Minutes of a Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 18 August 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillor A Smith (Mayor)

Councillor I Burns
Councillor A Kennon
Councillor D Malloy
Councillor S Nicholson
Councillor A Semple
Councillor C Smith
Councillor A Tyson
Councillor R Watson

Apologies: Councillor G Bennion, Councillor J Laidlow, Councillor S Barnes

Also Present: 1 member of the press and 2 members of the public were present.

56 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 July 2021.

57 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last special planning meeting held on 5 August 2021.

58 Declaration of Interest

Councillors A Semple & A Tyson declared.an interest in item 7 due to being members of the Development Panel.

Councillors A Kennon & A Smith declared an interest in item 7 due to being substitute members of the Development Panel.

59 Mayor's Announcements

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

- Tales of Grimm
- Social Evening to thank all NHS, Social Care staff and others for their Efforts during the pandemic

60 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

61 Planning Applications

HOU/2021/0186

Removal of existing rough cast render and replacement with new

2 South Street

Recommended - Approval

62 Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £12,021.20 be formally approved for payment.

63 Correspondence

63a Lorton Street Car Park

Those present considered the contents of an email from a tourist who had been fined £100 despite paying for 2 hours of parking on the private car park on Lorton Street. They had struggled to log onto the firms website in order to make the payment as neither the cash or card option on the machine were working. They appealed but lost that appeal as the camera had recorded him entering and leaving the car park in excess of that time.

The Mayor read out a letter send to the Managing Director of iParkSmart from the Chief Executive of Allerdale Borough Council requesting that their equipment and signage be reviewed to improve customer experience.

Resolved – That a copy of that letter be sent to the owners of the site.

63b CALC Newsletter

Agreed – That the contents of the June/July 21 newsletter be noted.

63c Speeding

Further to minutes 44 & 45 (2021), the Traffic Management Team Leader confirmed that speeding on Windmill Lane had been investigated a number of times and that no evidence of speeding vehicle or issues of road safety had been found.

She promised to investigate speeding concerns at Brigham Road and Lorton Road.

She explained that any future complaints regarding speeding must be reported to the Police.

The CRASH Group would consider additional locations to site a pole for our speed indication device.

Agreed – That the Traffic Management Team Leader be thanked for her response.

63d Speed Calming, Simonscales Lane

Residents of Simonscales Lane were requesting that the speed limit be reduced to 20mph with prominent signage.

Resolved – That County Councillor Kennon forward the correspondence to the Traffic Management Team Leader – Allerdale for consideration.

42 Clerk's Report

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

b) That the fireworks be held this year.

Resolved

That under the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, the public be removed due to the following item of business containing legal advice from our solicitor.

46 Memorial Gardens Toilet Refurbishment

Further to minute 46 (2021/22), those present discussed legal advice received from our Solicitor regarding leasing the toilet block in the Memorial Gardens to a third party.

Our solicitor has confirmed that we can only use the gardens for the purpose it was acquired i.e. recreation and that we would be acting unlawfully if we granted a lease which might restrict access to the general public for recreation.

Resolved – That his advice be taken.

The meeting ended at 8.10pm