

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Thursday 18 May 2017 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor S Standage (Mayor)
Councillor I Burns
Councillor L Davies
Councillor R Hanson
Councillor A Kennon
Councillor J Laidlow
Councillor D Malloy
Councillor E Nicholson
Councillor S Nicholson
Councillor K Scales
Councillor A Smith
Councillor A Tyson

Also Present: - Two members of the public & a member of the Press

Prior to the start of the meeting the Mayor, Councillor S Standage outlined the highlights of his Mayoral year. He thanked his wife Hilary, The Town Clerk, Kirstie Goodger, his fellow councillors and the many volunteers in Cockermouth for their hard work and support during his year in office.

1 Election of Town Mayor/Chairman

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Town Mayor/Chairman for 2017/18.

Only one nomination was received and seconded and on being put to the vote it was unanimously

Resolved – That Councillor A Tyson be elected Town Mayor/Chairman in 2017/18.

Councillor S Standage then handed over the Chain of Office to Councillor A Tyson.

The new Mayor then read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took over the Chair. The Mayor thanked Councillor Standage and his wife Hilary for all their hard work during the past year.

Councillor Tyson announced that his daughter Gillian had agreed to be his consort. The outgoing Mayoress, Hilary Standage then duly handed over her chain.

The Mayor announced that that his charity would be Hospice at Home West Cumbria and that he would also nominate a local young people's charity in the near future.

2 Election of Deputy Town Mayor/Vice Chairman

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairman.

Councillor Davies nominated Councillor Laidlow, this was seconded by Councillor Burns. A vote was taken, 4 in favour, 6 against.

Councillor Nicholson nominated Councillor Malloy, this was seconded by Councillor Kennon. A vote was taken, 12 in favour, 0 against.

Resolved – That Councillor D Malloy be elected as the Deputy Town Mayor/Vice Chairman of the Council for 2017/18.

The Town Mayor then presented the Deputy Mayor's badge to the Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairman. Councillor Malloy read out and signed his declaration of acceptance of office. He thanked his fellow councillors for his nomination and pledged to carry out the role to the best of his ability.

3 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Laidlow and Burns declared a prejudicial interest in item 11e relating to the Carnival due to being members of the organising committee. They left the room whilst the item was discussed.

Councillor Malloy declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 2/17/9008 due to being employed by United Utilities. He left the room whilst the application was discussed.

4 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held on 19 April 2017 and the minutes of the special planning meeting held on 4 May 2017.

5 Police Report

The Police report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Those present commented upon the fact that the lack of CCTV and witnesses were being cited by the Police as reasons for suspects not be identified.

6 Public Participation

No members of the public wished to speak in accordance with the public participation scheme.

7 Planning Matters

HOU/2017/0070

Replacement of 4 windows on the ground and first floor

1, Challoner Street

Recommended – Approval

HOU/2017/0088

Two storey extension to side, single storey extension to rear

2, Fitz Road

Recommended – Approval

HOU/2017/0097

Rear and side extension

2, Limetree Crescent

Recommended – Approval

2/2017/0149 (as amended)

Storage Site Plan

Change of use of coal yard to B8 storage including the siting of 32 storage containers 2.59m high

Former coal store yard, Low Road

Recommended – This application was approved prior to the meeting.

2/2017/0149 (as amended)

Site plan and block plan showing zone for containers and landscaping screen

Change of use of coal yard to B8 storage including the siting of 32 storage

containers 2.59m high
Former coal store yard, Low Road

Recommended – This application was approved prior to the meeting.

2/2017/0167

Installation of new boundary fencing

Fairfield Junior and Infant School, Gallowbarrow, Cockermouth

Recommended – Approval

2/2017/0172

Amendment to extant permission (2/2003/0332, 2/2015/0718) for a single detached dwelling with integral garage to substitute new house type of comparable size and position.

Land adjacent to 11, Longcroft, Cockermouth

Recommended – Approval

2/2017/0206

Replacement of 4 sliding sash windows

Anderson Court, No. 7, Sullart Street

Recommended – Approval

2/2017/0212

Removal of 1 no. window and creation of 1 no. external secure door to facilitate the creation of a secure ATM room to allow the stand alone room to be serviced/entered from the external street. Removal of night safe and existing signage.

23 Station Street, Cockermouth

Recommended – Refusal, doors unsympathetic and out of keeping with wider street scene.

2/2017/0214

Replacement of single glazed wooden sash windows with new double glazed

sash windows
1, The Dairy, South Street

Recommended – Approval

2/17/9008

Erection of 2 kiosk buildings

Cockermouth Wastewater Treatment Works, Low Road

Recommended – Approval

8 Financial Matters

8a Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £10,004.36 as set out in the expenditure transactions approval list be formally approved for payment.

8b Insurance Provision

Those present reviewed our 2017/18 insurance provision.

Members noted that the premium had risen from £6,077.98 in 2016/17 to £8,215.62 in 2017/18 due to a £72,000 claim after the 2015 floods as well as an increase in insurance tax.

Resolved – (a) That the cover remain as is.

(b) That the premium of £8215.62 be paid.

(c) That a supplementary estimate of £2015.62 be taken from balances to cover the budget shortfall.

9 Schedule of correspondence, notices and publications

9a Letter from Mr Sanderson

Those present considered a letter from Mr Sanderson regarding the return of a bench on the highway outside his property and the anti-social behavior and noise caused as a result of the two benches situated on the highway outside his property.

Mr Sanderson also requested the relocation of our electricity point, nativity and Christmas tree.

Resolved – (a) That the two benches remain on the highway.

(b) That the electricity point be removed.

(c) That the nativity and Christmas tree be relocated.

9b Use of banner poles, Georgian Fair

Resolved – That the Georgian Fair Organising Committee be given approval to display their banners on lampposts 15,17,19,18,20,21,23,24,26 & 27 between 9 June and 3 July 2017.

9c Main Street Improvement Works

Agreed – That the reply received from the Chief Executive of Cumbria County Council regarding the disruption and inconvenience caused during the improvement works be noted.

9d Derwent Owners Association

Agreed – That the report on habitat improvement work completed in the river Derwent catchment during 2016 be noted.

9e Application for a Temporary Road Closure Order for a Public Event

Recommended – That no objection be made to the application for a temporary road closure order for the Carnival on 17th June 2017.

9f Cockermouth Heritage Group

Further to minute number 41a (2016/17), those present re-considered a request from Cockermouth Heritage Group to permanently house the chest.

Resolved – That the dimensions of the 17th century linen chest be sought.

10 Clerks Report

Members considered the content of the Clerk's report.

Agreed – That the contents of the Clerk's report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.57pm