

Minutes of a Special Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on 11 July 2012 at 7.15pm.

## Members

I Burns (Mayor)

S Coates	L Davies
A R Graham	C M Jackson
J M Laidlow	E Nicholson
A Smith	S Standage

Apologies: C Smith, A Kennon & P Graham

Also Present: Shamus Giles, Cumbria County Council, Richard Hollinshead, Grit and Pearl & 1 representative from the press

### 47 Declaration of Interest

None declared.

### 48 Cockermouth Main Street Heritage Scheme – ‘Heritage Hubs’

The overarching aim of the scheme is to improve access to, and awareness, understanding and enjoyment of Cockermouth’s rich heritage. This will be achieved through two main interlinked programme strands – physical installations within the regeneration scheme for Main Street and a series of related temporary and digital engagement and education activities.

Focal points along the street will become ‘heritage hubs’ linked by Wordsworth-themed flooring artworks that combine to create a ‘Museum in the Street’. Extending beyond traditional information panels the hubs will allow the display of actual heritage artefacts into the streetscape through illuminated display cabinets, as well as placing heritage interpretation into the surfaces of seating, glass shelters, tree grilles and other elements of street furniture. These bespoke pieces of artwork/street furniture have been designed, located and constructed in a way to minimise potential damage.

There will be six heritage hubs, these will be evenly distributed where people congregate along both sides of Main Street:-

Hub 1 : Wordsworth House

- Wordsworth House former uses and residents, the community effort to save the house
- The heritage offer at Wordsworth House
- The influence of Cockermouth on William and Dorothy Wordsworth
- The worldwide influence of William Wordsworth on literature and culture

- An introduction to the 'life lines' project

#### Hub 2 : Northern Bus Stand

- General introductory overview of local history
- Historic maps of Cockermouth showing the development of the town
- Main Street, its frontages and burgage plots

#### Hub 3 : Taxi Rank/Southern Bus Shelter

- Famous and notable residents of Cockermouth
- The history of Lowther Went
- Lord Mayo, his relationship with the town, the damage to the statue

#### Hub 4 : Station Road Junction

- The Cattle and Horse Markets
- The railway and the creation of Station Road
- The Neddy clock
- The Jubilee lime trees
- Shop frontages – the changing face of commerce in the town

#### Hub 5 : Junction with Brewery Lane

- Jennings Brewery, its development and relationship with the community
- Cockermouth Castle, its establishment, development and roles, families and relationship with the romantic movement
- The influence of the rivers on the town and its industrial development

#### Hub 6 : Old Midland Bank

- The old Cocker Bridge
- Flood events and the impact on the town

The scheme is to be funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). HLF requires evidence that the assets (i.e. the physical elements on the street) have owners and a suitable maintenance agreement in place. Where features are being replaced like for like (i.e. lighting columns, road signs, bins, planters), these will be owned and maintained as per current agreements. For new items (i.e. the Hubs) the Town Council has been asked if it would consider taking on future ownership and maintenance.

Resolved – That Cockermouth Town Council agrees in principle to own, maintain and insure the six proposed 'Hubs' on Main Street plus six stand alone seats of the same construction and that a sum of £2,000.00 per annum be raised via our precept to allow insurance, cleaning, lighting, repair and replacement as and when necessary.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm