



WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 6:00pm in the Solway Hall at Whitehaven Civic Hall, Lowther Street, Whitehaven

AGENDA

1. Introduction and welcome from Councillor Graham Roberts of Whitehaven Town Council.
2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th May 2018.
3. Annual Report presented by Councillor Graham Roberts.
4. Report from Mike Starkie, the Elected Mayor of Copeland.
5. Report from Inspector Richard Smillie, Cumbria Constabulary.
6. Report from representative(s) from Cumbria County Council.
7. Report from Councillor Rick Petecki, Chairman of CALC.
8. To invite the Deputy Mayor of the Town Council to address the meeting.
9. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest and ask any questions of the representatives of the three local authorities responsible for Whitehaven. The Police may also be available to answer any questions on community policing.
10. Close of meeting and vote of thanks.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity for parishioners on the Electoral Roll for the Parish of Whitehaven to raise any matters of concern to them that relates to their local community. It would be helpful to have written notice of any matters to be raised but it is not essential. Matters can be raised at the meeting without prior notice. For any queries please contact the Clerk, Marlene Jewell on 01946 67366.

Chairman, Whitehaven Town Council

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th May 2018

Present: Councillors B O’Kane (Chairman); J Forster; C Maudling; G Roberts; J Rayson

Mayor Starkie, Copeland Borough Council

Councillor Emma Williamson, Cumbria County Council

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

V Gorley, Trainee Assistant Town Clerk

Sgt D McDonald, Cumbria Constabulary

Louise Coid, Hub Manager, Copeland Borough Council

Councillor Peter Tyson, Copeland Borough Council

Members of the Public

APM/8 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

APM/9 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2017

Councillor Roberts proposed and Councillor Forster seconded that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 23rd May 2017 be signed and approved by the Chairman as a correct record.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2017 be signed and approved by the Chairman as a correct record.

APM/10 Chairman’s Report on the year 2017/2018

Councillor O’Kane introduced people and thanked Mike Starkie, the rest of the Council and the Police for their support of Whitehaven Town Council. Councillor O’Kane reported on the events and activities of the Council for year 2017/2018. Report attached. He said the Council had been involved with many things eg

- Providing £10,000 for seats
- Provision of litter bins for Wards
- Provision of hanging baskets
- Provision of 20 large flower tubs
- Provision of bus shelters
- Provision of defibrillators

Councillor O’Kane said that despite having a majority of caring Councillors and staff progress at times had been slow because meetings had been difficult and chairing them had been horrendous because of constant interruptions and although decisions were made these were then often followed by emails of complaint.

There had been complaints made to the ICO, HSE and the Auditor which had been dismissed but which had nevertheless caused problems for staff and Councillors.

He said Whitehaven Town Council was about its residents, not about politics

APM/11

Report from Mike Starkie, Mayor of Copeland Borough Council 2018

Mayor Starkie said that after it was set up the Town Council was a basket case for 12 months but under the Chairmanships of Councillor Gill and Councillor O’Kane there had been 2 years of continuous improvements with a lot of good work being carried out –

- Street cleaning
- The market
- Hanging baskets
- St Nicholas
- Local community involvement

He said that Whitehaven Town Council should keep its head up as almost without exception it was now a better Council to work with than it had been before and getting M and V on board was a giant step forward.

Mayor Starkie then went onto Copeland Borough Council issues and made the following points -

- 2 weeks ago a conference was attended by 300 delegates from all sectors of the community bringing half a billion pounds of investment into the borough.
- We are hopeful that in September there will be an announcement from Nugen that will kick start more investments.
- Over a four year period there has been a 26% reduction in government funding but the financial situation of CBC is better than it has been in

decades. This has been done by the re-engineering of staff with only half the number of directors than 3 years ago.

- Consultants are now only employed where needed for specific projects
- 6 apprentices were employed last year and 6 this year.
- The Council has prioritised the most vulnerable people in our community
- Worked with apprenticeships to get people into employment
- Got social isolation policy together with domestic violence, and a Well Whitehaven projects.
- The Pride of Place is becoming a success – 200 applications had been received
- The recycling project has been launched
- Town centre regeneration – CBC has got an unprecedented number of new houses going through planning and CBC is near the top in the country.
- The Parks Team has built up more contracts
- CBC is an accredited living wage employer
- CBC has invested heavily in its bereavement services
- CBC has made sensible asset disposals and built up £8 million which will be invested

The Mayor said it had been a great year and CBC had made huge progress.

