

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th October 2017

Present: Councillors B O’Kane (Chairman); S. Gearing; R Gill;
T Lowrey; C Maudling; J Rayson; G. Roberts

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Dave Whalley from Cardio Cabinets
Members of the Public

The Chairman opened the meeting and said that he wished to express his congratulations to Councillor Kane for being nominated for the Pride of Britain award and for all the charity work he does and this was endorsed by the Council.

818/17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Forster
Councillor Guest, Councillor Kane and Councillor Laine.

819/17 Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th September 2017 and the continuation meeting on 5th October 2017

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

820/17 Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 20th October 2017

RESOLVED – (i) That the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The Chairman read out an extract from Local Councils Explained which was a NALC publication and explained what minutes should and should not contain. He said that the Council had a tendency to have mega detailed minutes. Councillor Gill said that minutes should be a record of the decisions made and who said what was irrelevant.

RESOLVED – (ii) That in future the minutes be concise with particular attention being paid to the decision.

821/17 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Roberts declared that he was a member of CCC.
Councillor Maudling declared that he was a member of CBC's Planning Panel.

822/17 **Public Participation**

No member of the public wished to speak.

RESOLVED – That this be noted

823/17 **Planning Applications**

The Clerk reported that two planning applications had been received namely

CH/4/17/2296/001	50 dwellings at Elizabeth Crescent
CH/4/17/2294/0F1	Conversion former town Mission into a dwelling

Councillor O'Kane declared an interest in CH/4/17/2296/001 as he lived close by.

RESOLVED – That because one of the applications was for a large housing development and had only recently been received that both be deferred for consideration at extraordinary meeting of the Council.

824/17 **Defibrillators**

A demonstration on defibrillator cabinets was given by Dave Whalley from Cardio Cabinets who said that the cost of a cabinet was £745 + VAT and that he was also able to supply the defibrillator units giving a total cost for the cabinet and defibrillator of £1595 + VAT and approximately £10 per annum running costs.

The Chairman proposed that all Councillors be asked to go round their individual wards to see if there was a need for a defibrillator or and additional defibrillator and then report back to the next Council meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Gill.

RESOLVED – That all Councillors be asked to go round their Wards to identify any need for a defibrillator/additional defibrillator and report

back to the next Council meeting.

825/17 **Ward Issues relating to Highways and Street Lighting**

Following Minute 803/17 where various highway issues were raised under Councillor Matters the Clerk read out the response to these issues from CCC Highways. The Chairman said that Cllr Laine had offered to be the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for collating all Ward highway issues and liaising with the CCC Highways about these and the Chairman proposed that Councillor Laine be appointed SPOC for highway issues.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Laine be appointed the SPOC to collate all Ward highway issues and liaise with CCC Highways about these.

826/17 **Financial Report**

The Council considered a Financial Report.

(i) The Council considered at Appendix 1 a list of invoices for payment. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Roberts that the invoices be paid.

RESOLVED – (i) That the invoices shown at Appendix 1 be authorised for payment

(ii) That Councillor Rayson liaise with the Clerk about the Westcom contract

(ii) The Chairman said that flowers had been ordered for the Church for the Mass for Whitehaven and this appeared on list of invoices for payment and would come from the budget for civic events

RESOLVED – That this be approved and noted

(iii) The Council considered the cashbook and the income and expenditure report at Appendices 2 and 3

RESOLVED – (a) That cashbook and income and expenditure reports at Appendices 2 and 3 be approved and noted

(iv) The Chairman said that he had spoken to the Council's Accounts

Manager at the Cumberland Building Society who had advised that the number of authorised signatories for Council bank accounts should be reduced and suggested reducing it to 4 as 2 signatures were required for each transaction. The Chairman proposed that the number of authorised signatories be set at 4 and that they be Councillor O’Kane, Councillor Forster, Councillor Gill and Councillor Roberts and that the appropriate paperwork be submitted to the Cumberland Building Society.

RESOLVED – That the number of authorised signatories for the Council’s bank accounts be 4 and that the 4 Councillors be Councillor O’Kane, Councillor Forster, Councillor Gill and Councillor Roberts and that the appropriate paperwork be submitted to the Cumberland building Society.

827/17 **Asset Register**

Following Minute 795/17 relating to the asset value of the Transferred Christmas lights, the Mayoral Robe and Allotments a report was presented and considered by members. It was reported that the Mayoral Robe and the Ceremonial medals had never been insured and the Mayoress pendant and chain had been insured twice. This had been rectified with the insurance company.

RESOLVED - (i) That the financial details on the Asset Register regarding the civic regalia be amended to reflect the insurance position and the insurance company be requested to give a refund for those items insured twice.

(i) That the financial details relating to the transferred Christmas lights and the allotments remain unchanged

828/17 **Safeguarding Policy**

Following Minute 798/17 relating to the operational hours of the Council it was

RESOLVED – That all full Council meetings start at 6.30pm.

829/17 **Remembrance Sunday**

The Chairman informed the Council on the present position and said all payments for Remembrance Sunday would come out of the Civic Events

budget. The Chairman said that the Cenotaph needed to be restored and that the Council was looking to obtain grant funding for this.

RESOLVED – That this be approved and noted.

830/17 **Corruption in Copeland**

RESOLVED – That consideration of this be adjourned until Councillor Guest attends.

831/17 **Councillor matters**

- (i) The Chairman expressed concern about Whitehaven School and the decline in Whitehaven School which was destructive to the whole area. The Chairman said he was asking for the Council's permission to facilitate a public meeting for the Whitehaven Academy Action Group, the M P, Mayor of Copeland, the Chairman of the Education Authority and Bright Tribe to attend and answer questions from the public and this was agreed.
- (ii) Councillor Maudling said he had arranged for 2 Christmas trees for St Nicholas Gardens to be delivered in time for the Christmas lights switch on.

832/17 **Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

RESOLVED - that the next Council meeting be held on 30th November 2017 at 6.30pm.

Exclusion of public and press

833/17 **Urgent Confidential Item**

The Chairman referred to an incident that had occurred at the beginning of the week that had affected business continuity in the office.

RESOLVED – That this be noted and any further information be given to the Council in private and with the public and press excluded.

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Bonfante

Chairman