

Minutes of a meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 19 August 2015 at 7.00pm

Members

J Laidlow (Mayor)

I Burns	C M Jackson
A Kennon	D Malloy
E Nicholson	S Nicholson
K Scales	A Smith
S Standage	A Tyson

An apology for absence was received from councillor L Davies

Also Present: 1 police representative.

42 To authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 8 July 2015

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2015 be signed as a correct record subject to the deletion of councillors Burns & Jackson from the list of attendees.

43 Declaration of Interest

Councillor A Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in items relating to Allerdale Borough Council due to being Leader.

Councillor E Nicholson declared a pecuniary interest in item 11 relating the Christmas Lights contract due to being a Director of the Company awarded the current contract.

Councillor S Nicholson declared a pecuniary interest in item 11 relating the Christmas Lights contract due to being employed by the contractor.

Councillor D Malloy declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 due to his employment with United Utilities.

44 Mayors Announcements

The Mayor had attended the following engagements since the last meeting:-

- The opening of the show homes at The Laureates
- Castlegate Singers Summer Concert
- Mayor of Allerdale Civic Service
- Broughton Carnival

- Mayor of Maryport Civic Service
- Civic Reception for French Walking Exchange
- Memorial Service for 70th Anniversary of VJ Day

45 Police Report

PCSO Sarah Brown was present at the meeting.

She gave an overview of incidents reported in All Saints and Christchurch beat codes.

Councillor Standage requested that the overview be not split but reported as a whole.

PCSO Brown agreed to look into this request.

46 Public Participation

There was none.

47 Planning Matters

The following planning applications were circulated prior to the meeting due to time constraints:-

PB/2015/0072

Removal of telephone and replace with defibrillator inside kiosk phone box on junction of Slatefell Drive

Recommend – approval

PB/2015/0073

Removal of telephone and replace with defibrillator inside kiosk phone box at Rose Cottage, Lorton Road

Recommend – approval

PB/2015/0075

Removal of telephone and replace with defibrillator inside kiosk phone box at junction of Dunmail Crescent and Fitz Road

Recommend – approval

PB/2015/0078

Removal of telephone and replace with defibrillator inside kiosk phone box on junction of Grassmoor Avenue and Windmill Lane

Recommend – approval

PB/2015/0084

Removal of telephone and replace with defibrillator inside kiosk phone box opposite 7-9 St Helen's Street/Pinfold Close

Recommend – approval

These recommendations are subject to the Town Council bearing no financial responsibility and no future maintenance responsibility for these kiosks.

2/2015/0406

Proposed single storey rear extension

11 Skiddaw View Cockermouth

Recommended - No objections

2/2015/0408

Alterations to existing building and erection of new building for repairs, servicing, maintenance and MOT testing, quad bike sales and service, vehicle hire and jet wash for public use. Resubmissions of planning approval 2/2015/0058

Goodfellows Agricultural Services Ltd

Recommended - No objections

2/2015/0424

Erection of a single storey sunroom

Oakhurst Lodge, Lamplugh Road Cockermouth

Recommended - No objections

2/2015/0433

Listed Building Consent to replace all three windows with a timber frame and double glazed sash windows

35 St Helens Street Cockermouth

Recommended - No objections

2/2015/0438

Replace existing timber windows to tilt and turn UPVC

31 Derwentside Gardens

Recommended - No objections

2/2015/0447

Demolition of existing garage and rebuild a new garage with sunroom

2 Brigham Road Cockermouth

Recommended – No objections

2/2015/0449

Proposal to replace existing timber windows with heritage UPVC sliding sash and replacement wooden surrounds/sills with masonry

1 Stanley Villas, South Street Cockermouth

Recommended - No objections

2/2015/0454

Installation of external condensing unit in connection with air conditioning installation

39 Market Place Cockermouth

Recommended – No objections

2/2015/0457

First floor extension over existing garage with small external balcony to rear forming new porch to front elevation with bathroom above.

22 Deer Orchard Close Cockermouth

Recommended – no objections

2/2015/0465

Replacement of unauthorised gutters implemented by previous owners

Long House, Simonscales Lane Cockermouth

Recommended – no objections

2/2015/0474

Proposed ground floor sunroom, utility and ensuite extension and conversion existing loft space to proposed bedroom and bathroom

4 Holmewood Ave Cockermouth

Recommended –no objections

The following applications for tree works were also considered prior to the meeting due to time constraints:-

Pruning of T1

Land at Brigham Road

Recommended - No objection

Removal of a self-seeded sycamore

5 Skinner Street

Recommended - No objection

47b Tree Works

Recommended – That the felling of two trees, 2 South Lodge be not felled but managed.

47c Tree Works

Agreed – That the approval of tree works, South of Brigham Road be noted.

48 Finance

48a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £15,729.41 be formally approved for payment.

49 Correspondence

49a Strawberry Grange

Those present considered the proposed street names for Strawberry Grange. The names proposed were based on local woodlands/reserves around our area.

Recommended – That the names suggested by the Developer be adopted.

49b Licensing Act 2003

Under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003, Allerdale Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Policy has to be reviewed every 5 years.

Resolved – That consideration of this item be deferred pending further information on the changes made in the revised draft policy.

49c Broadband Connection Vouchers

Carlisle City Council has successfully secured access for local businesses to the Government's Broadband Connection Vouchers Scheme.

Broadband connection vouchers enable small and medium enterprises to apply for up to £3,000 grant funding towards faster, better broadband in order to bring real benefits to their business. £40 million has been allocated nationally and is available on a first come first served basis until 31 March 2016. Businesses within the districts of Carlisle and parts of Allerdale, Copeland and Eden are eligible.

Agreed – That the scheme be welcomed.

49d Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC)

Agreed – That the minutes of the General Meeting of CALC held on 25 June 2015 be noted.

49e Commonwealth Flag Day

Resolved – That Cockermouth Town Council takes part in Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth at 10am on 14 March 2016.

49f CALC Circular

Agreed – That the contents of the July/August 2015 circular be noted.

49g Nominations for the CALC Executive Committee 2015

Nominations were being sought to fill a casual vacancy.

Resolved – That no nomination be made by Cockermouth Town Council.

49h CALC's AGM

Agreed – That the invitation to CALC's AGM on Saturday 14 November 2015 at 10.30am be noted.

49i Implementing Geological Disposal

On the 1st July 2015, the Department for Energy and Climate Change published a document 'Implementing Geological Disposal : Working with Communities'.

The call for evidence focusses on the issues of community representation, community investment and the test of public support, it is not a document seeking views on where a GDF should or should not be sited.

Resolved – That individual responses be made to the consultation.

49j Cumbria Trust

Agreed – That Cumbria Trust's letter encouraging a good response to the GDF call for evidence be noted.

49k Financial Services Compensation Scheme

Hitherto Local Authorities' investments and deposits have been excluded from the protection offered to other depositors under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

In a Policy Statement (PS9/15) issued in May 2015, the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) of the Bank of England announced a change in policy to extend protection under the Scheme to Small Local Authorities (SLA's). Such Authorities are defined as Local Authorities with 'an annual budget of up to 500,000 Euros.

Under the scheme changes, SLA's are protected the same way as other investors i.e. for deposits/investments up to £85,000 (reduced to £75,000 from 1st January 2016 with any UK bank, building society or credit union.

Agreed – That the change be welcomed and noted.

49i European Local Democracy Week

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is co-ordinating an annual European Event where local authorities from member states of the Council of Europe organise public events to meet and engage with their citizens on issues of current interest.

Agreed – That the event be noted.

49j Connecting Cumbria

The current phase of the multi-million pound project will run until the end of December 2015. By then the aim is for 93% of homes and businesses to have access to order superfast broadband through a combination of commercial connections and the Connecting Cumbria roll out programme.

Agreed – That progress be noted.

49k Ulverston Town Council

Agreed – That the contents of a letter from Ulverston Town Council regarding blighted derelict sites which have planning permission and have 'started' work but which have effectively been abandoned and are blighting neighbourhoods be noted.

49l Cockermouth Daffodil Day – 2 April 2016

Resolved – That four 25kg bags of daffodils be donated to support this event.

49m Use of the Former Mayors Parlour on First Floor Town Hall

Resolved – That the Centre for Leadership Performance be informed that the minimum the Town Council would lease the former Mayor's Parlour for was £1000 per annum.

50 Clerks Report

Resolved – (a) That the content of the Clerks report be noted.

(b) That winners of the private garden and allotment judging competition be noted.

(c) That the Mayor of Marvejols be presented with a framed flag signed by the participants of the Tour of Britain.

(d) That the bunting be put up at 8.30am on Saturday 5 September 2015.

51 Contract for Christmas Lights

Resolved – That the Christmas Lights Contract be awarded to E. W. & P. A. Nicholson (Holdings) Limited for a two year period at a cost of £16,850 excluding vat.

52 Cockermouth Town Centre Funding for 2015/16

Those present discussed spending Allerdale's £10k Town Centre budget allocation on the following schemes:-

- Works to the confluence area
- Town Centre Maps
- Lighting the Cenotaph

Recommended – (a) That the £3,000 be allocated to improvement works to the confluence area.

(b) That £5,000 be allocated to the provision of Town Centre Maps (final locations to be determined).

(c) That £2,000 be allocated towards uplighting our cenotaph.

(d) That the deep clean of the toilets on Main Street on 1/2/3 September 2015 be noted.

53 Update on Market Place

Councillor E Nicholson informed those present that the remedial works for Market Place were being progressed and that the costings were due to be discussed by the Highways Transport Working Group.

54 Update on Main Street

Councillor E Nicholson explained that a solution had been found to resolve the issues at High Sand Lane. He promised to report back to members following a briefing on 26/27 August 2015.

55 Cogra Moss

Cogra Moss near Lamplugh is under threat of being drained because a dam needs to be refurbished.

Resolved – That a letter be sent to United Utilities requesting the retention of Cogra Moss.

56 Field Painting, Memorial Gardens

This idea of commissioning a field painting in the Memorial Gardens during the Tour of Britain was shelved by Cumbria County Council due to cost implications.

57 Town Twinning

A recent issue regarding public liability insurance coverage of volunteers assisting with exchanges had led the Town Council to review its town twinning structure/procedures.

Resolved – (a) That the Town Twinning Advisory Committee be disbanded.

(b) That twinning functions be discharged by the Town Council.

(c) That as and when required the Town Council may form a committee(s) to facilitate an exchange e.g. Choir Exchange Committee with an agreed membership (at least two thirds of the members appointed shall be members of the town council) with specific terms of reference, delegation and timescale. Legislation does not allow co-opted members to have voting rights. Committee meetings will be open to the public and their minutes incorporated into Council minutes.

(d) That a Friends of Cockermouth/Marvejols Twinning be formed comprising of local organisations/interested parties with the following terms of reference 'To promote and foster friendships, understanding and common bonds of interest between local groups and organisations within Cockermouth and Marvejols'.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm