

424/17

Declarations of Interest

The Chairman received the following declarations of interest on this occasion:

Cllr Rachael Hogg – Updates from Working Groups, Parish Boundary Working Group – (Personal Interest – resident of Southfield estate)

Cllr Andrew Tebbutt – Authorisation of Payments – (Personal Interest – recipient of expenses)

425/17

Public Participation Time

Cllr Alison Byard addressed the committee, on behalf of the Morpeth Floral Clock Group, regarding an application submitted for a Start-Up Grant.

Cllr Byard advised members that –

- There are now over 900 members of the Floral Clock Facebook page;
- The group are in receipt of a number of donations and have held a 'Curry Night' which raised £950, a golf day is also being held on 29th April 2018 to raise money;
- The clock mechanism has now been repaired and still holds its heritage value. It is now sited back in Morpeth with the hands due to be added in June 2018;
- Local electrical firm, Winns Electricals, have donated a CCTV system which will be located on Carlisle Park Lodge, images will be streamed to 'Friends' on the private Facebook page;
- The group are working closely with Northumberland County Council (NCC) as it is their asset, they have paid for the repairs to the clock and have pledged staff time to plant up the clock for the following two years;
- Through fundraising, £8,000 has been raised from donations and a further £3,000 from NCC Councillors;
- The clock will contribute to the Morpeth In Bloom and Britain In Bloom competition and also to civic pride in the town, and
- The BBC have shown an interest in the project and wish to follow this closely.

Cllr Byard asked that Morpeth Town Council (MTC) consider supporting the reestablishment and ongoing costs of the floral clock.

Cllr Bawn thanked Cllr Byard for her comments.

Members unanimously agreed to bring forward item 11, C. – Grant/Subsidy Update – Start-Up Subsidy from the Morpeth Floral Clock Group

Members agreed that they all fully support the reinstatement of the floral clock and the work done was very commendable and this will be a great asset for the town.

The Deputy Clerk advised members that to meet the criteria for awarding a start-up subsidy, the group would need to show a clear financial need. Concerns were raised that this was not the case for 2018/19 as the accounts supplied show an excess of approximately £3,500 for this period.

Cllr Best proposed that he make a one off contribution, from his Mayoral Allowance, of £200 towards the Floral Clock Launch event in June 2018.

A vote was taken: 9 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted
- b) A one off contribution of £200 to the launch event will be made from the Mayoral Allowance
- c) The Friends of Morpeth Floral Clock group were advised to apply for an annual maintenance subsidy for 2019/20 and 2020/21, later in the year.

Members of the public left at 7.02pm.

426/17 Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 7th March 2018

The minutes of the above meetings were approved as a true record.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be approved, and signed as a correct record by the chair.

427/17 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising on this occasion.

428/17 Authorisation of Payments

The monthly accounts were circulated for consideration. Members were provided with an amended payments list.

Cllr Hogg requested clarification as to what improvements had been carried out in Carlisle Park. The Deputy Clerk advised that it was a contribution towards Sprytar, which is an app based tourist attraction. Cllr Hogg noted this and requested that such items are brought to committee for discussion in the first instance.

At 7.08pm members unanimously agreed that the following resolution be passed to exclude the press and public from the meeting to discuss the following item in closed session:

“That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the disclosure of the following items on the agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of schedule 12A in the 1972 Act as indicated below:

Issues concerning: Contracts.

The meeting resumed in open session at 7.14pm

RESOLVED

- (i) That members agreed the amended payment list for March 2018(2), totalling £41,644.36 and April 2018, totalling £66,577.13.

Cllr Tebbutt declared a personal interest in this matter, see Min 424/17.

429/17

Updates from Working Groups

a. Parish Boundary Working Group

Members were advised that it had been agreed at Full Council on 21st March 2018 that a new working group was formed consisting of Cllrs J Tebbutt, R Wearmouth, D Bawn, R Hogg and N Best and the Clerk.

The Deputy Clerk advised that a meeting date is to be set for w/c 9th April 2018.

RESOLVED

- (i) Information duly noted.
- (ii) The Deputy Clerk is to circulate appropriate dates for a meeting.

Cllr Hogg declared a personal interest in this matter, see Min 424/17.

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b. In Bloom Working Group

Members were provided for information with the notes of the meeting held on 15th March 2018.

