

Minutes of a meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on 20 September 2012 at 7.00pm

Members

I Burns (Mayor)

S Coates  
A Graham  
C M Jackson  
J Laidlow  
A Smith  
S Standage

L Davies  
P Graham  
A Kennon  
E Nicholson  
C Smith

Also present: 1 press representative and 1 member of the public.

**59 To authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 15 August 2012**

Resolved – That the minutes of the last meeting held on 15 August 2012 be signed as a correct record.

**60 Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Davies declared an other registrable interest in relation to all planning applications due to being a member of the Development Panel.

Councillor A Smith declared a personal interest in matters relating to Allerdale Borough Council due to being Leader of Allerdale Borough Council and in particular agenda item 10(i) due to being co-chair of the group.

Councillor Nicholson declared a personal interest in planning application 2/2012/0597 due to knowing the applicant and a personal interest in agenda item 14 due to being an adjacent landowner.

Councillor Kennon declared a personal interest in planning application 2/2012/0597 due to knowing the applicant.

Councillor Standage declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 2/2012/0597 due to living in close proximity to the site being developed. Councillor Standage declared an other registrable interest in relation to planning applications 2/2012/0628, 2/2012/0629 and 2/2012/0666 due to being a member of the Development Panel.

Councillor Jackson declared an other registrable interest in planning applications 2/2012/0597, 0628, 0629 & 0662.

## **61 Mayors Announcements**

Agreed – (a) That the Mayors announcements be deferred until the next meeting.

(b) That Councillor Graham be thanked for deputising for Councillor Burns on the 13 September at the Private Garden and Allotment Awards evening.

## **62 Attendance by Police**

The Police were not in attendance.

## **63 Public Participation**

There was no public participation at this meeting.

## **64a Planning Applications**

### **2/2012/0600**

Replacement of 4 existing timber windows and 1 kitchen door to rear with upvc casement windows and door, 13 Skiddaw View, Cockermouth.

Recommend – Approval

### **2/2012/0610**

Replacement of existing timber windows with new upvc sliding sash and replacement timber front door with composite door, 9 Horsman Street, Cockermouth.

Recommend – Approval

### **2/2012/0608**

Listed building consent for proposed signage, 13 Main Street, Cockermouth.

Recommend – Refusal, perspex lettering out of keeping with the character of the conservation area prefer metal or wooden lettering.

### **2/2012/0597**

Outline application for residential development of 12 dwellings including associated infrastructure, Land to the south west of Brigham Road, Cockermouth.

Recommended – Approval

### **2/2012/0628**

Refurbishment of existing centre by part demolition of west and east gables, addition two storey extension for cafe, bar, reception, toilets, kitchen, offices and

escape stairs.

Recommended – Refusal, design and materials out of keeping with the conservation area.

**2/2012/0629**

Conservation area consent for part demolition of west and east gables – resubmission of 2/2012/0128, The Kirkgate Centre.

Recommended – Refusal, design and materials out of keeping with the conservation area.

**2/2012/0662**

Listed Building consent for alterations to the ground floor windows and air bricks, 1,2,3, & 4 The Croft, Cockermouth

Recommended – Approval

**65 Highway Matters**

Councillor Nicholson to investigate the blocked drain at 6, Parkside Avenue.

**66 Financial Matters**

**66a Schedule of Payments**

Resolved – That the amended schedule of payments in the sum of £71,226.66 as set out in the expenditure transactions approval list be formally approved for payment.

**66b External Auditor for 2012/13**

Agreed – That it be noted that BDO LLP has been appointed our external auditor for five years from 2012/13.

**66c Cockermouth After School Scheme (CASS)**

Resolved – That CASS be awarded a grant of £100 towards outdoor equipment.

**66d Fixed Interest, Fixed Term Savings Account**

Resolved – That our investment be re-invested with the Cumberland Building Society for a further 12 months at a monthly fixed interest rate of 2.65%.

**66e CADS Pantomime**

Resolved – That £300 be given to CADS towards their annual pantomime.

**66g Cocker mouth Flood Risk Management Scheme – Legal Agreement**

Resolved – (a) That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to sign the Cocker mouth Flood Risk Management Scheme Legal Agreement.

(b) That a cheque be raised in respect of the £40,000.00 community contribution.

**67 Correspondence**

**67a Cocker mouth Walk of Pride**

Agreed – That the congratulatory letter regarding the refurbishment of the Town Hall be noted.

**67b Electoral Review of Cumbria : Final Recommendations**

To meet their obligations under the 2009 Act, The Local Government Boundary Commission propose consequential parish warding arrangements for the parishes of Cleator Moor, Cocker mouth, Egremont, Kendal, Millom, Maryport, St Cuthbert Without, Stanwix Rural and Wetheral.

