

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 31st October 2019

Present: Councillor B O’Kane (Chairman); Councillor C Arrighi; Councillor E Dinsdale; Councillor G Dinsdale; Councillor C Hayes; Councillor R Gill; Councillor C Maudling; Councillor J Rayson; Councillor R Redmond; Councillor G Roberts; Councillor C Walmsley; Councillor L Walmsley

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

V. Gorley, Assistant Clerk

Members of the Public

Before the meeting started the Chairman welcomed and congratulated Councillor Raymond Gill on his election as councillor for Sneckyeat South Ward of Whitehaven Town Council.

The Chairman then congratulated and presented certificates to Councillor E Dinsdale and Councillor G Dinsdale for attending the Effective Councillor Course.

1436/19 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

1437/19 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Maudling declared that he was a member of CBC’s Planning Panel.
Councillor O’Kane declared that he was a member of CBC’s Planning Panel
Councillor Rayson declared an interest in Planning Application CH/4/2382/0F1 as she was an employee of West Cumbria Mining.

1438/19 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th September 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Maudling that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th September 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th September 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1439/19 **Public Participation**

- i. A member of the public asked about the bus shelters that had been raised at the previous Council. The Clerk reported that CBC were the owners of the bus shelter outside the hospital and they had said that the glass would be replaced. It had not been possible to find the owner of the bus shelter on Preston Street and therefore the Council had been unable to do anything. The member of the public thanked the Council for their help.

1440/19 **Planning Applications**

The Council considered a list of planning applications received and shown at Appendix 1. It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Rayson that representations be made to CBC about planning application CH/4/2364/0R1 as no building works were to go ahead until traffic calming measures had been put in place and these traffic calming measures had not taken place and the Council had not received any details of such measures.

RESOLVED – That a letter be sent to CBC Planning to inform them of the Councils representations on planning application CH/4/2364/0R1 that no building works were to go ahead until traffic calming measures had been put in place and these traffic calming measures had not taken place and the Council had not received any details of such measures.

1441/19 **Finance Report**

The Council considered a Financial Report.

- i After considering Appendix 1 it was reported that six additional invoices had been received as follows:-
 - £15,000.00 from CBC for 4 extra grass cuts in Whitehaven cemetery
 - £99.25 from Cumbria Media for the renewal fee for the software
 - £196 from J&R Bennett for compost
 - £1,726.26 from J&R Bennett for Whitehaven in Bloom Winter bedding plants
 - £205.00 from CALC for Councillor training fees
 - £28.82 from Viking for stationery

It was proposed by Councillor Gill seconded by Councillor Roberts that the invoices shown on Schedule 1 and the six additional invoices listed above be approved and paid.

RESOLVED – That the invoices shown at Appendix 1 and the six additional

Invoices listed above be approved and paid.

- ii The Council considered Appendices 2 and 3 relating to the cashbook and Income and Expenditure. It was proposed by Councillor Arrighi and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the Cashbook and Income and Expenditure at Appendices 2 and 3 be approved and noted.

RESOLVED - That the Cashbook and Income and Expenditure at Appendices 2 and 3 be approved and noted.

1442/19 **Grass Cutting Contract**

The Council considered a report on the annual grass cutting contract which was due to expire on 31st March 2020. Councillors were asked if any additional areas should be included in Appendix 1 of the Contract and Councillor E Dinsdale Councillor G Dinsdale and Councillor C Walmsley asked for 3 additional areas to be included on the contract and the Clerk said this would be done.

It was proposed by Councillor Arrighi and seconded by Councillor C Walmsley that quotes be sought for the grass cutting contract for 2020/2021 to include a quote for cutting the grass and leaving it and a quote for cutting the grass and removing it and that if any Councillor wished any additional areas to be included in Appendix 1 of the contract they should inform the Clerk by Monday.

RESOLVED - That quotes be sought for the grass cutting contract for 2020/2021 to include a quote for cutting the grass and leaving it and a quote for cutting the grass and removing it and that if any Councillor wished any additional areas to be included in Appendix 1 of the contract they should inform the Clerk by Monday.

1443/19 **Allotments and Pigeon Loft Contract**

The Council considered a report on the annual contract for the Maintenance of Allotments and Pigeon Loft Sites which was due to expire on 31st March 2020. It was proposed by Councillor C Walmsley and seconded by Councillor Arrighi that quotes be sought from local contractors for the Maintenance of Allotments and Pigeon Loft Sites based on Appendix 1 of the Contract for the year 2020/2021.

RESOLVED – That quotes be sought from local contractors for the Maintenance of Allotments and Pigeon Loft Sites based on Appendix 1 of the Contract for the year 2020/2021.

1444/19 **Bus Shelters at Mirehouse**

The Council considered a report on a request from Councillor C Walmsley for the provision of two bus shelters on two grassed areas adjoining the pavement at

Mirehouse as shown on a plan at Appendix 1 of the report. The land was owned by Home Group and permission had been sought from Home Group to site the bus shelters on the land but no response had been received.

The cost of two bus shelters including concrete bases was approximately £8,100.00 and there was budget provision for this if agreed.

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Maudling that subject to obtaining Home Group permission that Council approval be given to purchase two new bus shelters to be sited in the positions shown on the plan at Appendix 1 and at an approximate cost of £8,100.00

RESOLVED - That subject to obtaining Home Group permission that Council approval be given to purchase two new bus shelters to be sited in the positions shown on the plan at Appendix 1 and at an approximate cost of £8,100.00.

1445/19 **Community Plan Report**

The Council considered a report on the progress of the Community Plan. No decisions were made and the report was noted

1446/19 **Markets Report**

The monthly report on Whitehaven Market had not been received from CBC and therefore there was no discussion on this. The Chairman informed the Council that that he had a meeting with the Mayor of Copeland on Monday and that the market was on the Agenda and that he would report back to the Council on this.

1447/19 **CCC Agreement To Be Signed**

Further to Minute 1420/192 Council considered a report which included the Agreement with CCC which had been amended to include the Council's amendments.

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Maudling that the amended Agreement be signed by the Council.

RESOLVED – That the amended Agreement be signed by the Council.

1448/19 **Recommendations from the Policy and Resources and Finance Committee**

The Council considered a report on recommendations made by the Policy and Resources and Finance Committee on 30th September 2019. These recommendations were as follows

- i. That the Finance report be approved and noted
- ii. That a working Group be formed comprising those members on the Policy and Resources and Finance Committee to work on the budget for 2020/21 and make recommendations to full Council

It was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Roberts that the recommendations of the Policy and Resources and Finance Committee in (i) and (ii) above be approved

RESOLVED – That the recommendations of the Policy and Resources and Finance Committee in (i) and (ii) above be approved

1449/19 **Recommendations from Events Advisory Group**

The Council considered a report on the recommendations made at a meeting of the Events Advisory Group on 8th October 2019.

These recommendations were:-

- i. To organise a Viking re-enactment settlement in St Nicholas Gardens on 20/21st June 2020 at a fee of £500.00 plus possible security costs
- ii. To explore obtaining a Road Closure Order during the weekend of the proposed Viking event to enable another Cumbria Traders market to be set up for the 2 day event.
- iii. To purchase some outdoor lighting for the Christmas market with advice from the CCC lighting supervisor and provide costings.

It was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor C Walmsley that the recommendations in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) above be approved.

RESOLVED – That the recommendations in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) above be approved.

1450/19 **Remembrance Sunday**

The Council considered a report on arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and in particular that CBC had agreed to give free parking in the car park adjacent to the Copeland Centre for people in the parade.

It was proposed by Councillor Arrighi and seconded by Councillor Maudling that the report be noted

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

1451/19 **Police Report**

The Council considered a Police Report (Copeland Focus) for the past month. There was no discussion and no decisions made on the Report and the Council thanked Inspector Smillie for the detailed Report.

1452/19 **Appointment to Committees and Advisory Groups**

The Council considered a report on the appointment of Councillor Gill to various Committees and Steering/Advisory Groups. It was proposed by Councillor

Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hayes that Councillor Gill be appointed to the :-

- Policy and Resources and Finance Committee
- Staffing Committee
- Whitehaven in Bloom Advisory Group
- Allotments Advisory Group
- Steering Group for Office Accommodation

RESOLVED – That Councillor Gill be appointed to the Policy and Resources and Finance Committee; Staffing Committee; Whitehaven in Bloom Advisory Group; Allotments Advisory Group; Steering Group for Office Accommodation.

