confident of achieving the target cuts in each area

Weed Control

- Weed treatments had commenced in areas in the LAC, with obstacles in Seaton Valley well underway and many in Cramlington still to do, as areas are completed, Councillors would be advised.
- A small mechanical sweeper had been deployed in Bedlington for weed treatment

Bereavement Services

- Running as expected
- Service demands had reduced
- Muslim burial ground nearing completion in Bedlington Cemetery and area being prepared

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the following information was provided:-

- Mr Gribbin would investigate the early bin collection which some residents had missed in Bedlington and would report back.
- Complaints about grass cutting in Westlea cemetery – two different teams were deployed to undertake grass cutting in the cemeteries, the same team were required to prepare graves and cover staff in the crematorium. Meetings had been carried out to help speed up the process. He was aware of some of the issues in the cemeteries and was actively working with colleagues.
- Blue dye was being carried out for weed killing
- Weed killing was being carried out in the Cramlington estates but was dependent on staff resources and deployment to prioritised services. Mr Gribbin would speak to the team. A number of small domestic trimmers had been purchased which should be able to be used around lamp posts.
- Mr Gribbin noted the comments regarding grass cutting on banks and Ringwood Drive, Cramlington
- There was a limited street cleansing team in Cramlington, and a pedestrian cutter had to be borrowed from another area. If members identified any areas, please inform the team.
- Mr Gribbin was not aware of any green fly-tipping in Holywell Dene
- The edging programme was a winter programme, specific areas should be passed to Mr Gribbin
- The sweeper was a shared resource between Bedlington and Ashington; Cramlington borrowed the sweeper from Seaton Valley
- The number of cuts in Cramlington was every 14 days, following the removal of partnership between Cramlington Town Council and NCC. Some new staff were not up to speed with using some of the machinery. Mechanical issues and challenges getting replacement parts and new vehicles impacted on the service.
- A number of teams were deployed to carry out arterial and estate routes. New software made it easier to identify parcels of grass and it was hoped that this would address any issues.
- Councillor Dunbar conveyed praise from a resident in Eastfield Glade and asked if thanks could be passed on to the operative

- Mr Gribbin noted the comments regarding weeds around Klondyke, Mayfield Glade and Beaconhill Grange. The grass cutting mechanism was weather dependent.
- Spraying weeds did not kill them instantly, the weed rip was instant and most effective. A new machine was purchased last year with a permanent weed rip.

(Councillor Flux left the meeting at 5:58 pm).

(Councillor Chicken left the meeting at 6:00 pm)

M Carle, Lead Highways Delivery Manager provided an update to the Committee:-

- All Highways Inspectors and maintenance crews continued to work inspecting, fixing carriageway defects, making repairs, and making safe category one defects across the South East area.
- The gully emptier was fully deployed dealing with reported issues and cyclic maintenance.

Larger Tarmac Patching has been carried out in the following locations;

- Carriageway and footway Work were being programmed to start in the coming weeks and all affected members would be notified in advance.

Drainage Improvements:

The area teams were continuously looking and programming future planned works both patching and drainage improvements.

- Prospect Avenue, Seaton Delaval (Investigation work complete)
- A189 Spine Road
- St. Michaels Avenue (Drainage investigations – Improvement work to start in coming weeks) the relevant member will be notified.

LTP - Carriageway Resurfacing

LTP Carriageway Resurfacing schemes were being programmed and all affected members would be notified in advance.

Micro/Surface Dressing

- Dene View, Bedlington
- Nedderton Village, Bedlington

Signage/Safety Schemes

- Furnace Bank, Bedlington
- New Hartley School Signs
- A189 Spine Road (Storm Arwen Damage)

Winter Maintenance

Winter Services 2021/22 was now complete. Forecast observations ended at the end of April 22.

All the gritting fleet that did not have a dual function would be prepped ready for Winter Services 22/23.

Observation of the forecasts would commence again on 1st October 2022 with full winter services commencing in full across the county on the 31st of October 2022 for Winter Services 22/23 season.

Members were informed that Alan Taylor had recently retired, and Peter Davidson had taken over his role.