Resolved - That it be noted that the final recommendation for Cocker mouth is as follows:-

‘Cocker mouth Town Council shall comprise of 12 councillors, as at present, representing five parish wards: All Saints (returning four members), Christchurch (returning three members), Double Mills (returning two members), Fitz (returning one member) and South Lodge (returning two members).

**67c U2357 St Leonard’s Close, Cocker mouth**

Agreed – That the temporary prohibition of all traffic order whilst the Forrest Group carry out construction works be noted.

**67d Equality and Diversity Policy**

Resolved – That the Equality and Diversity Policy be adopted unaltered.

**67e Closing Order No 473**

Agreed – That the approval be noted.

**67f Closing Order No 472**

Agreed – That the approval be noted.

**67g Draft Cumbrian Gambling Policy**

Agreed – That the draft Cumbrian Gambling Policy be supported.

**67h CALC Circular**

Agreed – That the contents of the September CALC circular be noted.

**67i The Final Report of the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership**

Agreed – That the contents of the final report be noted.

**67j Switch on Day**

Resolved – (a) That consideration of this request be deferred until the next meeting.

(b) That the Council's policy of allowing businesses onto the street on switch on day be reviewed.

**67k A Short Term Conservation Measure**

Those present at the meeting considered a request from the Derwent Owners Association (DOA). The DOA wished members to consider operating a short term 100% catch and release scheme for all salmon caught between now and the end of the season due to their low numbers.

Agreed – That this request be supported and that the details be passed onto permit holders.

**67l Model Publication Scheme**

Agreed – That the revised Model Publication Scheme be agreed.

**67m Cherry Tree**

Resolved – That Councillor Kennon view the tree offered prior to acceptance.

**67n Towers Lane Play Area**

A potential purchaser of 42 Towers Lane, immediately adjacent Towers Lane Play Area had submitted a request to make various changes to the boundary hedge and to also allow a gate in the hedge allowing pedestrian access via the playground.

Resolved – That the prospective purchaser of 42, Towers Lane be informed that the Town Council wished the boundary hedge between 42, Towers Lane and the Towers Lane playground to remain as is and that that his request to gain pedestrian access via the playground be also declined.

**68 Clerks Report**

Those present considered the content of the Clerks report.

Resolved – That:-

- (a) Authorisation be given to repair the safety surfacing in the Memorial Gardens at a cost of £110 plus VAT
- (b) The following meeting dates be agreed for 2012:-
  - Thursday 17 January
  - Wednesday 20 February
  - Wednesday 20 March
  - Wednesday 17 April
  - Thursday 16 May
  - Wednesday 19 June
- (c) That standing orders be waived to allow Mr Elliot to install two fishing platforms in the Memorial Gardens at a cost of £3,484.90
- (d) That the reinstatement of the pathway near the Castle be left to next summer.
- (e) That 5 bags of daffodil bulbs be purchased and planted along Castlegate Drive.

## **69 Public Toilets in Cockermouth**

Resolved – That Allerdale Borough Council be informed that after careful consideration and due to the annual cost projected to be around £25k, Cockermouth Town Council does not wish to proceed with the transfer of the 4 public toilets within the Town.

## **70 Development of our own Town Council Website**

Resolved – (a) That a 15 page web package be purchased on the new Cumbria Parish Council Directory at a cost of £125.00 per year for the first two years (reduced introductory rate) and £250.00 for the third year.

(b) That Dave Siddall and Julian Thurgood be thanked for their assistance.

## **71 Freestyle Bike Park Project, Tarn Close**

Groundwork North East (Cumbria Office), have been assisting the Town Council in the planning and delivery of a freestyle bike Track on land leased by the Town Council at Tarn Close, Cockermouth.

Young people have been involved in the outline design of the track layout and facilities.

There is some flexibility with regard to costings, dependent on the level of work, materials used and complexity of design.

Groundwork North East had identified a number of potential funding streams.

Resolved – (a) That the concept plan be agreed in principle.

(b) That Cockermouth Town Council enters into a project agreement with

Groundwork North East setting out timescales, actions and responsibilities for the delivery of this initiative. A maintenance schedule and detailed costings were to be drawn up.

(c) That a phased approach be adopted, commencing with the skills area and pump track located in woodland adjacent the Athletics Club.

(d) That a working group comprising of the Town Clerk and Councillors L Davies, A Kennon, J Laidlow and C M Jackson be formed to progress the scheme. The working group was to have no specific delegated powers and reported directly to the Town Council

Resolved – That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be removed for the following item of business due to staffing issues being discussed.

## **72 Extending the working hours of the Town Clerk's Assistant**

Resolved – That the working hours of the Town Clerk's Assistant be increased from 25 hours per week to 35 hours per week.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm