

PRUDHOE TOWN COUNCIL

**DRAFT Minutes of the Planning, Contract and Works Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 15th August 2018 in meeting room 1 of The Spetchells Centre**

PRESENT

Cllr Jennifer McGee (Chair), Cllr Chris Cuthbert, Cllr Russ Greig (nm), Cllr Angie Scott (nm), Cllr Carol Stephenson, Cllr Holly Kelleher, Cllr Bryan Futers, Cllr Glenn Simpson, Cllr Brenda Grey (nm), Cllr Gerry Price

(nm) *Non-member of this committee*

1819/023 Apologies for Absence Cllr Tracy Gilmore, Cllr Andy Gill, County Cllr Gordon Stewart, County Cllr Ken Stow

1819/024 Declarations of Interest None

1819/025 Minutes of the Planning, Contract and Works Committee (with Extraordinary item), held on 11th July 2018

It was **AGREED** that it was Cllr Tracy Gilmore rather than Cllr Holly Kelleher who gave apologies for the August meeting, page 1.

It was **AGREED** to add that Cllr Chris Cuthbert left the meeting at 8:20pm.

It was **AGREED to RECEIVE** the report as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Holly Kelleher

Seconded: Cllr Gerry Price

1819/026 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications

Prudhoe West & Halfway Ward

18/02308/OUT

Land to the east of 2 Edgewell Road, Prudhoe

Outline permission for the construction of two new 2-storey family dwellings (C3 Use Class) with associated pedestrian and car parking.

Mr Cliff Hubbuck

It was **AGREED to OBJECT** to the application on the following grounds:

Overlooking/loss of privacy – the development is in extremely close proximity to 1 Edgewell Road.

Parking, highway safety and traffic – the area is already heavily congested and cars parked on this side street will be forced onto Edgewell Road with the additional driveways planned.

Castle & Eltringham Ward

18/02434/FUL

13 Leaway, Prudhoe

First floor extension over existing garage and both 2-storey and single-storey rear extensions.

Mr Michael Cruddass

It was **AGREED to respond NO COMMENT** to the application.

Prudhoe Hall Ward

18/02477/FUL

34 Moor Road, Prudhoe

Proposed extension to side to form new garage, playroom and en-suite bedroom to first-floor, extension to rear to form new kitchen/dining area.

Mr Jonathon Tully

It was **AGREED to SUPPORT** the application.

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West Wylam Ward**18/02504/FUL****Northumbria Police Station (former), 24 Front Street, Prudhoe**

Change of use and conversion of former police station building into x5 supported living units with associated external works. *Please note that change of use for veterinary has been approved.*

Mr Hussain

It was **AGREED** to **SUPPORT** the application.

b) Planning Decisions**Castle & Eltringham Ward****18/01414/FUL****22 Masters Crescent**

2-storey side extension set back from front of house; front garden changed to a hard surface parking area.

The application was **GRANTED**.

West Wylam Ward**18/02051/FUL****Northumbria Police Station (former), 24 Front Street, Prudhoe**

Change of use and conversion of former police station building into veterinary surgery and former office building to x4 supported living units with associated external works.

Mr Hussain

The application was **GRANTED**.

1819/027 Christmas Lights

It was **AGREED** to receive the costs for the repair and reinstall of Christmas Lights to the deciduous trees on 'The Glade' and to support option 1 from Christmas Plus at a cost of £871.26. This would involve purchasing an additional 14 set of lights (£27.59 each) to replace those that had failed and reinstalling these and the 33 working sets (47 sets in total to be installed).

Proposed: Cllr Chris Cuthbert

Seconded: Cllr Jennifer McGee

1819/028 Bin Requests

a) It was **AGREED** to purchase and install a bin at Halfway Bus Shelter, travelling west, as requested by a member of the public.

Proposed: Cllr Jennifer McGee

Seconded: Cllr Gerry Price

b) It was **AGREED** to purchase and install a bin at Scales Crescent/Ebenezer Chapel, as requested by a member of the public.

Proposed: Cllr Jennifer McGee

Seconded: Cllr Gerry Price

The Clerk advised that Northumberland County Council had removed a black Broxap type bin from Castlefields (end of old Lonnen) and replaced it with a wheelie bin as the weight of this well used bin was excessive. Replacing with a wheelie bin would allow it to be collected by refuse team rather than Neighbourhood Services. A resident has contacted the council to complain that as well the bin being unsightly; it is also a fire risk.

It was **AGREED** to purchase a double-capacity litter bin for this location and to seek to re-use the single bin that was removed in another location.

Proposed: Cllr Holly Kelleher

Seconded: Cllr Gerry Price

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1819/029 Audit of Bins

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk should prepare the costs of replacing those bins that are beyond repair and the very old green concrete bins as well as seeking costs to clean and remove graffiti from all bins. It was also suggested that Ward Cllrs could advise of problem bins in their areas.

Proposed: Cllr Glenn Simpson

Seconded: Cllr Jennifer McGee

1819/030 Dog Fouling/Enforcement Officer

a) The issue of dog fouling in the town was discussed, as well as methods of deterrent. **It was AGREED** that the publicity of dual purpose bins and other incentives/deterrents should be placed on an Ordinary Meeting agenda to discuss and agree action.

b) The following update on the issue of having an 'Enforcement Officer'; was given:
Following the Town Council's decision in April to write to neighbouring parishes to find out any initiatives to tackle dog fouling and litter and their thoughts on a locally employed Enforcement Officer, the response was largely positive to taking a joint approach.

The next step is to write to them again and to arrange a meeting, most appropriately with their chair/clerk. The Town Council agreed that this could be considered in the 2019/20 budget but a great deal of groundwork needs to be done before a firm decision can be taken.

As well as contacting Northumberland County Council to find out the costs and considerations associated with engaging an NCC Enforcement Officer to work solely in this area, the office needs time to compile a report of the costs and considerations if the Town Council chose to directly employ an Enforcement Officer. This would include:

- *Recruitment*
- *Training and required qualifications*
- *Place of work*
- *Management*
- *Administrative Support*
- *Technical equipment, transport and uniform*
- *Issuing fines, methods of payment and control of non-payment*

Cllrs discussed that the precept would have to be increased to pay for a dedicated Enforcement Officer and that the office should seek income costs as well as costs savings that those councils who employ an enforcement officer achieve, i.e. fewer instances to clear up litter, graffiti.

It was also discussed that members of the public appear to want a dedicated enforcement officer, but the question remains as to whether they would want to pay the additional costs for one.

It was AGREED to RECEIVE the update and to note that this would come back to full council.

1819/031 Mickley Planters

It was AGREED to receive verbal update that the x4 Manchester Bollards/Planters had been installed at Riding Dene, off the A695 and that they had been favourably received by nearby residents. The Clerk advised that 3 of the planters had been planted up that day and the final planter would be planted the following day.

*To approve a motion, that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the press and public be excluded for consideration of **the following items**, in accordance with Section 68 of the Council's Standing Orders:-*

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1819/032 Mickley Square Bus Shelter

a) The Clerk advised that there was no update regarding the relocation of the bus shelter from the eastward bound side of the road to the westward bound side of the road, but that she would continue to seek an expected date from Northumberland County Council.

b) The Clerk advised that she had sought x4 quotations for the installation of a concrete pad for the relocated bus shelter (the Town Council's responsibility as part of the project) and that only one quotation had been received.

It was AGREED to accept the quotation from Watson Builders for £1,309 to construct a new bus shelter base; the price includes labour and materials for:

- * Digging out the area taking the muck away.
- * Laying some pin kerbs for edging (3m x 1.5m)
- * Putting down some type 1 & compacting.
- * Tarmacing with 30mm base & 20mm topping.

End of meeting