



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 25 September 2025 at 6:30pm in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, NE24 2AS.

Councillors: M Peart (Chair), D Nicholson (Vice-Chair), D Carr, BW Elliott, B Erskine, D Johnson, K Nisbet MBE, N Rolls, and D Swinhoe.

Officers: M Wilkinson (Town Clerk), E Mullen (Democratic Services Officer) J Summers (Events Coordinator)

Invited Guest(s) – 0

Members of the Public – 0

Minute No	
1	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from: RA Baker, D Campbell, C Jones, and W Ploszaj.
2	Disclosure of Interest and Grants of Dispensation Cllrs D Carr, N Rolls and BW Elliott disclosed that they are on the strategic planning committee at Northumberland County Council and have an interest in Item 5.
3	Minutes of the previous Special Community Development Committee Minutes of the previous Special Community Development Committee meeting held 7 August 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.
4	Actions arising from the previous minutes. None.

5	Committee Budget Monitoring The Chair invited Members to ask any questions they have about the Community Development budget which were responded to by the Town Clerk.
6	Consultation – West Bedlington Neighbourhood Plan The Chair gave an overview of the key points of West Bedlington’s Neighbourhood Plan and invited members to provide comment. The committee were impressed with what was presented by West Bedlington Town Council moved to support the draft plan.
7	Town & Country Planning Application – 25/02911/REM The Chair gave an overview of the planning application. All members were in support of the application, highlighting their support for the creation of jobs in the area and the substantial allocation of business rates to the County Council which could help improve local services. It was RESOLVED to support the application.
8	Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2026/27 – 2028-29 Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that the following priorities would be submitted: 1. Maintenance of the Cowpen Quay Home Zone 2. Alternative traffic calming measures across Blyth, using Cowpen Ward as a test site (replacing speed bumps with chicanes) 3. Issue of trees and roots causing damages to pavements and pedestrian obstruction across Blyth. A reserve item for proposal was agreed to be traffic calming measures and pedestrian crossing on Plessey Road near Newlands Avenue. The Democratic Officer will be in touch with Members who submitted the priority items to provide further information to be included in submission to the County Council.

	<i>BW Elliott left the meeting.</i>
9	Proposed Events Programme 2026/2027 The Events Coordinator presented a comprehensive programme of events for consideration in 2026/27, with many events repeating from previous years requesting any feedback as well as any ideas for future events. Members were keen on the idea of an event to celebrate Armed Forces Day. The Events Coordinator explained that there may be a possibility of exploring an event on a smaller scale as many resources already get booked for Sunderland's large-scale event, as well as looking at an alternative date as the date falls between 2 other major event weekends for the Town Council. Cllr Swinhoe expressed an interest in Blyth hosting a Brass Band competition. He also expressed that he would be interested in doing an event in his role as Mayor of Blyth, inviting civic heads across the region. This would be for consideration for a future meeting of Governance Committee. Members offered thanks to the Events Coordinator and high praise for Town Council events which are well received by the public.
10	Date & Time of next meeting The next meeting of the Community Development Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House on Tuesday 25 November 2025.

The meeting closed at 19:32 pm.

Members of Community Development Committee

M Peart (Chair)	D Johnson
D Nicholson (Vice Chair)	C Jones
R A Baker	K Nisbet MBE
D Campbell	W Ploszaj
D Carr	N Rolls
B W Elliott	D Swinhoe
B Erskine	