In response to member questions the following information was provided:-

- A notification would be forwarded to all Bedlington Councillors regarding the date for the interactive speed signs.
- The street lighting at High Pit Road would be raised with Gavin Barlow.
- An ad-hoc inspection would be carried out regarding the potholes near the Burton House pub.
- The parking issue at Alex Scott cars would be revisited and the issue regarding Brechany cars would be passed on to Integrated Transport.
- Officers would liaise with Highways regarding the road at Park View, Seaton Delaval.
- Thanks were conveyed for the repair of the roundabout at Fountain Head, but this had now sprung a leak.
- Mr Carle would contact Russell Mason regarding the tarmacking referred to by Councillor Robinson
- Officers would continue to try to contact Shenstone regarding the carpark behind Dewley shops.

Members thanked the officers for their attendance and the work of their teams in responding to the Members requests.

11 OUTSIDE BODIES

Members considered a list of appointments to outside bodies for 2022/23.

RESOLVED that the following list of appointments be confirmed:

Astley Park Management Committee	L Bowman
Beaconhill Community Association	B Flux
Cramlington Community Association	M Swinburn
Cramlington Voluntary Youth Project	W Daley/B Flux
East Hartford (and District) Community Association	B Flux
New Hartley Community Association	D Ferguson

12 MEMBERS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

Detailed of the Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Members Local Improvement Schemes for the period 2022-23 were provided for information.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

13 LOCAL AREA COUNCIL WORK PROGRAMME

The latest version of the agreed items for future Local Area Council meetings was circulated.

Councillor Wilczek had still not received a response to her questions submitted in relation to the Bedlington Town Centre Update. Democratic Services to follow up with relevant officer.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

14 FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of the meetings for the ensuing year were noted.

CHAIR.....

DATE.....

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NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

CRAMLINGTON, BEDLINGTON AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

At the meeting of the **Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF on Wednesday 22 June 2022 at 4.00 pm.

PRESENT

M Swinburn Chair (in the Chair)

MEMBERS

Ezhilchevlan P
Flux B

Lee S
Wilczek R

OFFICERS

Bowers H
Crowe T
Murphy J

Soulsby R

Democratic Services Officer
Solicitor
Planning Area Manager - Development
Management
Planning Officer

15 PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED FOR THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chair outlined the procedure which would be followed at the meeting.

16 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council, held on 18 May 2022, as circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

(Councillor Wilczek in the Chair)

17 DETERMINATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Wilczek, Vice-Chair Planning introduced the report which requested the Committee to decide the planning applications attached to the report using the powers delegated to it. Members were reminded of the principles which should govern their consideration of the applications, the procedure for handling representations, the requirement of conditions and the need for

justifiable reasons for the granting of permission or refusal of planning applications.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

18 21/03369/FUL
Demolition of various buildings, retention of 1 Windmill Farm Smallholdings and erection of 9 no. Bungalows with associated works and new vehicular access.
Windmill Farm Smallholdings, Choppington Road, Choppinton, Northumberland, NE62 5TJ

Ryan Soulsby, Planning Officer introduced the planning application and provided the following update:-

One support comment had been received by a member of the public regarding the shortage of bungalows in the region and the proposed development would address the shortage.

Mr Soulsby continued to introduce the planning applicant with the aid of a presentation.

(Councillor Ezhilchelvan joined the meeting at 4:04 pm).

For the benefit of Councillor Ezhilchelvan, the Planning Officer repeated the update.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the following information was provided:-

- The application had been brought to Committee as West Bedlington Parish Council had objected and the part of the land was under NCC ownership.
- The egress was already well used with a crossing and access points
- Highways recognised the hedgerows but had raised no objection. The access would be moved slightly north with the existing access to be closed.

Councillor Flux proposed that the application be approved in line with the recommendations in the report. This was seconded by Councillor Lee.

Councillor Flux commented that there had been no objections from members of the public and this type of development would provide much needed bungalows. This was agreed by Councillor Swinburn, who stated that the application be granted and was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the application be **GRANTED** permission subject to a unilateral undertaking in relation to contributions to the Coastal Mitigation Scheme (£5,535), together with the conditions outlined in the report.

19 APPEALS UPDATE

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

20 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 20 July 2022.

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Northumberland

County Council

CRAMLINGTON, BLYTH AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

DATE: 20TH JULY 2022

PETITION – SEAFIELD MEWS, SEATON SLUICE

Report of: Service Director - Local Services, Paul Jones

Cabinet Member: John Riddle, Environment and Local Services

Purpose of report

To respond to the petition, which was received at the Cramlington, Blyth and Seaton Valley Local Area Council on 18th May 2022 regarding a request for an extension / amendment to the existing speed limit and extent of the road safety scheme in Seaton Sluice.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Local Area Council note the content of this report agree that a new speed survey be undertaken as part of the A193 Links Road preliminary design work study and that a copy of the study be provided to the local Ward Councillor on its completion.

Link to Corporate Plan

How - “We want to be efficient, open and work for everyone”

Enjoying - “We want you to love where you live”

Connecting - “We want you to have access to the things you need”

Key Issues

1. A petition has been received requesting an extension / amendment to the existing speed limit and extent of the road safety scheme in Seaton Sluice.
2. The petition requests that the existing 30mph speed limit is extended past the properties at Seafield Mews.
3. The petition requests that a range of traffic calming measures is considered.
4. The petition requests that consideration is given to the relocation of the existing speed camera further to the north as it states that the existing location is potentially affected by the pedestrian crossing at the Astley Arms public house.
5. The petition requests that the existing crossing point at Seafield Mews is improved.

6. The petition has been signed by 87 signatories.
7. Preliminary design work is currently being carried out on speed reduction measures for Links Road as part of the Local Transport Plan programme and the need for any actions in the area at Seafield Mews has been added for consideration in this work.

Background

The Petition

The County Council has received an 87-name petition requesting “an extension / amendment to the existing speed limit and extent of the road safety scheme in Seaton Sluice.”

The petition states that the Council should extend the current 30mph speed limit past the properties at Seafield Mews, and requests that a range of traffic calming measures is considered.

The petition requests that consideration is given to the relocation of the existing speed camera further to the north as the existing location is potentially affected by the pedestrian crossing at the Astley Arms public house which was installed after the speed camera.

The petition also requests that the existing crossing point at Seafield Mews is improved.

Initial Comments

Seafield Mews is a fairly recent development, circa 2007, of 10 houses providing views over dunes to the coast. It is located on the A193 which is identified as a part of the Resilient Road Network that maintains economic activity and will be prioritised to be kept open in times of severe weather.

The existing 30mph speed limit has been in place for many years and is sited in the most appropriate location in that it starts at the start of the built-up area and is supported by the presence of a system of street lighting.

Speed surveys were last carried out within the 30mph on the A193 in 2013, this was set up within the 30mph limit as shown in the plan below. Results at this time indicated that there were no speeding concerns. The average speed for northbound vehicles was 29mph, and for southbound vehicles 26.5mph. The 85th percentile for northbound vehicles was 33.8mph and for southbound vehicles 30.2mph. While the data was sent to the police for information, the results did not meet necessary enforcement criteria. (For a 30mph speed limit the 85th percentile would need to be 35mph for the police to investigate further).

Given the data is nine years old and the issues raised in the petition, a new speed survey is to be carried out as part of the preliminary design work noted below to provide evidence into how driver behaviour may have changed.



Plan showing location Seafield Mews, Seaton Sluice and location of 2013 speed survey

Accident Data and current LTP scheme

According to accident data from Northumbria Police, there have been eight personal injury collisions on Links Road between the Mermaid Car Park at Blyth and Seaton Sluice in the previous five years.

Given this accident history, and increased concerns of speeding vehicles within the derestricted section of Links Road, particularly during lock down through the COVID pandemic, a scheme to carry out preliminary design of potential improvements on this route was included in the 2021/22 Local Transport Plan programme.

The preliminary design work is currently being progressed by our Design Team and will look at a range of potential solutions to improve road safety on this route. This may include a reduced speed limit on Links Road itself, as well as proposals to encourage reduced speeds on the approach to the 30mph speed limit, and the potential desire for additional crossing facilities at Seafield Mews. It should be noted that the current traffic island at Seafield Mews is not a designated crossing, it is a splitter island rather than a pedestrian refuge and was previously introduced for road safety reasons as a gateway to the 30mph limit. The following image shows the entry to the 30mph limit. It also shows that there is no footpath link in place on the western side of the road (Seafield Mews side) that extends to the splitter island.



Google image showing existing splitter island at Seafeld Mews

Once the preliminary design work has been completed this will be shared with the County Councillor for Hartley ward for discussion of the potential measures to be taken forward.

Existing speed camera query

The petition requests that consideration is given to the relocation of the existing speed camera further to the north as it states that the existing location is potentially affected by the pedestrian crossing at the Astley Arms public house which was installed after the speed camera. The existing fixed speed camera is sited approximately 50m south of the location of the 2013 speed survey shown on the plan, just north of the Astley Arms car park.

NCC Highways Improvement team meet on a regular basis with the police to discuss speeding concerns and the various sites of fixed and mobile speed cameras across Northumberland. There have been no concerns raised by the Police regarding the location of this camera. The camera location is felt to be appropriate for its purpose and not unduly affected by the pedestrian crossing location and there are no plans to have it relocated at this time.

Proposed Actions

Complete the A193 Links Road preliminary design work and provide a copy to the local Ward Councillor for further discussion once available. As part of this study a new speed survey to assess how vehicle speeds have changed since 2013 is to be carried out.

Implications

Policy	The response to the issues raised in this petition is consistent with LTP Policies.
Finance and value for money	Preliminary design work is being funded through the LTP
Legal	None
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
Risk Assessment	n/a
Crime & Disorder	Driving at excessive speed is an offence which is only enforceable by the police.
Customer Consideration	Petition identifies various road safety concerns on the A193 at Seafeld Mews, Seaton Sluice.
Carbon reduction	n/a
Health and Wellbeing	n/a
Wards	Hartley

Background papers

None

Report sign off

	Full Name of Officer
Monitoring Officer/Legal	SB
Executive Director of Finance & S151 Officer	JW
Relevant Executive Director	RM
Acting Deputy Chief Executive	RF
Portfolio Holder	JR

Author and Contact Details

Neil Snowdon – Principal Programme Officer (Highways Improvement Team)

Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Local Area Council

Members local Improvement Schemes

2021 - 2025

Progress Report - 1st July 2022

Balance carried over from 2021	£3,831.00		
Total Budget May 2021 - April 2023	£30,000.00		
Actual Cost + Committed Cost to Date		£11,169.00	
Total Estimated Cost	£11,169.00		
Balance Remaining to 31/3/23	£ 18,831.00		

KEY

	Approved Scheme Budget
	Proposed Scheme
	Completed Scheme / Final Cost

Balance carried over from 2021		£12,000.00	
Total Budget May 2021 - April 2023		£30,000.00	
Actual Cost + Committed Cost to Date		£3,000.00	
Total Estimated Cost		£3,000.00	
Balance Remaining to 31/3/23		£ 27,000.00	

KEY

	Approved Scheme Budget
	Proposed Scheme
	Completed Scheme / Final Cost

Balance carried over from 2021		£5,022.50		
Total Budget May 2021 - April 2023		£30,000.00		
Actual Cost + Committed Cost to Date			£9,977.50	
Total Estimated Cost		£9,977.50		
Balance Remaining to 31/3/23		£ 20,022.50		

KEY

	Approved Scheme Budget
	Proposed Scheme
	Completed Scheme / Final Cost




Balance carried over from 2021	£4,575.00		
Total Budget May 2021 - April 2023	£30,000.00		
Actual Cost + Committed Cost to Date		£15,000.00	
Total Estimated Cost	£15,000.00		
Balance Remaining to 31/3/23	£ 15,000.00		

KEY

	Approved Scheme Budget
	Proposed Scheme
	Completed Scheme / Final Cost




Balance carried over from 2021 £12,778.34
 Total Budget May 2021 - April 2023 £30,000.00
 Actual Cost + Committed Cost to Date £2,221.66
 Total Estimated Cost £2,221.66
 Balance Remaining to 31/3/23 £ 27,778.34

KEY

	Approved Scheme Budget
	Proposed Scheme
	Completed Scheme / Final Cost

Balance carried over from 2021	£9,753.00		
Total Budget May 2021 - April 2023	£30,000.00		
Actual Cost + Committed Cost to Date		£12,747.00	
Total Estimated Cost	£12,747.00		
Balance Remaining to 31/3/23	£ 17,253.00		

KEY

	Approved Scheme Budget
	Proposed Scheme
	Completed Scheme / Final Cost



	Number
A = Proposed Schemes	14

	Number	Original Estimated Cost	Current Estimate / Actual Cost	Totals
Total Budget May 2021 - Apr 2023				£360,000.00
Total Approved Schemes	29	£108,956.18	£108,956.18	
Total Uncommitted Balance				£251,043.82

Highway Scheme	17	£40,791.98	£40,791.98
External Contribution	19	£68,164.20	£68,164.20

36

£108,956.18

£108,956.18

Northumberland County Council
Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council
Work Programme 2022-23

Heather Bowers: 01670 622609 - Heather.Bowers@northumberland.gov.uk

UPDATED: 12 July 2022

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To enhance good governance in the area and ensure that the Council's policies take account of the needs and aspirations of local communities and do not discriminate unfairly between the different Areas.

