

# WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Present:** Councillor C Hayes (Chairman); Councillor R Gill; Councillor C Maudling; Councillor B O’Kane; Councillor J Rayson; Councillor G Roberts;

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

V. Gorley, Assistant Clerk

Jenny Brumby, CBC Business Liaison Officer

### **1815/21 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E Dinsdale, Councillor G Dinsdale, Councillor Redmond, Councillor C Walmsley, Councillor L Walmsley

### **1816/21 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Maudling declared an interest in item 5 as he had a shop on King Street.

### **1817/21 Public Participation**

There was no public participation

### **1818/21 Expenditure for Events**

The Clerk asked for the Council’s permission to add a further two items in addition to that on the Agenda to authorise expenditure for two other Council events. The Council gave permission for this to be done.

- (i) The Council considered a report on extra expenditure required for the hire of a Marquee for an event in St Nicholas Gardens on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021. This was due to the demand for stalls and it was necessary to hire a marquee to hold the antiques market. Quotes had been requested for the hire of the marquee and two had been received for £691.00 plus VAT and £595.00 plus VAT. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Roberts that the quote from Contractor B in the sum of

£595.00 plus VAT be accepted. A vote was held and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** - That the quote from Contractor B in the sum of £595.00 plus VAT be accepted.

- (ii) The Clerk reported that the Viking re-enactment which had been postponed from 2020 due to covid would be taking place in St Nicholas Gardens in August. The company had been paid for the event in 2020 and had confirmed the event could be postponed to a later date at the same fee. However the Council had also authorised payment of £270.00 plus VAT for a security firm for the event which had been in the 2020/21 budget and therefore this needed to be authorised from the 2021/22 budget. It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the amount of £270.00 for the security firm for the Viking re-enactment be authorised and paid. A vote was held and 5 Councillors voted for and 1 Councillor abstained.

**RESOLVED** - That that the amount of £270.00 plus VAT for the security firm for the Viking re-enactment be authorised and paid.

- (iii) The Clerk reported on expenditure for the Fartology Science Show taking place in St Nicholas Gardens on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The total expenditure was £4,861.40. The Sellafeld sponsorship was £3000.00 and the Council had already authorised £1200.00 for Fluid Productions leaving a balance of £661.40. The Clerk asked if the Council would authorise £700.00 to cover the shortfall plus a small amount for any incidentals. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that an amount of £700 be authorised to cover the shortfall and a small amount for any incidentals. A vote was held and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** - that an amount of £700 be authorised to cover the shortfall and a small amount for any incidentals.

Councillor O’Kane asked the Chairman’s permission to give an information report that would not need a vote. The Chairman agreed. Councillor O’Kane said that last year the Council had agreed to authorise expenditure for the La’al Big Band for a function in Whitehaven which had had to be postponed due to covid. He said the Council still held a reservation with the band and at one stage it was proposed that the Council try and do something round the harbour on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021 but that everything was now up in the air. Councillor O’Kane said the band had rung him earlier in the day and said they wanted to honour their booking in the future so the deposit the Council had paid would still stand until some time in the future and that the matter may come back to the Council in the future to authorise some kind of event on the harbour.

## 1819/21 Sponsorship for Young Entrepreneurs Market

The Council considered a report containing a request received from CBC asking if the Council wished to sponsor the Young Entrepreneurs Market to be held in Whitehaven each month. The Clerk read out the costings for the market and identified those items where the Council had no powers to expend money and said that Councillors may wish to consider giving a sum of money for sponsorship in general rather than for individual items.

Councillor Gill said he was opposed to this as it had been advertised widely as a Copeland event and that Copeland should pay for it. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Roberts that no sponsorship be Given.

A discussion then took place during which Jenny Brumby gave a short presentation and answered any questions.

Councillor Rayson proposed a counter proposal that sponsorship of £2,626.00 be given and this was seconded by Councillor O’Kane.

A vote was held on the counter proposal and 2 Councillors voted for the Proposal, 3 Councillors voted against and 1 Councillor did not vote

**RESOLVED** – That sponsorship of £2,626 be not awarded

The Council then considered the original proposal and a vote was held and 3 Councillors voted for the proposal and 2 Councillors voted against it and 1 Councillor did not vote.

**RESOLVED** – That no sponsorship be given.

## 1820/21 Council Building Inspections

Minute 1778/21 authorised the Clerk to have all necessary checks to the Council’s building carried out with 3 quotes being obtained where possible and all certificates renewed. The Clerk reported as follows:-

- i. Fire Safety – The contractor that fitted new fire extinguishers in the building last year was contacted and gave a quote of £45.90 for checking the fire extinguishers, the fire alarm and issuing a certificate and that this could be done the next day. In view of the amount of money and the service the Council had had previously from the contractor the quote was accepted and the work has been carried out. It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor O’Kane that this be approved. A vote was held and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** – That the action taken by the Clerk be approved.

- ii. Gas Safety Certificate – The Clerk reported that 5 contractors had been contacted and 4 quotes had been received

£110 plus VAT  
£85 plus VAT  
£60 plus VAT  
£80 plus VAT

The Clerk reported that the quote of £110 was the highest and was from the contractor who carried out the work last year and who had given excellent service. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Roberts that the quote of £110.00 plus VAT be accepted. A vote was held and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** – That the quote of £110.00 plus VAT be accepted.

- iii. Electrical Safety Checks – The Clerk reported that 5 quotes had been sought and 2 quotes had been received for £620 plus VAT and £666 plus VAT. The quote of £666 plus VAT although slightly higher was from the contractor who carried out the work to the Council’s building last year and who had given an efficient service. It was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Roberts that the quote of £666.00 plus VAT be accepted. A vote was held and 5 Councillors voted for and 1 Councillor abstained as he knew the Contractor.

**RESOLVED** – That the quote of £666.00 plus VAT be accepted

- iv. Legionella Risk Assessment – The Clerk reported that quotes had been sought and 2 quotes had been received for £595 plus VAT and £250 plus VAT. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the quote of £250.00 plus VAT be accepted. A vote was held and it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** – That the quote of £250.00 plus VAT be accepted.

The Meeting closed at 6.35pm

Approved and signed by the by the Chairman subject to Minute 1819/21 being amended to record that Councillor O’Kane had spoken extensively in support of the Young Entrepreneurs Market

Chairman

