



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

You are hereby requested to attend the **Annual Meeting of BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL** to be held on **Thursday 14 May 2026** in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytyn House, Quay Road, Blyth, NE24 2AS. This meeting will immediately follow Public Question Time at **6.00 pm**.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

RA Baker	C Jones
D Campbell	D Nicholson
D Carr	M Nicholson
A Cartie	K Nisbet MBE
BW Elliott	M Peart
TE Elliott	N Rolls
B Erskine	D Swinhoe
D Johnson	J Woods

Public Question Time will take place at **6.00 pm for a maximum of 20 minutes**. A person may ask a maximum of two questions which must be relevant to Blyth Town Council. Written questions are preferred; however, questions will be accepted at Council. No discussion or debate will take place on the question once it has been answered. Only one person will answer a question. Questions and responses will be anonymised and publicised on the Blyth Town Council website. **The Question Time procedure is available on the website by following this link [Freedom of Information Policy](#)**

Electronic devices can be used to access Committee papers. Please ensure that mobile phones are switched to silent mode during the meeting. Members are reminded to observe the Blyth Town Council Code of Conduct.

The Council Chamber will be open to members of the public 10 minutes before the meeting is about to commence. Please remember to sign in.

The deadline for receipt of an apology for absence shall be the end of office hours on the same day as the meeting. Apologies for absence shall be made directly in advance and not via a third person such as another Member at the meeting. Should a member be unable to attend the meeting, they must write to the Town Clerk with their apologies.

Malcolm Wilkinson
Town Clerk

7 May 2026

AGENDA:

1	Election of the Mayor
2	Receive the Mayor's Declaration of Acceptance of Office
3	Election of Deputy Mayor
4	Appointment of Mayoral Cadet
5	Apologies for absence
6	Disclosure of Interests and the Grant of any Dispensations
7	To appoint representatives of Outside Bodies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northumberland Association of Local Councils x 1• Friends of Ridley Park x 1• Cultural Advisory Group x 1• Town Forum x 4 non-county Councillors• Pride in Place Board x 2• Blyth Valley Enterprise Limited (BVEL) x 2• Blue Flag User Group x 2• Community Rail Partnership x 2• Blyth Trust for Youth x 5
8	To agree the establishment of Committees & Sub Committees

Standing Committee	Total	Reform UK	Conservative	Labour
Environment (includes Allotments/Partnership etc)	13			
Community Development (includes Planning/Community Grants/Community Events etc)	13			
Governance (includes Strategic Priorities/Budgets/Staff/Complaints etc)	13			
Total	39	24	7.5*	7.5*
Proportion % Reform – 10 members. Conservative – 3 members. Labour – 3 members.	39 %	24.375 %	7.3125 %	7.3125 %
Sub Committees				
Complaints & Grievance (Governance)	10			
Planning (Community Development)	10			
Staff (Governance)	10			
Community Funding (Community Development)	10			
Total	40	25	7.5*	7.5*
Proportion % Reform – 10 members. Conservative – 3 members. Labour – 3 members.	40	25	7.5	7.5
Partnership Board -5 Reform, 1 Conservative, and 1 Labour. Total 7 members Partnership Negotiating Team - 3 members Working Groups e.g., Events -All members can attend working groups (any recommendations of a working group need appropriate Standing Committee Approval). Neighbourhood Planning - Chaired by the Mayor.				

*for a 7.5 proportion, one party will have 8 and the other will have 7 which will be determined

Please see attached for Terms of Reference for Committees

9	<p>The following provision shall apply to all Committees and Sub Committees</p> <p><i>"Where any member of the Committee is unable to attend a scheduled meeting of that body, for a reasonable reason, then a representative of that a Council member of that political group (if any), to which that member belongs, may, by written notice to the proper officer at any time before the day of the meeting in question, authorise the proper officer to make a change to the standing appointments of the committee to substitute an alternative member for the duration of that meeting."</i></p>
10	<p>To appoint members to the Committees for the next municipal year</p> <p>NB Councillors appointed to Committees shall so act until the next Annual Meeting of the Council or until they cease to be a Town Councillor or they are amended by a resolution of the Council. The Council stood adjourned for a short period to enable the Committees to elect their respective Chairs and Vice-Chairs.</p>
11	<p>Community Development Committee Meeting to be held after Agenda Item 10 to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
12	<p>Environment Committee Meeting to be held at the rising of the Community Development Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
13	<p>Governance Committee Meeting to be held at the rising of the Environment Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
14	<p>Community Funding Sub Committee to be held at rising of the Governance Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
15	<p>Complaints and Grievance Sub Committee Meeting to be held at rising of the Community Funding Sub Committee Meeting to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
16	<p>Planning & Development Sub Committee Meeting to be held at rising of the Complaints and Grievance Sub Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
17	<p>Staff Sub Committee to be held at rising of the Planning & Development Sub Committee to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair</p>

<p>18</p>	<p>Working Groups – the following Working Groups need to allocate a Chair and Vice Chair. The Chair and Vice Chair of any other working groups (once they are determined) will be decided by the Standing Committee.</p> <p>Events Working Group to be held at rising of the Staff Sub Committee to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>To appoint members to the Partnership Board for the next municipal year. The Partnership Board is a meeting that is not open to the public.</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>The Council Resumed</p> <p>To agree the Minutes of the following Council Meetings as a true record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special Full Council held on 23 April 2026
<p>21</p>	<p>To agree the following Minutes of the Community Development Committee and the Environment Committee meetings for information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday 23 April 2026. 2) Staffing Sub-Committee meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2026. 3) Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday 26 February 2026. 4) Community Funding Sub-Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2026
<p>22</p>	<p>Matters arising from previous Council meetings</p> <p>Governance Committee – 23 April 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To RESOLVE the change to the Accounting Statement as highlighted to Governance Committee regarding the estimated investment income in the draft accounts - To AGREE the recommendation for the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the financial year 2026/27.

23	Dog Park To CONSIDER whether to pursue the feasibility of creating an enclosed dog park.
24	Notice Board To CONSIDER proposal for new noticeboard.
25	Wildflower Meadow To CONSIDER approval, in principle, a 12-month pilot wildflower meadow at Brierley Road Field/Devonworth Place.
26	Enhanced Tactical Drone To CONSIDER the purchase of an Enhanced Tactical Drone.
27	Register of Interests To remind Councillors of the need to complete and return their Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests within 28 days and keep them under review.
28	Date and Time of Next Meeting The next meeting of the Full Council will be held on Thursday 16 July 2026 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House. Public Question Time starts at 6.00 pm and Council will commence directly afterwards.
29	PART II Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.
30	National Armed Forces Day 2027 Bid To APPROVE submission of bid for hosting National Armed Forces Day 2027.