- (b) To advise the Cabinet on budget priorities and expenditure within the Area.
- (c) To consider, develop and influence policy and strategy development of the Council, its arms-length organisations, and other relevant bodies, to ensure that they meet local requirements and facilitate efficient and transparent decision making.
- (d) To receive information, consider and comment on matters associated with service delivery including those undertaken in partnership agencies, affecting the local area to ensure that they meet local requirements, including matters relating to community safety, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.
- (e) To consider and refer to Cabinet any issues from a local community perspective with emerging Neighbourhood Plans within their area, and consider local planning applications as per the planning delegation scheme
- (f) To consider and recommend adjustments to budget priorities in relation to Local Transport Plan issues within their area, and to make decisions in relation to devolved capital highway maintenance allocations.
- (g) To engage, through the appropriate networks, with all key stakeholders from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to facilitate the delivery of area priorities. This will include undertaking regular liaison with parish and town councils.
- (h) To inform, consult and engage local communities in accordance with Council policy and guidance, through the appropriate networks.
- (i) To, as appropriate, respond or refer with recommendations to local petitions and councillor calls for action.
- (j) To make certain appointments to outside bodies as agreed by Council.
- (k) To determine applications for grant aid from the Community Chest, either through Panels for individual Local Area Councils, or through the Panel of Local Area Council Chairs for countywide applications.
- (l) To refer and receive appropriate issues for consideration to or from other Council Committees, and as appropriate invite Portfolio Holders to attend a meeting if an item in their area of responsibility is to be discussed.
- (m) To exercise the following functions within their area:-
 - (i) the Council's functions in relation to the survey, definition, maintenance, diversion, stopping up and creation of public rights of way.
 - (ii) the Council's functions as the Commons Registration Authority for common land and town/village greens in Northumberland.
 - (iii) the Council's functions in relation to the preparation and maintenance of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
 - (iv) the Council's functions in relation to the Northumberland National Park and County Joint Local Access Forum (Local Access Forums (England) Regulations 2007.
 - (v) the Council's role in encouraging wider access for all to the County's network of public rights of way and other recreational routes.

ISSUES TO BE SCHEDULED/CONSIDERED

Standard items updates: Public question time (bimonthly, not at planning only meetings), petitions (bimonthly, not at planning only meetings), members' local improvement schemes (bimonthly)

To be listed:

Enhanced Services with Parish and Town Councils
Off-street Electric Vehicle Charging Points
Cycling and Walking Board
Enforcement
Speeding across Northumberland

Northumberland County Council
 Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Local Area Council
 Work Programme 2022-23

18 May 2022

- Planning
- Petitions
- Local Services Update
- Appointment to Outside Bodies
- Members' Local Improvement Schemes

22 June 2022

- Planning and Rights of Way

20 July 2022

- Planning and Rights of Way
- Petitions
- Fostering Service
- Local Services Update
- Members' Local Improvement Schemes

17 August 2022

- Planning and Rights of Way

21 September 2022

- Planning
- Local Transport Plan Update
- Local Services Update
- Member's Local Improvement Schemes
- *Other items to be confirmed*

19 October 2022

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way
23 November 2022	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Local Services Update • Members' Local Improvement Schemes • <i>Other items to be confirmed</i>
21 December 2022	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way
17 January 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Budget 2023-24 and Medium Term Financial Plan • Local Services Update • Members' Local Improvement Schemes • <i>Other items to be confirmed</i>
20 February 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way • Local Transport Plan Programme
21 March 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Local Services Update • Members' Local Improvement Schemes • <i>Other items to be confirmed</i>
19 April 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way

Northumberland County Council
Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Council
Monitoring Report 2022-23

Date	Report	Decision	Outcome
23.03.22	Local Services Update	That the information be noted and issues set out in the bullet points be followed up.	
18.05.22	Bedlington Town Centre Redevelopment Update	Councillor Ploszaj advised that regular updates would be provided to West Bedlington Town Council in the future.	A written response be provided to Councillor Wilczek's questions (R O'Farell).
	Petition	That the petition be received.	A report would be presented to the Committee at the meeting of 20 July.
	Local Services Update	That the information be noted and issues set out in the bullet points be followed up.	
	Outside Bodies	That the list of appointments be confirmed.	
	Members Local Improvement Schemes	That the information be noted.	
26.06.22	Planning Applications		

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