

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th April 2017

Present: Councillors R Gill (Chairman); J. Forster; M. Guest; J. Kane;
J. A. Laine; G McKew; B. O’Kane; G.Roberts

M. Jewell, Interim Clerk to the Council

Representatives from Kellsfest

Marie Whitehead from Taste Cumbria

Margaret Crosby from Whitehaven Heritage Action Group

Members of the Public

The Press

Before the meeting started the Chairman asked his Chaplain, Reverend Dave Harkison to say prayers.

655/17 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

The Chairman reported on recent Councillor resignations and proposed that letters of thanks be sent to Carla Arrighi and Darren Elliot and this was agreed with two abstentions.

656/17 Minutes of Meeting held on 30th March 2017

The Interim Clerk referred to an error on Minute 648/17 (ii) and asked for it to be amended to read “ 2 councillors voted for; 1 abstained and 6 voted against”.

A vote was held on whether to approve and sign the Minutes as a correct record and five Councillors voted to approve and sign the Minutes and 2 Councillors abstained.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes subject to the amendment be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

657/17

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Guest declared that he was a member of Kells Rugby League Club.

658/17

Public Participation

- (i) The Chairman stated that the public could ask a question on any subject not just those items on the Agenda and that in these circumstances they should give their name and address to the Clerk who could then reply to them.
- (ii) Charles Maudling said there was another Christmas account of £1400 and that there had been full time security and medical staff at the ice rink. The Chairman said this was on the Agenda and would be discussed later.
- (iii) Julie Rayson said at the previous meeting she had made 3 points – the Jolan concert; the website and Whitehaven School. The Interim Clerk said that she had left two messages for the Principal of Whitehaven School about arranging a meeting with the Town Council but there had been no response, Julie Rayson said she just wanted to move things forward and that the Principal would prefer a day meeting. It was agreed the Interim Clerk would make further efforts to arrange a meeting.

659/17

Planning Applications

Councillor Laine raised an issue on planning application Number CH/4/17/2123/0A1 shown on Appendix 1 in respect of the hospital car park. Councillor Forster declared an interest as she worked at the hospital and the Chairman stated this his wife was employed at the hospital

Councillor Laine proposed that the Council ask Copeland Borough Council and UKPC and the Hospital Trust to ask that all residents and visitors who had paid fines be refunded and that any fines in process be cancelled and that any CCJs placed or in the process of being placed on individuals be stopped or removed. This was seconded by Councillor Guest. There was a recorded vote on this as follows:-

Councillor Gill	Against
Councillor Forster	Did not vote
Councillor Guest	For

Councillor Kane	Abstained
Councillor Laine	For
Councillor McKew	Abstained
Councillor O'Kane	Did not vote
Councillor Roberts	Against

The Chairman used his casting vote and voted against

RESOLVED –(i) That the proposal to contact Copeland Borough Council, UKPC and the Hospital Trust about parking fines and CCJs be not approved.

(ii) That the Interim Clerk inform Copeland Borough Council's Planning Department that there were no comments on the Planning Applications shown at Appendix 1.

660/17 **Allotments Contract**

The Council considered a report on the Allotments contract.

RESOLVED – That the matter be fully considered by either the Allotments Committee or, if agreed, by the Allotments Advisory Group referred to in Agenda item 16.

661/17 **Taste Cumbria**

A presentation was given by Marie Whitehead on a Summer Festival event being organised by Taste Cumbria in Whitehaven on 22nd and 23rd July 2017 and gave details of the plan of events. She said the cost of the Event would be £15,000 and that she was asking for the Town Council's support and it was

RESOLVED - That the Council support Taste Cumbria.

662/17 **Financial Report**

(i) The Chairman referred to an invoice shown on Appendix1 for £1390 from Whitehaven Industrial Cleaners and proposed that this be not paid.

RESOLVED – That this invoice be not paid

(ii) **RESOLVED** –That Minute numbers be inserted on the Invoices Report

- (iii) On the invoices report at Appendix 1 Councillor Laine stated that the rent for the Council office had been paid up front and that therefore the invoice of £375 should not be paid

A recorded vote was held on whether the invoices be paid subject to the issue raised in (iii) above being checked.

Councillor Gill	For
Councillor Forster	For
Councillor Guest	Abstained
Councillor Kane	For
Councillor Laine	Against
Councillor McKew	For
Councillor O’Kane	For
Councillor Roberts	For

RESOLVED – That the invoices shown at Appendix 1 (with the exception of (i) above) be authorised for payment subject to a check being made that the invoice for the room rent had not already been paid.

- (iv) The Chairman reported that a claim had been made against the council and that he, as Mayor had been named in the claim. He said that the HR Manager at CBC was dealing with a response to go to ACAS and asked the Council if they would agree, if necessary, to engage a solicitor to represent the Council. It was proposed and seconded that should the Mayor feel the need to appoint a solicitor that he could call an Extraordinary Council meeting to get approval.

RESOLVED – That should the Mayor need to appoint a solicitor he call an Extraordinary Council meeting if necessary to get approval

663/17

Grant Applications

- (i) Kellsfest – Following a presentation on a three day event to be held at Kells on 9th, 10th and 11th June 2017 a vote was held on a proposal to award a grant of £10,000.00 and 4 Councillors voted in favour, 2 voted against and 2 abstained.

RESOLVED – That Kellsfest be awarded a grant of £10,000.00

- (ii) Whitehaven Heritage Action Group – Following a presentation of an

application for a grant of £525.00 to go towards printing costs of a booklet to celebrate the Group's 25th Anniversary it was

RESOLVED – That a grant of £525.00 be awarded to the Whitehaven Heritage Action Group.

664/17 **Quotation for Grass Cutting**

It was reported that no further quotes had been received for undertaking grass cutting for 2017 in the Whitehaven area.

RESOLVED – (i) That the quotation from Copeland Borough Council be accepted

(ii) That asset transfers in general be put on the Agenda for the next Council meeting

(iii) That if members are aware of any grassed areas that appear to be growing out of control the Interim Clerk be informed.

665/17 **Insurance**

A renewal quotation had been received from Zurich in respect of the Council's insurance giving renewal premiums for one, three or five years

A recorded vote was held on a proposal to renew for a 12 month period and the result was

Councillor Gill	Against
Councillor Forster	Against
Councillor Guest	For
Councillor Kane	Against
Councillor Laine	For
Councillor McKew	For
Councillor O'Kane	For
Councillor Roberts	Against

The Chairman used his casting vote and voted against.

RESOLVED – That the insurance policy be not renewed for a 12 month Period

The Chairman proposed that the insurance policy be renewed with Zurich for a period of 5 years. A recorded vote was held on this and the result

was

Councillor Gill	For
Councillor Forster	For
Councillor Guest	Against
Councillor Kane	For
Councillor Laine	Against
Councillor McKew	Against
Councillor O’Kane	Against
Councillor Roberts	For

The Chairman used his casting vote and voted for the proposal.

RESOLVED – That the Council’s insurance policy with Zurich be renewed for a 5 year period.

666/17 **Request From Cartgate Allotments**

It was reported that a request had been received from Cartgate allotments to use half of plot 33 at the entrance to the site as a delivery area when it becomes vacant.

RESOLVED – That this matter be referred to the Allotments Advisory Group if/when appointed.

667/17 **Schools Day Donation**

RESOLVED - That a donation of £100.00 be made from the Mayor’s Allowance to this

668/17 **Office Accommodation**

RESOLVED – That the Chairman make a full report to the next Council Meeting.

669/17 **Appointment of Policy and Resources and Finance Committee**

RESOLVED – That this be put on the Agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Council.

670/17 **Appointment of Advisory Groups for Christmas Festivities, Britain in Bloom and Allotments**

It was proposed that Advisory Groups reporting to full Council be set up to deal with Christmas Festivities, Britain in Bloom and Allotments and to be reviewed in six months. A recorded vote was held and the result was

Councillor Gill	For
Councillor Forster	For
Councillor Guest	Against
Councillor Kane	For
Councillor Laine	Against
Councillor McKew	For
Councillor O’Kane	For
Councillor Roberts	For

RESOLVED – That Advisory Groups be appointed for Christmas Festivities; Britain in Bloom and allotments and that they be reviewed in six months.

671/17 **The Date and Time of Next Meeting and Venue for Council Meeting**

The Chairman reported that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 23rd May 2017 in the Solway Hall at Whitehaven Civic Hall and that the Annual Meeting would be held on 25th May 2017.

RESOLVED – That this be noted

672/17 **Councillor Matters**

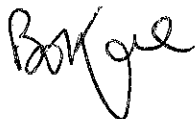
- (i) Councillor Guest referred to the memorial for airmen and said the licence from Copeland Borough Council had not been completed.
- (ii) Councillor Laine referred to the back part of Meadow Road and asked that it be checked as to whether the pathway which was full of potholes was still a highway or just a gravel path.
- (iii) Councillor Laine said that the recycling containers outside the community centre had disappeared and asked if a letter could be sent to Copeland Borough Council about this.
- (iv) It was reported that there was rubbish floating in the harbour and bins overflowing everywhere in the town. There were no dog bins.

A full report was requested from CBC on refuse bins and the plans for replacing them, and emptying them and in particular if the bins already removed will be replaced. The Chairman said CBC was setting up a task group to look at all the recycling in the area.

- (v) Cllr Roberts stated that a very expensive CCTV camera on Bransty play area had been removed and he wanted to know where it was as if there was to be a new play area on Bransty School the camera would be required. He said it was unacceptable that the CCTV camera had been removed when the play equipment was still in place.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the amendments in Minute 681/17 (i), (ii) and (v)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. King', written in a cursive style.

Chairman