



Northumberland

County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Rebecca Greally

Email:

Rebecca.Greally@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: 01670 622616

Date: Tuesday, 5 September 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **ASHINGTON AND BLYTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE** to be held in **BLYTH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB, SOUTH NEWSHAM PLAYING FIELDS, SANDRINGHAM DRIVE, BLYTH, NORTHUMBERLAND, NE24 3PS** on **WEDNESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2023** at **6.00 PM**.

Yours faithfully

Dr Helen Paterson
Chief Executive

To Ashington and Blyth Local Area Committee members as follows:-

J Lang, E Cartie, B Gallacher (Vice-Chair (Planning)), L Grimshaw (Chair), K Nisbet, K Parry, M Purvis, J Reid, E Simpson, C Ball, D Carr (Vice-Chair), C Humphrey, W Ploszaj, M Richardson, A Wallace and A Watson



Dr Helen Paterson, Chief Executive
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 0345 600 6400
www.northumberland.gov.uk



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
- 8)

Minutes of the meetings of Ashington and Blyth Local Area Council held on Wednesday 12th July 2023 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 Registerable Interest or Non Registerable 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

This item is to:

(a) Receive any new petitions: to receive any new petitions. The lead petitioner is entitled to briefly introduce their petition by providing a statement in writing, and a response to any petitions received will then be organised for a future meeting;

(b) Consider reports on petitions previously received:

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

6. LOCAL SERVICE 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 Committee, 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 Committee.

7. STRONGER SHORES

To receive a presentation from Emily Ross on the Strong Shores Project.

8. HEART OF BLYTH PROJECT

To receive a presentation from the project coordinator of the Heart of Blyth Project.

9. LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

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 Chairman of the Council after the meeting).

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 11th October 2023 (planning only).

11. URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)

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.

Table 1: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

This table sets out the explanation of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in the [Relevant Authorities \(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests\) Regulations 2012](#).

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain. [Any unpaid directorship.]
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land and Property	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
Licenses	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body

	<p>where—</p> <p>(a) that body (to the councillor’s knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and</p> <p>(b) either—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or ii. if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.
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* ‘director’ includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

* ‘securities’ means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Table 2: Other Registrable Interests

You have a personal interest in any business of your authority where it relates to or is likely to affect:

- a) any body of which you are in general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- b) any body
 - i. exercising functions of a public nature
 - ii. any body directed to charitable purposes or
 - iii. one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)

Agenda Item 2

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

ASHINGTON & BLYTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the **Ashington & Blyth Local Area Committee** held on **Wednesday, 12 July 2023 at 5:00 pm** in **Ashington JW Rugby Club, Ellington Terrace, Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 8TP.**

PRESENT

Councillor L Grimshaw (Chair)

MEMBERS

C Ball
D Carr
E Cartie
B Gallacher
K Nisbet

M Purvis
J Reid
M Richardson
E Simpson
A Wallace

OFFICERS

N Easton
R Greally

S Mavin
R Wealleans

Public Transport Manager
Assistant Democratic Services
Officer
Construction Manager
Neighbourhood Services Area
Manager

2 Members of the press and public were in attendance

02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSCENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Cliff Humphrey, Jim Lang, Ken Parry, Wojciech Ploszaj and Anna Watson

03 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ashington & Blyth Local Area Council meeting held on Wednesday 10 May 2023, as circulated, be a true record and signed by the Chairman.

04 LOCAL SERVICES ISSUES

Raymond Wealleans, Neighbourhood Services Area Manager, gave an update to committee:-

Waste Service

- Residual, Recycling and Bulky waste collection services continued to perform well.
- A review of routes took place – this resulted in a change of collection day for 4070 households.
 - All households affected were sent a leaflet informing them of the new collection date and provided with a calendar showing future collection dates.
 - All 4070 households were located in the Southeast Area
 - Other households would remain on the same collection day, but their time of collection may have changed. General comms messages went out informing people of this.
- Garden waste service was performing well but could be challenging on occasion – peak season arrived.
 - As usual, a garden waste service review would be undertaken at the end of the season to look for efficiencies and make the service more manageable.
 - There were over 10,000 customers at present for the Garden Waste collection this was a small reduction on last season by around 100 customers

Grass Cutting

The team were on cut 5/6 in Ashington and Newbiggin and Blyth with Gateway cuts in Blyth on 8/9

- Grass cutting proved to be a challenge for our teams in the early part of the year.
- Several days were lost to rain in the early part of the season (following the wettest March for decades) then the region experienced some warm weather, and the grass grew rapidly.
- Bank holidays in the early part of this cutting season added to the challenge imposed on us by the rain.
- This typically presented two challenges, the first being to complete cutting rounds efficiently to avoid having long (and seemingly unmanaged) grass on view.
- The second was the inevitable grass arisings left following the cut of grass which could be longer than usual.

Hopefully conditions would start to stabilise, and the amenity grass cutting would start returning to normal standards.

Weed Control/ Street Cleansing

Weeds

Chair's Initials.....