APM/12 Report of Cumbria County Council

Councillor Hitchen could not be present but he wished it to be recorded that he wished to publically thank CALC and NALC for the help and advice given over the last 12 months.

APM/13 Joint Presentation from Sgt David McDonald of Cumbria Constabulary and Louise Coid, Hub Manager from Copeland Borough Council

Sgt McDonald said there had been significant changes and challenges in Whitehaven over the last 12 to 18 months. He said the Police had suffered a reduction in resources but they still aimed to deliver an outstanding service. He and Louise Coid issued a slide pack, talked through the slides and made the following points:-

- There has been an increase in ASB
- The attitude of young people has deteriorated
- The corporate Hub is on the second floor of the Police Station and brings together all partners to solve ASB and crime
- The core aims are to engage with local communities and to tackle issues that are detrimental to life in communities and communities were being asked what they would like to see or/ or what was missing.
- The Hub holds all the information and feeds it back into the community
- Their theme was that we're all stronger together.
- They were looking at a future pathway with secondary schools

- Residents are scared to report crimes and ASB to the Police but they can do this via Crime Stoppers or via a local Councillor

APM/14 Report from Councillor Chris Whiteside, Cumbria County Council

The County Council has carried out the following in Whitehaven:-

- £60 million pound care home
- Campus at Whitehaven
- Issued 3965 parking tickets in Copeland in 2017/18 an increase on 3453 in the previous year with 60% of the tickets being issued in Whitehaven
- A new £2 million community hub being built and the archive site which will be much bigger than the present site
- A £2 million programme of works in Copeland and some of the worst issues in Whitehaven are included eg Meadow Road where £160,000 was to be spent in summer 2018
- There is a £2 million scheme to improve traffic at North Shore
- A big wave of TROs went through last year and in Whitehaven market these were controversial but are being monitored to see how they are working
- On track to have public consultation later in the year about the A595 and it is still intended that it will involve a by-pass from Moresby roundabout to West Lakes.

APM/15 Report from Councillor Graham Roberts, Deputy Mayor

Councillor Roberts said the Council had been working tirelessly to bring about changes and in particular:-

- The Council allotment sites were now running well
- We have installed new town centre litter bins
- New bus shelters were planned
- Despite setbacks, St Nicholas Gardens now improved
- Finances of the Council now in excellent shape
- Our streets are cleaner

Councillor Roberts said that no authority works in isolation – the Town Council works closely with CCC and CBC and is here to stay.

APM/16 Questions/ Comments from Members of the Public

- Councillor Peter Tyson asked what the arrangement was for the Town Council Ranger and was informed that the Ranger was employed full time by CBC but contracted out to the Town Council for 3 days a week.
- Councillor Peter Tyson said Mayor Starkie had not spoken about the south of the Borough and the Mayor replied that as he was at the

Whitehaven Parish Meeting he had only spoken about Whitehaven but that there was a lot going on in the south of the Borough

- A member of the public asked where all the recycling went and the reply was that it was sent to many places and essentially sold to the highest bidder
- Councillor Emma Williamson asked what the role was in schools with regard to bullying and the reply was that the Police have an important role to play and had been working in secondary schools but that was now thought to be too late and so they were sending PCSOs into primary schools. The Police said they ran cyber bullying courses and had written an advice guide for parents

APM/17 Close of Meeting and Vote of Thanks

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and gave an accolade to John Kane for his work for the the Parkinsons Society

The Chairman said he would like to publically thank Brian Holmes from CCC for all the help and advice he had given to the Council

Councillor Rayson said she wished to thank Brian O’Kane for everything he had done for Whitehaven Academy.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm



MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2019

Good evening Ladies and Gentleman and fellow Councillors, welcome to Whitehaven Town Council's 4th Annual Parish Meeting and thank you all for attending.

My name is Graham Roberts and I have been Mayor of Whitehaven Town Council for the past 12 months. I'll

now introduce everyone here in front of you;

Trudy Harrison – MP for Copeland

Mike Starkie - Copeland Borough Council Elected Mayor

Councillor Charles Maudling - Whitehaven Town Council Deputy Mayor for 2018/2019, Copeland Borough Councillor

Name whoever is in attendance - Whitehaven Town Councillors

Name whoever is in attendance - Cumbria County Councillors

Inspector Richard Smillie - Cumbria Constabulary

Councillor Rick Petecki – Chairman CALC

During my term of office, we have welcomed 2 new Councillors to Whitehaven Town Council – Councillor Chris Hayes for Kells Ward and Councillor Carl ‘Wammo’ Walmsley for Mirehouse Ward. We have also had to say farewell to Raymond Gill, John Kane and Siobhan Poland who all took the decision not to stand for re-election and to Jeanette Forster who was not re-elected. I would like to take this opportunity to

thank them and our other Councillors for their help, hard work and support.

