

Minutes of a Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 16 October 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor J Laidlow (Mayor)
Councillor S Barnes
Councillor G Bennion
Councillor I Burns
Councillor A Kennon
Councillor D Malloy
Councillor S Nicholson
Councillor A Smith
Councillor C Smith
Councillor A Semple
Councillor A Tyson
Councillor R Watson

Also Present: 2 members of the public

82 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 September 2019.

83 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last special planning meeting held on 3 October 2019.

84 Declaration of Interest

Councillor A Smith declared a personal interest in all planning applications due to being a member of the Development Panel.

Councillor A Tyson declared a personal interest in all planning applications due to being a member of the Development Panel.

85 Mayor's Announcements

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

- Cockermouth Castle for Cumbria Community Foundation Social Evening
- Civic Reception, The Fitz
- Achiever's Night, Cockermouth School at Hundith Hill
- Re-opening of play area, Memorial Gardens
- Kiki Dee Concern, The Kirkgate Centre
- Charity bag pack, Sainsbury's

86 Police Report

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

Resolved -

87 Public Participation

Mr Coley asked the following questions:-

1. If the Town Council does not proceed with planting more trees on Council owned land, will they please consider using much smaller trees, suited for a small town urban environment, spaced such that they do not partition areas from one another or impede views?

The Mayor replied Yes

2. Would the Town Council consider buying trees and giving them to local landowners to create small woodland areas that will not only absorb CO2 but will provide additional habitats for many species replacing those lost due to recent housing developments allowed around town? This would retain the ecological effect but would not further destroy the character of the town by planting more trees in Town.

The Mayor confirmed that the Town Council would signpost local landowners wishing to plant trees to the Cumbria Woodland Trust who were giving trees away following the receipt of a grant from United Utilities.

88 Planning Matters

88a Planning Applications

FUL/2019/0225

Extension to Kirklands Care Home, Sullart Street

Recommended – Approval

88b Tree Works

Recommended – That the various tree works, 1, South Lodge be approved.

89a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £62,820.18 be formally approved for payment.

89b Cockermouth Music Society

Those present considered a request from Cockermouth Music Society to fund the set up and maintenance of a new website.

Resolved – That a grant of £150 be given.

90b Insurance

Resolved – That our insurance cover be agreed and accepted.

90c External Audit

Resolved – (a) That the completion of the limit assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2019 be noted.

(b) There were no matters arising from the review.

91 Correspondence

91a Council Plan 2020-2030

Those present considered Allerdale Borough Council's Plan for the next 10 years.

Resolved – That the following comments be made:-

1. We agree with the priorities set out in the draft Council Plan 2020-2030.
2. We agree with the objectives identified under each of the priorities.
3. There is nothing we think should not be included in the plan.
4. The plan is lacking in detail and the Town Council would like to know Allerdale will deliver on each of the priorities.

91b Allerdale Local Plan (Part 2) (Site Allocations) – Main Modifications

The Council submitted the Allerdale Local Plan (Part 2) to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination in January 2019, and public hearings were held during May 2019. As a result of representations received and following the public hearings a number of amendments were proposed to the plan.

The Inspector who conducted the hearing has asked that the modifications be subject to a six week period of consultation.

Allerdale Borough Council were seeking representations on the following:-

Schedule of Main Modifications
Schedule of Map Modifications and associated Maps
Sustainability Appraisal Addendum
Updated Habitats Regulations Assessment

Resolved – That the amendments be noted and no comments made.

91c Annual Golf Competition

Agreed – That the letter of thanks for our support from the Rotary Club of Cockermouth be noted.

91d Trees

Agreed – That the request from the occupier of 39 Derwenside Gardens to pollard a tree overhanging her garden be passed on to the Council's arboriculturist for consideration during his next visit.

91e Rural Services Network

Resolved – That we do not join the Rural Market Towns Group.

92 Clerks Report

Agreed - That the content of the report be noted.

93 Climate Emergency

Councillor Watson presented for discussion a list of possible actions that the Town Council could carry out to mitigate climate change.

Resolved – (a) That achieved be placed by the action referring to our Christmas lights due to the fact that the lights were already being switched on half an hour later each day.

(b) That the re-introduction of the 'Shop 10' scheme be deleted as the scheme did not work.

© That the provision of bicycle racks in town be deleted, due to the fact that there were already bicycle racks on Main Street and Market Place.

(d) That a small sub-committee comprising of Councillors A Smith, A Semple and S Barnes meet to discuss the list of actions and decide which couple of actions to take forward.

94 Tourist Information Centre

Councillor Bennion made the following suggestions:-

An a-board outside the tourist information centre to grab people's attention

Free town maps

That a small contingency be kept to assist library users with no money to use the public toilets if needed.

After discussion –

It was resolved - (a) That a banner highlighting the TIC/library be purchased and be placed on the lamppost nearest the building.

(b) That Allerdale's Event Manager, Tourism Development Manager and Business Engagement Manager be invited to a meeting to discuss publicising events.

95 Tetrapak Recycling Point

Councillor Bennion requested that the Town Council set up a tetrapak recycling point and contributed towards the petrol costs of transporting the tetrapaks to Carlisle (our nearest recycling centre).

Resolved – That the issue to tetrapak recycling be brought up at Allerdale's Bin Task Force meeting on Monday by Councillor Tyson.

96 Re-siting the wheelchair accessible benches at the Memorial Gardens

Councillor Bennion asked if the wheelchair accessible bench adjacent to the play area in the Memorial Gardens could be re-located into the play park.

Resolved – That this request be deferred pending confirmation of the re-development of the toilet block.

The meeting closed at 8.46 pm