Ashington and Blyth Local Area Council, 12 July 2023

- Service was being delivered in house again this year.
- Most areas had received the first weed treatment.
- Ashington was 75% completed
- Blyth Area first spray was completed and second run started.
- There had been some delays due to the wet weather but anticipated completion of all areas over the next couple of weeks
- Were aware of some areas in need of urgent attention to this end we will deploy 2 extra staff members to trim and spray estates within the areas of concern.

Streets

- Street cleansing was ongoing to schedules, fly tips continued to create issues within all areas but high numbers in both Ashington and Blyth.
- Fly tips:
- Ashington 327 and Blyth 304 since the last LAC meeting in May this gave an average of 30 per week in Ashington and 27 in Blyth.
- Enforcement had installed CCTV in and around a couple of Bin stores in the Hirst area and would be checked when fly tipped material is reported.
- fly tippers one in Cambois and another in Brock Lane in Sleekburn caught on covert operations,
- There were ongoing plans to fit more CCTV within identified areas in Blyth and Ashington hopefully identifying and prosecuting offending parties.
- Brock Lane Sleekburn were in the process of organising Traffic Management for early August for a cleansing of the verges and footpaths with the road sweeper carrying out channel sweeping
- A189 Spine Road Overnight works will take place over 4 weekends from the 5th of August 2023

The following comments were made in response to members questions: -

- Members thanked Ray and his team for keeping them informed and for the fast response times to queries.
- Officers confirmed that letters communicating information regarding the communal bins went out to all affected. The collections had begun and any problems that arose would be dealt with.
- Officers confirmed they would investigate adding the sandy bay roundabout to the litter pick along the A189.
- Cycle paths were being maintained and it was confirmed that where hedges had been cut back the overgrown soil would also be cut back.
- Officers confirmed that a site meeting could be arranged to look at the shrubs and hedges at Shore Phase 1 as residents had indicated they did not want certain bushes to be cut back as there were nesting birds.
- Members were assured that areas such as North Farm and Lindsay Avenue had been some of the first areas sprayed for weeds and therefore would be due a second spray.

Simon Mavin, Construction Manager, gave an update to committee: -

All highways inspectors and maintenance crews continued to work inspecting, fixing carriageways and footway 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: -

Larger tarmac patching had been carried out in the following locations:

- South Newsham Road, Blyth
- Links Road, Blyth
- Amersham Road, Blyth
- Brierley Road, Blyth
- First Avenue, Blyth
- Park Villas, Ashington
- Park Road, Ashington
- Newlands Road, Blyth
- Cambo Close, Blyth
- Sandrigham/Balmoral Drive, Blyth
- Devonworth Place, Blyth
- St Cuthberts Court, Blyth
- Disraeli/Durban Street, Blyth
- North Seaton Road, Ashington
- A189 Woodhorn Museum entrance – traffic safety scheme.

Drainage Improvements: -

Drainage Improvements had been carried out in the following areas:

- Woodhorn Road, Ashington (back lane)
- Bothal Cottages, Ashington
- Wright Street, Blyth
- Newsham Road, Blyth
- John Street, Blyth
- Milburn Road, Ashington
- Park Road, Ashington
- Park Villas, Ashington

LTP – Carriageway Resurfacing

Carriageway resurfacing works had been carried out in the following areas: -

- North View/Matfen Terrace, Newbiggin by the Sea

Upcoming Resurfacing

- Bondicar Terrace, Blyth – 24th July for 3 days
- Twelfth Avenue, Blyth – 27th July, for 3 days

Chair's Initials.....

Ashington and Blyth Local Area Council, 12 July 2023

- Burnside, Ashington – 14th August, for 4 days
- Jubilee Estate – 21st August for 3 weeks, deep carriageway patching

Other completed and upcoming schemes

- Newbiggin beach – sand removed on behalf of the flood team, completed 7th July
- QEII footpaths, started on 10th July, for 4 weeks, installation of paths
- Maddison Street, Blyth, 29th August for 5 weeks

Micro Surfacing: Late August start

- Fulmar Drive
- Herron Close

The following comments were made in response to members questions: -

- Officers agreed to look at resurfacing works at Disraeli/Durban Street as well as looking at the gully emptier for Union Street.
- It was confirmed that 'Fix my Street' was still in a transition period. Members had concerns over whether the app was overwhelmed. Officers confirmed that if a problem had been reported it could not be reported again by another individual reducing multiples. However, concerns would be passed on to maintenance engineers regarding lack of feedback to customers. Members suggested that County Councillors received the same training that was delivered to Parish Councillors on the app.
- Members requested more detailed feedback regarding the cycle path between Ashington and Pegswood.
- Officers confirmed they would investigate the drain that had dropped in Bridge Street near Ridley Avenue.
- Members asked that they be notified of smaller schemes that had been completed in the Local Transport Plan as well as the larger schemes.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

06 PETITIONS

(c) An update was read out from Neil Dawson, Countryside and Green Spaces Manager: -

NCC have continued to monitor the playing fields at Hirst Park to understand the behaviour of dog owners, and to quantify the amount of dog fouling and the number of reports/complaints received and acted upon. During the time since the last report, 2 fixed penalty notices had been issued for dog fouling on or beside the playing fields at Hirst Park (one fine paid, one requiring prosecution). Despite the concerns over levels of fouling expressed in the petition, for the time being it did not appear that dog fouling at Hirst Park was at a level that would enable NCC to make a Public Space Protection Order banning

Chair's Initials.....

