



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL Special Full Council meeting held at 5:30 pm on Tuesday 9 September 2025, in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Blyth, NE24 2AS.

Present:

Councillors: D Swinhoe (Mayor), D Campbell, D Carr, A Cartie, B W Elliott (*part*), 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), E Mullen (Democratic Services Officer)

Also Present: Ian Stevenson (NCC), Zola Nicholls (NCC), Jen Daniels (Northumbria Police), Dawn Skyes (Northumbria Police)

Members of the Public: 4

Min No	
1	Apologies for absence Apologies were noted from Councillors RA Baker, TE Elliott, B Erskine and W Ploszaj.
2	Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations All Town Councillors who are also elected members of Northumberland County Council declared an interest in item 7, acknowledging that they would not be eligible to vote on this agenda item.
3	Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 17 July 2025 for approval.

	RESOLVED: The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 July 2025 were agreed and subsequently signed by the Chair as a true record.
3.1	Actions outstanding from previous minutes None
4	Decision Report – motion submitted regarding the 2025/2026 budget Councillor Nicholson spoke to the motion submitted to increase the Councillors Small Scheme budget from £1,000 to £2,000, viring the additional £16,000 from the Community Funding budget This motion had been seconded by Cllr D Swinhoe. Members discussed supporting the increase of Councillor Small Schemes budget to £2,000, but not at the detriment of it coming out of the community grants budget. A counter motion was put forward to keep the Councillors Small Scheme budget as it currently is. Proposed: D Carr Seconded: C Jones RESOLVED: 5 members in favour, 6 against. Motion not carried. <i>Cllr BW Elliot entered the meeting.</i> After further discussion, the original motion went to a vote. RESOLVED: to maintain the existing overall budget for Community Grants of £173,300. Viring £16,000 from the Community Funding to Councillor Small Schemes. Revised budgets would be: Councillor Small Schemes £32,000 Community Funding £141,300.
5	The next meeting date The Full Council meeting will be held on Thursday 16 October 2025 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House. Public Question Time starts at 6:00pm and Council will commence directly afterwards.
6	Part II

	It was RESOLVED that pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that the press and public be excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.
11	Decision Report – Project Shield Ian Stevenson from Northumberland County Council gave a presentation to Members on Project Shield, including data provided showing a 37% reduction in anti-social behaviour reported incidents this year compared to 2024. Members were encouraged to ask questions to Northumbria Police and NCC representatives present at the meeting. It is noted that those who declared an interest as a Northumberland County Councillor could not vote on this item. Councillors present who could not vote: D Carr, B W Elliott, D Johnson, D Nicholson, M, Peart, N Rolls, D Swinhoe. As only 5 members present were able to vote on this item, the Council did not meet the quorum of six, and a vote was unable to take place. The Town Clerk advised that the item would need to be deferred to a future meeting of Full Council where more Members who are eligible to vote are present.

The meeting closed at 18:38 pm

Members of the Council:

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