Cllr Best advised members that a litter pick finally took place on Sunday 25th March following the run of nasty weather, Greater Morpeth Development Trust are hoping to hold a litter pick on the third Sunday of every month. He also advised that a 'Lets Bee Potty' event is being held in the Millennium Green on 7th April 2018.

RESOLVED

- (i) Information duly noted.

c. Local Government Ethical Standards

Members were provided for consideration with a draft response from Cllr Tebbutt to the above consultation.

Cllr Gebhard raised a number of concerns regarding the responses, including the right to expressing personal views on social media, whether code of conduct breaches in relation to planning are a criminal matter and how the council can prepare for any intimidation received.

Members discussed the points raised and agreed that further consideration should be given to clarify these points. Cllr Tebbutt proposed that he make amendments based on the discussion.

RESOLVED

- (i) Information duly noted.
(ii) Cllr Tebbutt to circulate a second draft for comments, this will be taken to the County Council Standards Committee meeting on 24th April 2018 to see if they will endorse the comments, this will be in Cllr Tebbutt's name as an individual rather than a draft from MTC
(iii) The final draft will be brought to the next meeting of this committee for final approval.

430/17

Property and Assets Update

The Deputy Clerk provided a verbal update: –

- The new toilet contract began on 1st April 2018 and is working well;
- Storey Park Community Centre has lost the Morpeth Carpet Bowls Club regular booking due to a drop in numbers;

- The fencing at the paddling pool will be in place from Monday 9th April 2018 to allow for maintenance prior to the pool opening on 26th May 2018;
- The planning application has been submitted for the new climbing frame in Carlisle Park;
- The new designs for Church Walk play area have been approved and the equipment is on order;
- There are plans in place to replace some of the swings in Carlisle Park with DDA compliant ones to be more inclusive, and
- Refurbishment of Oldgate Court continues

RESOLVED

- (i) Information duly noted.

431/17

Grant/Subsidy Update

- a. Members were provided for information with a letter of thanks from Edgar Ho who won the Wansbeck Music Festival Bursary award. Cllr Best advised that as a Council we are unable to give to individuals, however we provide a subsidy to the Wansbeck Music Festival. He also advised that there is nobody who will benefit from the bursary award this year.
- b. The Deputy Clerk advised members that all subsidies for 2018/19 have now been paid, except for one to the Morpeth Carpet Bowls Club who are no longer operating and one to Morpeth Town Team which will be dependent on the results of the Business Improvement District ballot.

RESOLVED

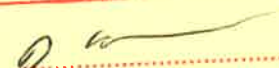
- (i) Information duly noted.

432/17

Local Council Issues

There were no issues raised on this occasion.

There was no other business to discuss and the meeting concluded at 7:55pm with Councillors D Bawn, Best, Cassie, Hogg, Gebhard, Parreira, Tebbutt, Thompson and Wearmouth present.

SIGNED: 
 DATE: 25/18
 CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN
 MORPETH TOWN COUNCIL
 STANDING COMMITTEE

Morpeth Town Council
Authorisation of Payments - March (2) 2018

Appendix B

Supplier	Cheque No.	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount
			£	£	£
Falon Nameplates	BACS	Plaque for dedicated seat	84.90	16.98	101.88
Eversheds Sutherlands	BACS	Professional fees	2,167.64	432.33	2,599.97
Thomas Owen	BACS	Cleaning goods SPCC	52.42	10.48	62.90
Jewson	BACS	Bus Shelter maintenance	3.79	0.76	4.55
Beach Design	BACS	Office Stationery	320.00	64.00	384.00
Morpeth Window Cleaners	BACS	Window cleaning at SPCC and SJCC	60.00	0.00	60.00
SLCC	BACS	ALCC membership	30.00	0.00	30.00
Tracey Bell	BACS	Travel Expenses	79.00	0.00	79.00
ABS Business Supplies	BACS	Office Stationery	43.20	8.64	51.84
SSE Swalec	BACS	Electric supplied to SJCC	50.66	2.53	53.19
Shred-it	BACS	Shredding	117.70	23.54	141.24
Jewson	BACS	Maintenance - litter bins	12.57	2.51	15.08
Jewson	BACS	Repairs - Carlisle Park toilets	4.37	0.87	5.24
Everything Branded	BACS	Mayor badges	87.00	17.40	104.40
F H Hardy	BACS	International Women's Day	35.83	7.17	43.00
ABS Business Supplies	BACS	Stationery	19.49	3.90	23.39
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs - Springhill Walk bus shelter	82.17	16.43	98.60
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs - Oldgate, Jobling Crescent & Sainsburys bus shelters	195.16	39.03	234.19
NCC	4758	Swan Song Concert	20.00	0.00	20.00
Andrew Tebbutt	BACS	International Women's Day	400.41	0.00	400.41
Jewson	BACS	Repairs to SJCC	81.53	16.31	97.84
Jewson	BACS	Repairs Oldgate project	9.95	1.99	11.94
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs to bus shelter	117.55	23.51	141.06
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs to bus shelter	82.17	16.43	98.60
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs to bus shelter	82.17	16.43	98.60
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs to bus shelter	91.49	18.30	109.79
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs to bus shelter	64.46	12.89	77.35
Clear Channel	BACS	Repairs to bus shelter	82.17	16.43	98.60
NCC	BACS	Carlisle Park Improvements	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Zurich Management Services Ltd	BACS	LCAS Seminar	30.00	6.00	36.00
D Smith	BACS	Travel Expenses	5.40	0.00	5.40
Tracey Bell	BACS	March 18 travel expenses	40.50	0.00	40.50
Annodata	BACS	Photocopier charges	393.35	78.67	472.02
Jewson	BACS	Oldgate refurbishments	17.76	3.55	21.31
Jewson	BACS	Oldgate refurbishments	15.94	3.19	19.13
SLCC	BACS	Data Protection webinar	30.00	6.00	36.00
NCC	BACS	Maintenance - Church Walk	1,381.33	276.27	1,657.60
			7,392.08	1,142.54	8,534.62
NCC Salary Payments					
NCC	BACS	Salaries Feb 2018	13,997.02	3.42	14,000.44
NCC	BACS	Salaries Mar 2018	13,997.02	3.42	14,000.44
Sub Total Staff Costs			27,994.04	6.84	28,000.88
Direct Debits Paid March 2018					
Gaffey Technical	DD	Hyprolyser Rental March 2018	295.00	59.00	354.00
Team Valley Web Design	"	Website Hosting March 2018	41.67	8.33	50.00
Wave	"	Water Charges 15/11/17 - 14/02/18 - Bus Station	152.95	0.00	152.95
Wave	"	Water Charges 15/11/17 - 14/02/18 - SJCC	120.74	0.00	120.74
Wave	"	Water Charges 15/11/17 - 14/02/18 - Allotments (WG)	12.16	0.00	12.16
Wave	"	Water Charges 15/11/17 - 14/02/18 - SPCC	70.79	0.00	70.79
Wave	"	Water Charges 15/11/17 - 14/02/18 - Allotments (DG)	4.96	0.00	4.96
EE & T-Mobile	"	MTC Office Mobiles	44.31	8.86	53.17
Pitney Bowes	"	Quarterly Rental from 9/3/18	73.44	14.69	88.13
Wave	"	Water Charges 15/11/17 - 14/02/18 - Allotments (StM)	10.96	0.00	10.96
PWLB	"	Second Repayment of 2017/18	1,789.50	0.00	1,789.50
Bankline	"	Online Banking Charges	29.30	0.00	29.30
Worldpay	"	Subscription Fees March 2018	7.50	1.50	9.00
Worldpay	"	Transaction Charges February 2018	15.55	0.11	15.66
Corona Energy	"	Electricity Charges for 01-28/2/18 - SPCC	15.62	0.78	16.40
Gazprom Energy	"	Gas Charges 31/1 - 28/2/18 - SJCC	348.02	69.60	417.62
Gazprom Energy	"	Gas Charges 31/1 - 28/2/18 - SPCC	449.14	89.82	538.96
Sub Total Direct Debit Payments			3,481.61	252.69	3,734.30

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Morpeth Town Council
Authorisation of Payments - March (2) 2018

Supplier	Cheque No.	Description	Net Amount £	VAT £	Gross Amount £
Petty Cash					
Iceland	4760	Parlour Visit Refreshments	2.50	0.50	3.00
Iceland	"	Corporate Refreshments	5.52	1.08	6.60
Home Bargains	"	MTC Office Supplies	4.98	1.00	5.98
Shoecare	"	Keys for Bus Station and Terrace Toilets	66.29	13.26	79.55
			79.29	15.84	95.13
Credit Card Statement					
Trainline	DD	Rail Travel to London	165.50	0.00	165.50
Britannia Hotel	"	RHS BIB Accommodation	106.66	21.34	128.00
Amazon	"	Office Furniture	38.31	7.66	45.97
Strictly Tables and Chairs	"	SJCC Furniture	344.50	68.90	413.40
Workwear Express	"	Hi-Vis Jacket	32.71	6.54	39.25
Amazon	"	Mayors Ball Supplies	18.98	1.47	20.45
Mad-Distribution	"	International Womens Day	48.17	9.63	57.80
Asda	"	Mayors Ball Supplies	162.09	22.77	184.86
Mad-Distribution	"	International Womens Day	-48.17	-9.63	-57.80
Northumberland County Council	"	Planning Fee	234.00	0.00	234.00
Street Furniture Direct	"	Security Bollard	40.00	8.00	48.00
			1,142.75	136.68	1,279.43
Sub Total Credit Card Payments					
Total Payments F&GP Committee					
4th April 2018			40,089.77	1,554.59	41,644.36

Morpeth Town Council
Authorisation of Payments - April 2018

Appendix C.

Supplier	Cheque No.	Description	Net Amount £	VAT £	Gross Amount £
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	BACS	New Accounts Software	4,879.40	975.88	5,855.28
Zurich	BACS	MTC Insurance 2018/19	6,721.46	480.10	7,201.56
NCC	BACS	Rates 2018/19 - Bus Station Toilets	2,842.09	0.00	2,842.09
NCC	BACS	Rates 2018/19 - Terrace Toilets	475.20	0.00	475.20
NCC	BACS	Rates 2018/19 - St James CC	1,848.00	0.00	1,848.00
NCC	BACS	Rates 2018/19 - Storey Park CC	2,880.00	0.00	2,880.00
Tap & Spile	4759	2018/19 Local Loo Scheme	50.00	0.00	50.00
White Swan	BACS	2018/19 Local Loo Scheme	50.00	0.00	50.00
Manzil Tandoori Restaurant	BACS	2018/19 Local Loo Scheme	50.00	0.00	50.00
Café Des Amis	BACS	2018/19 Local Loo Scheme	50.00	0.00	50.00
Barnabas Safe and Sound	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
MS Research & Relief	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	500.00	0.00	500.00
Northumberland Citizens Advice Bureau	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	10,500.00	0.00	10,500.00
Clock Tower Bell Ringers	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	800.00	0.00	800.00
Community Action Northumberland	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	260.00	0.00	260.00
Contact Mental Health	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Ellington Colliery Band	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	750.00	0.00	750.00
GMDT	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	4,400.00	0.00	4,400.00
Millennium Green Trust	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,450.00	0.00	1,450.00
Morpeth Antiquarian Soc	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Morpeth Music Society	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Mustard Tree Trust	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	750.00	0.00	750.00
New Voices Choir	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	320.00	0.00	320.00
Northumberland Community Enterprise	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Northumberland Credit Union	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	750.00	0.00	750.00
Northumberland Domestic Abuse Service	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Northumberland Theatre Co Ltd	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	300.00	0.00	300.00
Red Squirrels	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	200.00	0.00	200.00
Voicemale Choir	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	300.00	0.00	300.00
Wansbeck Music Festival	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	1,165.00	0.00	1,165.00
Wansbeck Valley Food Bank	BACS	2018/19 Subsidy Payment - Yr 1 of 3	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Chamber of Trade	BACS	2018/19 Economic Development - Yr 1 of 3	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Morpeth Gathering	BACS	2018/19 Economic Development - Yr 1 of 3	750.00	0.00	750.00
Morpeth II Ltd	BACS	2018/19 Economic Development - Yr 1 of 3	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Morpeth Pipe Band	BACS	2018/19 Retainer	1,380.00	0.00	1,380.00
Morpeth Sports Awards	BACS	2018 Sports Award Contribution	200.00	0.00	200.00
			65,121.15	1,455.98	66,577.13

Total Payments F&GP Committee 4th April 2018

65,121.15	1,455.98	66,577.13
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