



## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL Special Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 17 February 2026, at 5:30pm, in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Blyth, NE24 2AS.**

### Present:

**Councillors:** D Swinhoe (Mayor), D Campbell, D Carr, A Cartie, BW Elliott, B Erskine, D Johnson, C Jones, D Nicholson, K Nisbet MBE, M Peart, N Rolls, J Woods

### Officers:

M Wilkinson (Town Clerk), E Brown (Deputy Town Clerk), H Jenner (Principal Officer), E Mullen (Democratic Services Officer)

### Members of the Public: 0

<b>Min No</b>	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs R A Baker, T E Elliott and M Nicholson.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations</b></p> <p>Councillor BW Elliott declared an interest following Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 that he will be taking part in this meeting but will not be voting.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 15 January 2026 for approval.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED: The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 15 January 2026 were agreed and subsequently signed by the Chair as a true record.</p>

<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Project Shield</b></p> <p>The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the Council had been due to receive a presentation from Project Shield at this meeting; however, apologies had since been received.</p> <p>Members were informed that the briefing note previously circulated outlines plans for a new deliver model for Project Shield for the period June 2026 to March 2027 following the withdrawal of funding from the Home Office via the Northumberland Police and Crime Commissioner.</p> <p>It was noted that a briefing will take place at County Hall on Wednesday 18 February to outline the plans for Project Shield going forward. The Deputy Town Clerk will attend this meeting and will report back to Members in due course.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>IT Policy</b></p> <p>The Principal Officer explained that this policy was circulated to Members previously and had since been strengthened following Member recommendations.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to adopt this policy.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>UK Town of Culture 2028</b></p> <p>It was RESOLVED unanimously to proceed with submitting an expression of interest for UK Town of Culture 2028.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on <b>Thursday 14 May 2026</b> in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House. Public Question Time starts at 6:00pm and Council will commence directly afterwards.</p> <p>Agenda Items 8 and 9, as published on the agenda, were withdrawn from discussion following apologies received from Project Shield for the earlier part of the meeting.</p>

The meeting closed at 17:52pm

**Members of the Council:**

D Swinhoe (Mayor)	D Johnson
R A Baker (Deputy Mayor)	C Jones
D Campbell	D Nicholson
D Carr	M Nicholson
A Cartie	K Nisbet MBE
B W Elliott	M Peart
T E Elliott	N Rolls
B Erskine	J Woods