

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 20 May 2021 at 7.00 pm

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nicholson & Barnes.

Also Present: 1 member of the public & a member of the Press

Prior to the start of the meeting the Mayor, Councillor Julie Laidlow outlined the highlights of her two year term of office, these included cutting the ribbon to open both the new Lidl store and Lancaster Suite. She gave special thanks to Cockermouth Golf Club, Cllr David Malloy, Mr & Mrs Moyes for the charity concert and Bob Slack for the use of the Fitz. She also thanked those fellow Councillors who had supported her, the Town Clerk and her staff. Finally, she announced that she had raised £4,150 for her charities.

1 Election of Town Mayor/Chairman

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Town Mayor/Chairman for 2019/20.

Councillor Burns moved Alan Smith. This was seconded by councillor Semple.

Only one nomination was proposed and seconded and on being put to the vote it was:-

Resolved – That Councillor Alan Smith be elected Town Mayor/Chairman in 2021/22.

Councillor J Laidlow then handed over the Chain of Office to Councillor A Smith.

The new Mayor then read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took over the Chair. The Mayor thanked Councillor Laidlow and her partner Des for all their hard work during the past two years.

Councillor A Smith announced that his wife Christine had agreed to be his consort. He presented her with her chain of office.

The Mayor announced that his charities would be The Foodbank, Highfield Food Pantry & Kings Church Hub.

He stated that the aim for his term in office was to help mold the town going forward.

2 Election of Deputy Town Mayor/Vice Chairman

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

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

Resolved – That Councillor A Semple be elected as the Deputy Town Mayor/Vice Chairman of the Council for 2021/22.

The Town Mayor then presented the Deputy Mayor's badge to the Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairman.

The new Deputy Mayor then read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked councillors for their nomination.

He thanked fellow councillors for their support.

3 Declaration of Interest

Councillors A Tyson & A Semple declared a personal interest in item 8 on the agenda due to being members of the Development Panel.

Councillor A Smith declared a personal interest in item 8 on the agenda due to being a substitute member of the Development Panel.

Councillor A Semple declared a personal interest in item 10c due to having taken part in the festival.

Councillor D Malloy declared a prejudicial interest in planning applications FUL/2021/0126 & FUL/2020/0207 (amended plans) due to being a share holder.

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 21 April 2021.

5 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the special planning meeting held on 6 May 2021.

6 Public Participation

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

8a Planning Matters

Reference: **HOU/2021/0108**

Proposal: Extension and alterations to dwelling including a flue for wood burner

Location: 13 Deer Orchard Close, Cockermouth, CA13 9JH

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **HOU/2021/0106**

Proposal: Single storey rear extension replacing existing conservatory

Location: 19 Harrot Hill, Cockermouth, CA13 0BL

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **FUL/2021/0126**

Proposal: Permeable paving surfaces to replace hardcore on car park

Location: Lakeland Livestock Centre, Lakeland Agricultural Centre, Cockermouth, CA13 0QQ

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **HOU/2021/0117**

Proposal: Two storey side extension

Location: 21 Melbreak Avenue, Cockermouth, CA13 9AN

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **HOU/2021/0113**

Proposal: Conversion of existing garage into residential accommodation

Location: The Old Tannery, Skinner Street, Cockermouth, CA13 9PF

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **LBC/2021/0016**

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the installation of an air condition unit and mounted fan to rear wall

Location: 12 Main Street, Cockermouth, CA13 9LQ

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **HOU/2021/0121**

Proposal: Formation of single-story kitchen extension and replacement porch

Location: 4 Limetree Crescent, Cockermouth, CA13 9HW

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **HOU/2021/0118**

Proposal: Demolition of garage, car port with associated wall and erection of proposed two storey side extension and alterations

Location: 37 Dale View, Cockermouth, CA13 9EW

Recommended - Approval

Reference: **HOU/2021/0135**

Proposal: Rear single storey extension

Location: 23 Graysons Close, Cockermouth, CA13 9FD

Recommended - Approval

FUL/2020/0207 (amended plans)

Installation of a covered shelter to the Mart entrance on Station Street and single storey extension to café on Lorton Street.

Recommended - Approval

8b Application for Tree Works, Waterside Cottage, Spital Ing Lane

Recommended – That the various tree works be approved.

9a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £8,244.99 be formally approved for payment.

9b Internal Auditors Report

Agreed – That the contents of the year end report by our Internal Auditor be noted. There were no matters arising.

9c Audit Commission Return for the Year ended 2021

Resolved – (a) That Section 1 of the annual return relating to the Annual Governance Statement be formally certified and the accounts approved and duly signed by the Clerk/RFO and the Chairman.

(b) That section 2 of the Annual Return relating to the Accounting Statements be also formally approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

(c) That it be noted that Section 4 of the Annual Return has been duly completed by our internal auditor.

(d) That it be noted that the required notice concerning the appointment of date for the exercise of elector's rights will be displayed.

(e) That it be noted that the Clerk will send the documentation required by the external auditor as soon as practicable prior to the 30 June 2021.

10 Correspondence

10a University Project

Those present considered whether or not to assist an illustrator to use her art form to help promote small businesses in Cockermouth.

This item was withdrawn due to the fact that the illustrator had raised all the money required.

10b Use of the Memorial Gardens

Resolved – That permission be given to LMG Personal Training Bootcamp to hold bootcamp style gym sessions on the Memorial Gardens weekly between 6pm – 7pm. This permission was subject to a no fee three month trial and the bootcamp style gym sessions being held on the hard standing.

10c Cockermouth Live

Resolved - a) That the 2019-20 Annual report be received.

b) That £250 be give towards the cost of Cockermouth Live! 2021

10d Banner Poles

Resolved – That Cockermouth Festivals Group be given permission to use 10 banner poles between 1 June 2021 and 5 July 2021 to advertise Cockermouth Live! 2021.

10e Use of Memorial Gardens

Resolved – That Cockermouth Emergency Response Group (CERG) be given permission to use the Memorial Gardens on Saturday 11 September 2021 between 10.00am and 2.00pm to publicise CERG's activities.

11 Clerks Report

Resolved – a) That the contents of the Clerk's report be noted.

b) That councillors A Semple and J Laidlow serve on the Platinum Jubilee Task Group.

c) That Alan Smith's term of office on Cockermouth and Papcastle Recreational Trust be extended for a further 4 years.

d) That councillor Kennon's term of office on Cockermouth & Papcastle Recreational Trust be extended for a further 4 years.

12 Meeting Dates

Resolved – That the 2021/22 meeting dates be agreed.

The meeting closed at 7.48 pm