Let us not forget that we are all volunteers, giving our time to better the Town and wards of Whitehaven.

Following the recent elections, I would like to welcome Councillor Carla Arrighi, Councillor Edwin Dinsdale, Councillor Gemma Dinsdale, Councillor Ryan Redmond and Councillor Louise Walmsley who have been newly elected to the Town Council.

From a personal point of view, it has been a pleasure and sheer delight to have been elected by my fellow Councillors as Mayor for this year past, and to have undertaken the duties afforded to this role, travelling all over the area meeting and greeting at many interesting and diverse functions.

In particular, it was an honour to welcome the Deputy Lord Lieutenant and serving soldiers from 4th Battalion Duke of Lancaster Regiment on Remembrance Sunday. To stand with veterans, serving members of the armed forces and the younger generation to remember those who gave their lives was particularly poignant as it was the 100th Anniversary since the end of World War

One. Despite the atrocious weather, 100's turned up and the event culminated in a Pie and Pea Luncheon, hosted by the Town Council in Whitehaven Civic Hall. Our thanks go to the volunteers at Whitehaven Civic Hall and Reays Coaches who provided a full liveried coach to transport members of the public to Church.

As a Council we have awarded the following grants:

- £1000 – Greenbank Community Association – funding towards staging activities throughout the school summer holidays;
- £895.75 – Air Training Corps 1030 (Whitehaven Squadron) – to cover the purchase cost of a new Squadron Banner which will be presented to the squadron on 9th June by Her Majesty Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria;
- £1000 – Mirehouse AFC – funding towards the cost of a replacement mower;
- £1000 – Whitehaven and District Amateur Operatic Society – contribution towards publicity costs;
- £1000 – The Whitehaven Foyer – contribution to help establish a garden for the residents;



- £600 was awarded to Whitehaven Heritage Action Group to replace 2 wooden gun carriages on the Harbour



The Council also replaced the Airman's Memorial Seat at Kells which had become dilapidated with a new Lowther seat complete with an inscribed plaque.

Councillors have also awarded a total of £31,879 to Community Groups and projects within their own individual wards.

The Town Council agreed to fund extra grass cuts and new machinery for Whitehaven cemeteries and to continue in partnership with Copeland Borough Council to fund 50% of the operational costs of running the market.

We are currently in the process of purchasing the former Whitehaven News building which will be used as new Town Council office's but will also have space available for community use.

One of my main priorities during this last year, was to re-focus the authority. It cannot be ignored the Council had encountered two very difficult years previously. Now we are developing a strategic partnership with Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.

The Community Plan is well on its way to being published later this year giving the Council a guiding mandate for the next five years.

The Council are now organising and marketing its own Events Calendar and have co-opted local businessman Gerard Richardson onto the Council's Events Advisory Group.

These summer events are aimed at bringing local families and visitors into Whitehaven. Thanks, must also go to Charles Maudling, Julie Rayson and Chris Hayes from the external Christmas Festivities Committee and Brian Holmes and his team at Cumbria County Council for making the Christmas Lights switch on a success again.

The Council are continuing its plans for improvements and has already purchased 7 defibrillators and litter bins to be sited in the wards. Approval has been given

by Cumbria County Council to install 3 new bus shelters following recent site visits. The Council are also committed to invest further funding into more bins and seats around the wards. Work has already been undertaken to improve the Christmas Lights and the Christmas lighting infrastructure for 2019.



Whitehaven In Bloom goes from strength to strength and the Town Council have purchased extra hanging baskets and towering planters.

Particular thanks must go to Copeland Borough Council's Parks and Open Spaces Team and Whitehaven Town Council's Ranger without whom none of this would be possible.

Finally, my thanks must go to the Town Clerk, Mrs Jewell and the Assistant Town Clerk Mrs Gorley for their invaluable assistance during the past year and for going that extra mile to help me.

I have been proud to Mayor of this fine, historic town and enjoyed every minute of the Office.