

Minutes of a meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Thursday 22 January 2015 at 7.00pm

Members

A Graham (Mayor)

I Burns	S Coates
L Davies	C M Jackson
A Kennon	E Nicholson
P Graham	J Laidlow
A Smith	C Smith
S Standage	

Also Present: Joe Broomfield & 1 member of the press

111 To authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meetings held on 17 December 2014

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2014 be signed as a correct record.

112 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Davies declared a non-pecuniary interest in all planning applications due to being a substitute member of the Development Panel.

Councillor J Laidlow declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item relating to Cockermouth Chamber of Trade.

Councillor Nicholson declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7b and in particular 2/COC/020/R due to owning property nearby.

Councillor C M Jackson declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 2/2014/0880 due to being a member of the Development Panel.

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

Councillor S Standage declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 2/2014/0880 due to being a member of the Development Panel.

113 Mayors Announcements

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

- Carols round the Tree
- Visits to all residential homes in Cockermouth on Christmas Eve

The Deputy Mayor attended the following engagement since the last meeting:-

- Introduction to the new rector at Christ Church

114 Police

The Police were unable to attend the meeting.

A copy of their report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Resolved – That a letter of disappointment be sent to the Chief Inspector at Carlton Hall.

115 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

116 Planning Matters

116a Planning applications

2/2014/0879

Proposed 3 bedroom detached dwelling with integral garage

Land adjacent to Strawberry How Cattery, Strawberry How Road

This application was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

2/2014/0880

Outline application for the erection of 11 dwellings and associated infrastructure

Land at The Fitz, Low Road

Recommended – Approval

2/2014/0891

Proposed erection of two storey extension

29 Mayo Park

Recommended – Approval

2/2105/0008

Replacement of rotten wooden windows at the rear of the property with UPVC Windows

17, Derwentside Gardens

Recommended – Approval

The following responses were sent to the Planning Authority prior to the Christmas Break:-

2/2014/0869

Public art statue on site in accordance with S106 requirements as part of outline and reserved matters application

Land adjacent to Fitz Park, Low Road

Recommend – approval

2/2104/0864

Single storey extension to provide kitchen and dining room

19 Isel Road

Recommend - approval

116b Allerdale Local Plan (Part 2): Site Allocations

This document sets out a number of additional sites and land uses put forward to Allerdale Borough Council in response to the Issues and Option consultation conducted last year.

Recommended – (a) That land beside Tennis Court be not included for housing as the site is out of character and poorly related to adjacent properties.

(b) That land adjacent the former Fire and Rescue Centre be not included for housing due to accessibility. The Town's War Memorial is situated within the site, Cumbria County Council have recently agreed to withdraw the cenotaph and surrounding from the sale. A single lane carriageway would be unsuitable.

(c) That land adjacent to Fitz Park be not included for development on environmental grounds as this land was designated to be a buffer zone between the new housing development on The Fitz and the sewage works.

(d) That land on Low Road be included for employment.

116c Tree Works

Recommended – That proposed works to fell a birch and pollard two lime trees, Christ Church, South Street be approved.

117 Finance

117a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £4,052.93 as stated on the expenditure transactions approval list be formally approved for payment.

117b Draft Budget and Precept for 2015/16

Resolved – That a precept of £183,679 be agreed.

117c Financial Budget Comparison

Agreed – That the contents of financial budget comparison report be noted.

117d Review of Fees and Charges and Annual Staff Salaries/Conditions Review

Resolved – (a) That fees and charges for 2015/16 be agreed.

(b) That the annual staff salaries/conditions review be agreed.

117e Effectiveness of Internal Audit

Resolved – That Mrs J Airey continue as our Internal Auditor.

118 Correspondence

118a 2015/16 Budget Consultation

Every year Allerdale Borough Council is obliged to devise and agree a balanced budget. Consultation with the public is a key part of this process.

The draft budget for 2015/16 forecasts that the Council will need around £13.7m to provide its services.

Sadly it was Allerdale's intention to reduce our Revenue Support Grant by 30% in 2015/16.

Recommended – That the content of the 2015/16 budget consultation be noted.

118b Council Plan 2015-19

Members discussed the content of Allerdale Borough Council's Council Plan for 2015 – 2019.

The plan focusses upon the economy, health, wellbeing and the prosperity of communities and towns within Allerdale and builds upon their previous 3 year plan.

Recommended – That the contents of the Council Plan 2015-2019 be noted.

118c Garden Party Nominations

Resolved – That Andrew Graham be nominated for attendance at the Royal Garden Party.

118d Parish Poll Regulations

Resolved – That our draft response to the Government's consultation on its intentions to finally modernise parish poll regulations be agreed and welcomed.

118e Application to hold an event on Council Land

Resolved – That permission be given to the Georgian Fair Organising Group to use part of the Memorial Gardens on Saturday 2 May 2-15 between 10.00am – 5.00pm for various activities linked to the Georgian Fair.

119 Clerks Report

Resolved – That the contents of the Clerks report be noted.

120 Town Centre Manager

Joe Broomfield discussed how Cockermouth's £10,000 Town Centre funding could be spent before March 2015. He also informed those present that he had submitted an advertisement consent application to Allerdale Borough Council in respect of use of the new banner poles on the Main Street.

Recommended – (a) That two large planters and five small half-moon shaped planters be purchased for Main Street at a cost of £1869.

(b) That six silver socket type cycle racks be purchased at an approximate cost of £1116 excluding fitting. The cycle racks will be placed on the traffic island on Main Street at a location agreed by the Highway Authority.

(c) That should CCTV not come to fruition in this financial year, £5k be spent renovating the toilets on Main Street. Joe Broomfield to obtain estimates.

(d) That a banner policy be considered at our next meeting.

121 Car Parking, Town Hall

Members discussed what could be done to prevent unauthorised parking in the 8 space car park in front of the Town Hall.

Resolved – (a) That Allerdale Borough Council be asked to police the car park.

(b) That the requisite signage be purchased.

122 Crown Street Lighting

Councillor A Smith expressed his concerns regarding the change of lighting on Crown Street, the new led lighting heads recently installed made Crown Street appear dim and dingy.

Councillor Nicholson explained that the new led lighting used 80% less electricity and would generate considerable financial savings for Cumbria County Council. He felt that the use of led lighting was preferable to street lighting being turned off.

Agreed – That Councillor Nicholson’s explanation be accepted.

123 Neddy Clock

Resolved – That the erection of a Neddy Clock on the Main Street be not supported due to Highway and financial implications.

124 Portacabin Tarn Close

Agreed – That Cockermouth Junior Football Clubs intention to paint the portacabin during a suitable slot in the weather be accepted and noted.

125 Extending the Alcohol Exclusion Zone to Double Mills

Members considered extending the alcohol exclusion Zone to include Double Mills Youth Hostel following a request from the Youth Hostel Association.

Recommended – That extending the alcohol exclusion zone to include Double Mills Youth Hostel be not supported.

126 Transfer of the flower bed adjacent to Gote Bridge to the Parish Council

Those present considered the content of the memorandum of agreement in respect of the future planting and maintenance of the flower bed on land adjacent Gote Bridge at the junction with Crown Street which was currently being maintained by Cumbria County Council.

Resolved – (a) That the Memorandum of Agreement transferring responsibility for the planting and maintenance of the flower bed on land adjacent to Gote Bridge at the junction with Crown Street be agreed and signed by the Mayor.

(b) That the Rotary be allowed to plant crosses in the bed to commemorate the dead during the centenary of WW1.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm