Minutes of a Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 15 February 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor A Semple (Mayor)

 Councillor S Barnes

 Councillor G Bennion

 Councillor I Burns

 Councillor A Kennon

 Councillor J Laidlow

 Councillor D Malloy

 Councillor S Nicholson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Smith & C Smith.

There were no members of the press or public present.

**176 Minutes**

 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2023 were signed as a correct

 record.

**177 Minutes**

 The minutes of the Special Planning meeting held on 2 February 2023 were signed

 as a correct record.

**178 Minutes**

The minutes of the Climate Change Task Group held on 17 January were agreed.

**179 Declaration of Interests**

 None declared.

**180 Mayors Announcements**

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

* Rotary Mental Health Conference

**181 Public Participation**

 There was no public participation.

**182 Planning Applications**

HOU/2023/0028

 Demolition of existing garage and build new two storey extension on same footprint

 along with rear extension.

 47, Isel Road

 Recommended - Approval

**183 Finance**

 Resolved – (a) That payments in the amount of £27,794.40 be authorised.

**184 Queens Award for Voluntary Service**

The CERG Board has suggested that the Town Library may be the best place to

 house their Queens Award for Voluntary Service so it can be viewed by the

 people of Cockermouth and all their volunteers.

 Members agreed.

Resolved – That permission be granted.

**185 LGR Newsletters**

The Statutory Instrument which will create the new Fire and Rescue Authority for

 Cumbria was laid in front of Parliament on 28 November 2022. This included

 establishing a shadow Fire and Rescue Authority before 1 April, when Cumbria

 County Council is dissolved. The shadow arrangements which came into effect on

 1 January 2023 provide the Police and Crime Commissioner with the financial

 responsibilities for CFRS for 2023/24.

Letters containing allocation proposals are currently being issued to staff.

 A draft constitution has been agreed.

Agreed - That the contents of the 12/1, 20/1, 24/1. 27/1 & 3/2/23 LGR newsletters

 be noted.

**186**  **Clerks Report**

Those present considered the contents of the report.

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

 b) That the commemorative bench be situated in Harris Park Extension.

 c) That a site meeting be held on Main Street to agree the best location for the

 town noticeboard.

**187 Allotment Judging**

Councillor Watson requested that this year’s garden competition be run on the

 basis of inviting nominations from householders or another person on their behalf

 with their consent.

 A discussion ensued but those present unanimously agreed that the present

 judging system worked well and should be left as is.

Resolved – That the judging system remain as is.

The meeting closed at 7.31 pm