

# Seaton Valley Council

## A Community Council

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 25 May 2022 at 6.50 p.m. at New Hartley Memorial Hall.

The meeting started at 6.50 p.m.

<b>PRESENT:</b> Councillors:	S Dungworth, G Eastwood, A Stanners, E Coulson, S Bowman, L Bowman, D Ferguson, E Chicken and J Henderson.
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b> S Potts – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer L Fox – Services Officer D Freeman – Engagement and Development Officer C Dickinson – Admin Officer 2 Members of the public	
<b>AM001/22</b>	<b>1. Welcome</b> Cllr Dungworth welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting which commenced immediately following the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting.
<b>AM002/22</b>	<b>2. Election of the Chair of the Council</b> Cllr Dungworth asked for nominations for the role of Chair of the Council. Cllr Eastwood proposed Cllr Dungworth for the role and Cllr Stanners seconded the proposal. Cllr Chicken proposed Cllr S Bowman for the role and Cllr Henderson seconded the proposal. The Clerk then asked for a vote on the second proposal – three voted in favour of Cllr Bowman and six voted against Councillor Bowman. He then asked for vote on the original proposal – six voted in favour of Cllr Dungworth and three voted against Cllr Dungworth and as a consequence, <b>Cllr Dungworth was duly elected as Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.</b>
<b>AM003/22</b>	<b>3. To receive the Chair's declaration of acceptance of office</b> Cllr. Dungworth took the Chair and agreed to visit the Council's Offices within the next two days to formally sign her Declaration of Office.
<b>AM004/22</b>	<b>4. To Record members present and apologies from members unable to be present</b> All members of the Council were present.
<b>AM005/22</b>	<b>5. Election of Vice Chair of the Council</b> The Chair asked for nominations for the post of Vice Chair. Cllr. Stanners proposed that Cllr Eastwood be appointed as Vice Chair and Cllr S Bowman seconded her proposal. Cllr Chicken proposed that Cllr Coulson be appointed as Vice Chair and Cllr Henderson seconded her proposal. The Clerk then asked for a vote on the second proposal – three voted in favour of Cllr Coulson and six voted against Councillor Coulson. He then asked for vote on the original proposal – six voted in favour of Cllr Eastwood and three voted against Cllr Eastwood and as a consequence, <b>Cllr Eastwood was duly elected as Vice Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.</b>

AM006/22	<p><b>6. To remind Members of the need to notify the Clerk about any changes to their previously completed Declaration of Interest forms.</b> The Chair reminded members about this requirement.</p>
AM007/22	<p><b>7. Members' disclosures of interests in respect of items of business on the Agenda</b> There were no disclosures of interest.</p>
AM008/22	<p><b>8. To receive and agree the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022.</b> The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 27 April 2022 were approved and agreed as being an accurate record of that meeting.</p>
AM009/22	<p><b>9. To appoint committee members:-</b> Prior to taking appointees from the two political parties the Chair explained that both committees of the Council are made up of 4 members and to achieve a political balance on these committees a ratio of three Labour members to one Conservative member had been calculated.</p> <p>Consequently <b>Council RESOLVED TO make the following appointments to its committees:</b></p> <p>a) <b>Finance &amp; General Purposes (inc. staffing) – Cllr S Dungworth (Chair), Cllr G Eastwood (Vice Chair), Cllr L Bowman and Cllr E Chicken.</b></p> <p>b) <b>Planning – Cllr E Coulson, Cllr S Bowman, Cllr G Eastwood and Cllr J Henderson.</b></p> <p>During the discussion to appoint members to the Planning Committee there was a debate about whether or not County Councillors should automatically support the view of the council's (Seaton Valley Council's) own planning committee when considering planning applications at NCC committee meetings? There were different views on the merits of such an approach with some Councillors arguing that County Councillors couldn't objectively consider individual planning applications if they had a pre disposed view, whilst others put forward the view that the principles of collective responsibility should apply. The debate ended without an effective resolution.</p>

AM010/22	<p><b>10. Council RESOLVED TO appoint the following as its representatives to outside bodies:-</b></p> <p>a) Community Safety Hub (Formerly LMAPS) – <b>Cllr. L Bowman agreed to continue to be the Council’s representative.</b></p> <p>c) Town and Parish Liaison Working Group –<b>Cllr Eastwood will represent the Council on this working group;</b></p> <p>d) Neighbourhood Partnership Board – <b>it was agreed that Cllr Dungworth (Hartley Ward), Cllr S Bowman (Seghill with Seaton Delaval Ward) and Cllr E Coulson be appointed to represent the Council on its Neighbourhood Partnership Board.</b></p> <p>e) Astley Park Community Partnership – <b>it was agreed that Cllr. Stanners will represent the Council on this Partnership;</b></p> <p>f) New Hartley Community Association – <b>it was agreed that Cllr Dungworth will be the Council’s representatives on this Association.</b></p> <p>g) Holywell Community Forum – <b>it was agreed that Cllr. Coulson will continue to be the Council’s representative on this organisation.</b></p> <p>h) Seaton Valley in Bloom – <b>it was agreed that Cllr S Bowman will be the Council’s representative on this organisation..</b></p> <p>i) Northumberland Association of Local Councils (NALC) - <b>it was agreed that Cllr Eastwood will represent the Council on this organisation.</b></p>												
AM011/22	<p><b>11. Appointment of Internal Auditor</b>  The Clerk gave a brief history of the current Internal auditor’s experience and credentials following which the council <b>RESOLVED TO: reappoint Mr T Siney to carry out its Internal Auditor</b> function.</p>												
AM012/22	<p><b>12. Dates of Future Scheduled Meetings</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="360 1225 1490 1386"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>2020</b></th> <th><b>Committee/Council</b></th> <th><b>Time</b></th> <th><b>Venue</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wednesday 27 July</td> <td>Full Council</td> <td>7pm</td> <td>Seghill Institute Memorial Hall</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday 21 September</td> <td>Full Council</td> <td>7pm</td> <td>Seaton Sluice Community Centre</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Committee/Council</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	Wednesday 27 July	Full Council	7pm	Seghill Institute Memorial Hall	Wednesday 21 September	Full Council	7pm	Seaton Sluice Community Centre
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The meeting closed at 7:35 p.m.

Signed by the Chair: .....

Dated: .....