1453/19 **Christmas Closing**

The Council considered a report on Christmas closing for the Council's office. It was proposed by Councillor Maudling and seconded by Councillor Arrighi that the Council's office be closed from 24th December 2019 until 2nd January 2020.

RESOLVED – That the Council's office be closed from 24th December 2019 until 2nd January 2020.

1454/19 **Whitehaven in Bloom**

The Council considered a report on Whitehaven in Bloom where it was stated that CBC had insufficient funding to purchase winter bedding plants costing £3,378.00 for St Nicholas Gardens.

Also considered was whether or not shops be asked to make a contribution for each hanging basket provided by the Council to cover planting, erecting, watering and removal.

- i. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Maudling that the shortfall of £3,378.00 be paid from the Council's Whitehaven in Bloom Budget.

RESOLVED - in that the shortfall of £3,378.00 be paid from the Council's Whitehaven in Bloom Budget.

- ii It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Walmsley that the matter of whether or not shopkeepers be asked to pay a contribution towards each hanging basket be discussed at the next meeting of the Whitehaven in Bloom Advisory Group.

RESOLVED - That the matter of whether or not shopkeepers be asked to pay a contribution towards each hanging basket be discussed at the next meeting of the Whitehaven in Bloom Advisory Group.

1455/19 **Councillor Ward Matters**

- i. Councillor Redmond said that there was water running down Main Street, Hensingham and that this would cause problems in icy conditions for old people. He said it had been like this for years. The Chairman said that CCC or Councillor Wonnacott should be contacted about this and said that he would send an email to Councillor Wonnacott and ask him to liaise direct with Councillor Redmond.
- ii. Councillor G Dinsdale said she had received a private message asking to book a market stall at the Christmas lights switch on. Councillor Maudling said that if the details were passed to him he would deal with it.
- iii. Councillor Rayson said that she had set up a Hillcrest Residents Group. She said there was a lot of speeding in the area and was going to see if it would be possible to get the kids involved and for them to use the speed guns.
- iv. Councillor Rayson referred to the VE Day celebrations and the poppies she had made to go on the Amatheia care home. She asked if the Council could do something similar for VE Day and that perhaps this could be discussed by the Events Advisory Group.
- v. Councillor Maudling said the Police were doing a tremendous job in town.
- vi. Councillor O’Kane said that the Bransty Royal British Legion had installed one of the Council’s defibrillators themselves and that he hoped we could get someone to install the remaining 5.
- vii. Councillor Gill said he had some serious concerns about the by election some weeks ago. There was not enough polling stations and people were being disenfranchised and also said that there were no notices outside one of the polling stations to indicate that it was a polling station. The Chairman asked Councillor Gill to send him an email on this as he was Chairman of CBC’s Electoral Review Panel.
- viii. Councillor C Walmsley said he had been interacting with the teenagers who hang around outside the shops regarding littering. He said there was a litter bin at the bottom of Dalegarth Avenue that was not used much and asked if this could be moved to the slab near the picnic bench at the top shops.
- ix. Councillor C Walmsley asked if they could get some vouchers for the good work being done on the estate by some children in order to give them some recognition. The Clerk said that this would be investigated.

1456/19 **Date of next Meeting**

RESOLVED - The date of the next meeting be 28th November 2019 at 6.30 in the Dunboyne Hall, Whitehaven Civic Hall

IN PRIVATE

1457/19 Prior to the following items of business the Chairman moved the following:-

That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public and or press be instructed to withdraw.

RESOLVED – That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public and or press be instructed to withdraw.

1458/19 **Office Accommodation**

The Chairman outlined the position regarding the quotes received for the provision of Architectural Services for the development of the Council’s new office accommodation. Following a discussion on this it was

RESOLVED – That the quotes received be discussed and evaluated at a meeting of the Steering Group on Office Accommodation to be held on 4th November 2019 and that as a result of this a recommendation be made to full Council as to which quote to accept and contractor to appoint.

The Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Minutes approved at full Council on 28th November 2019 subject to the Amendment to Minute 1455/19 to read “Councillor Rayson said that a Hillcrest Residents Group had been set up”.



Chairman