Ashington and Blyth Local Area Council, 12 July 2023

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dogs from the Hirst Park playing fields, given the existence of the county wide PSPO against dog fouling already in place.

The following comments were made in response to the update: -

- Members expressed their sadness that a protection order was not being pursued as dog fouling was a problem.
- Members asked if data could be provided regarding enforcement and the frequency of their visits to the site.
- Members wondered if Officers had contacted the football club affected. It was suggested that the football club should report any evidence of the dog fouling to the Council for the Officers to get a clearer picture on the problem.
- It was hoped that the Council would work with the football club to get to a viable solution.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

08 NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL BUS BOARD

Neil Easton, Public Transport Manager, introduced the report to committee. The Authority sought a nomination from the local area committee to join the newly established local bus board. The Authority had recently secured £163 million from the Department of Transport in funding which was to be used to establish an improvement plan. The improvements would include service enhancements across the region. As part of the funding a mandate was to create a bus board which would facilitate engagement with localities. The Authority felt it was important to that there was appropriate geographical coverage on the board and therefore had invited a member from each local area committee to join.

The following comments were made in response to members questions: -

- It was confirmed to members that an enhanced service was going to be introduced in the Cambois area. A briefing note would be sent to the Local Councillors to outline the new service.
- The Local Authority requests the data of services it was supporting. Arriva were reluctant to share data on commercial due to the sensitivity. However, the Authority was happy to share data collected with Councillors regarding the enhanced services.
- Most of the funding would be used on enhancing existing services by extending operating hours and looking at the routes. There were several routes that had been cancelled during the pandemic that the Authority were looking to reinstate. However, it was confirmed that the funding would not be used to subsidise profitable routes.

- Several routes were suggested to officers including bus routes to hospitals during visiting hours, night buses and buses that connect expanding housing estates. Officers welcomed the suggestions but also explained the complexities of bus routes and the balance that was needed between accessibility and having a reliable service that is efficient. Officers also highlighted that it was important not to extract patronage from existing commercial routes.
- It was acknowledged that the Northumberland Line would have an impact on the services. The Authority were working collaboratively to look at integrated ticketing and matching timetables with the Northumberland Line. It was noted that Arriva had warned of potential shrinkage to some services due to the Northumberland Line.
- It was acknowledged that there were over 2500 bus stops in the County and it would have taken approximately 6 weeks to replace bus timetable information. Members welcomed the idea of working collaboratively with Town and Parish Councils and suggested that the Authority revisit their original offer to Parish and Town Councils regarding replacing timetables in their wards. However, some members raised concerns over certain Town and Parish Councils having the work force to carry out this function.
- Members thanked Neil and his team for his hard work.
- Councillor Alex Wallace proposed Councillor Liz Simpson to be appointed to the board as it fit in with her remit as Shadow Cabinet Member for Strategic Transport and Infrastructure. Councillor Jeff Reid seconded this proposal.

RESOLVED agreed that Councillor Liz Simpson be appointed to the Local Bus Board and the information be noted.

10 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members considered a list of appointments to outside bodies for 2023/24.

RESOLVED that the following list of appointments be confirmed:

Blyth Valley Disabled Forum – **Kath Nisbet**

Northumberland Community Voluntary Action – **Vacancy**

Community and Voluntary Action Blyth Valley – **Anna Watson (to be confirmed)**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Chair's Initials.....

Ashington and Blyth Local Area Council, 12 July 2023

The date of the next meeting was due to be agreed at the Annual Meeting of the County Council on 17 May 2023 and was likely to take place in June 2023. Details would be circulated when the date had been confirmed.

Chair _____

Date _____

**Northumberland County Council
Ashington and Blyth Area Committee
Work Programme 2023-24**

Rebecca Greally: 01670 622616 – Rebecca.Greally@northumberland.gov.uk

UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 2023

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (a) 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 (quarterly).

To be listed:
Northumberland Communities Together
Tourism
Town Markets Update

Northumberland County Council
 Ashington and Blyth Local Area Committee
 Work Programme 2023-24

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13 September 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way • Local Services Update • Stronger Shores • Heart of Blyth
11 October 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way
15 November 2023	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way • Local Services Update • Northumbria Police update
13 December 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way
10 January 2024	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Rights of Way • Local Services Update •

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<p>Northumberland County Council Ashington and Blyth Local Area Committee Monitoring Report 2023-2024</p>				
Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Updates
1.				
2.				

3.				
4.				
5.				

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