

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: Marlene Jewell
Telephone: 01946 67366
Chairman: Councillor Brian O’Kane

To: **Members of Whitehaven Town Council**

You are duly **SUMMONED** to attend a **VIRTUAL MEETING** of **WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL** which will be held on **Thursday 27th August 2020** at **6:00pm** on the **Zoom Platform** to transact the business contained in the attached Agenda.

The Meeting takes place under the authorisation scheme outlined in the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) (Regulations) 2020.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86278258076?pwd=Vk9peUpHVGEzeHVKY3VRNThBUVFjQT09>

Meeting ID: 862 7825 8076

Password: 692147

Signed Marlene Jewell Dated 21st August 2020
Marlene Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

AGENDA

All Councillors and members of the public attending the virtual meeting should be aware that by joining the meeting they are agreeing to the following guidelines:

- a) The meeting may be recorded for the purpose of minute taking and will be disposed of within 24 hours;
- b) All attendees should have their microphones on mute;
- c) To adhere to the Council’s Code of Conduct and Standing Orders;
- d) Only unmute microphones when invited to do so;
- e) Speak clearly and look into the camera;
- f) Turn phones to silent;
- g) Be aware of time lags and allow time for participants to respond;
- h) Introduce themselves when raising a point;
- i) Respond to the Chair when their name is called;
- j) Be aware of your background and what others can see behind you

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest by elected Members in respect of Agenda items.

If a Member requires any advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact the Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

3. Public Participation

4. Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 30th July 2020

5. Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 7th August 2020

6. Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 12th August 2020

7. Planning Applications

8. Finance Report

9. Local Government Reorganisation

10. Planning for the Future

11. Events Advisory Group

12. Catenary Wire for Christmas Lights and Erection, Maintenance and Dismantling of Christmas Lights

13. Consultation on Removal of BT Public Payphones

14. Request for Donation from Chase Arts for Public Spaces for Miners Memorial

15. Councillor Ward Matters

16. Date of Next Meeting

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Council Meeting held on the Zoom Platform on 30th

July 2020

Present: Councillor B O’Kane (Chairman); Councillor C Arrighi; Councillor E Dinsdale; Councillor G Dinsdale; Councillor R Gill; Councillor C Hayes; 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

Press

1568/20 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

Councillor G Dinsdale said that she would have to leave at about 6.15pm for another meeting but would return as soon as possible

1569/20 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Maudling referred to Item 5 and declared that he was a member of CBC’s Planning Panel

Councillor O’Kane referred to Item 5 and declared that he was a member of CBC’s Planning Panel

Councillor Rayson said she did not have a direct interest but referred to Item 10

Councillor O’Kane declared an interest relating to items he purchased and which appeared in the Minutes and which were bought for the Council during the coronavirus crisis and he would refer to them if required.

1570/20 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th July 2020

It was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Roberts that

the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th July 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. A vote was held and 9 Councillors voted for this and 3 Councillors voted against.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting the held on 10th July 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1571/20 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation

1572/20 **Planning Applications**

Councillor Gill said that he raised this at the last Council Meeting and he had concerns about planning application CH/4/20/2230/0F1 for 9 self- contained industrial units on the Sneckyeat Industrial Estate.

Councillor Gill expressed concern about the junction at Sneckyeat Road and Overend Road and Sneckyeat Industrial Estate and he was requesting a full evaluation before further expansion was made. He said he would see the Clerk the next day to send a letter to CBC about this.

Councillor E Dinsdale referred to the application no.CH/4/20/2224/OC1 on Union Hall and said a lot of public money was put into the refurbishment of the outside of the building with regards to painting but part of it was being demolished and thought that it was only reasonable that the Council request that a certain amount of this public money should be given back to CBC

Councillor Maudling said that the part being demolished was not part of the listed building itself it is a part that was added on and did not think that the demolition of this part would constitute giving back a grant that CBC had awarded.

Councillor E Dinsdale said he would submit a question on this.

Councillor Rayson referred to the Mount and said although not in her Ward she had been contacted by residents about the development there. Councillor Roberts said that things were going on. Councillor E Dinsdale said that he had also been contacted by residents about this.

Councillor G Dinsdale left the meeting at this point

RESOLVED – That after consideration of the Applications on Appendix 1 no issues were raised other than those above and that CBC be informed accordingly.

1573/20 **Finance Report**

The Council considered a Finance Report.

The Chairman said his name was against items bought by himself from Thomas

Graham at the start of the pandemic which had to be bought rapidly and had to be paid for by credit card and claimed back

(i) Appendix 1. It was reported that there were 3 additions to Appendix for invoices to be authorised for payment namely

- V Gorley £7.88 for batteries for hand sanitiser units
- V Gorley £13.12 postage for copy Agendas
- CBC £240.00 supply of 4 tons top soil for Pelican bed

(ii) Appendices 2 and 3 the Cashbook and Income and Expenditure for approval and noting

It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the Invoices at Appendix 1 including the 3 additional payments be approved and paid and that the Cashbook and Income and Expenditure at Appendices 2 and 3 be approved and noted. A vote was held and 9 Councillors voted for this and 2 Councillors voted against it.

RESOLVED – That the Invoices shown at Appendix 1 including the 3 additional payments be approved and paid and that the Cashbook and Income and Expenditure at Appendices 2 and 3 be approved and noted

1574/20 Proposal to hold an Annual Meeting

At the Council Meeting on 10th July 2020 Councillor E Dinsdale put forward a request that an Annual Meeting be held on 30th July 2020 to appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman. As it was not an Agenda item it was agreed it would be put on the Agenda for the next Council Meeting. The Chairman asked the Clerk to explain what an Annual Meeting was which was done.

The matter was discussed and it was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Roberts that an Annual Meeting be held at a time when the Council was able to hold the meeting in a room in a face to face situation. A vote was held and 8 Councillors voted for the proposal and 3 Councillors voted against it.

RESOLVED – That an Annual Meeting be held at a time when the Council is able to hold the Meeting in a room in a face to face situation.

1575/20 Use of Room in Council Office

Members considered a report on a request from the Copeland Talking Newspaper (a registered charity) to use a vacant room on the ground floor of the Council offices one day per week in order to run the Copeland Talking Newspaper. The Clerk explained the operation of the Copeland Talking Newspaper and said they

had occupied the room free of charge previously when the building was owned by the Whitehaven News and for a time after the Whitehaven News vacated the building. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the Council works closely with the Copeland Talking Newspaper to get them into the building. Following a discussion, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – That the Council works closely with the Copeland Talking Newspaper and give them all help and assistance to get them into and use the vacant room in the building.

1576/20 **Footway Lighting**

Further to Minute 1502/20 - when the Council resolved that no action be taken at that time on the information supplied by CBC on the transfer of footway lighting to Parish and Town Councils – the Council received information from CALC suggesting that no action be taken on footway lighting until CBC had upgraded the footway lighting to LED, have had electricity safety tests completed and when good data for electricity, maintenance, installation and decommissioning costs had been provided. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Rayson that the Council reaffirm its previous position and take no action at this time until detailed information is received from CBC. It was unanimously

RESOLVED – That the Council reaffirm its previous position and take no action at this time until detailed information is received from CBC.

1577/20 **Litter Bin at Beck Bottom**

The Council considered a request from Hensingham Residents Group for a litter bin at Beck Bottom, Whitehaven. The land was owned by Copeland Borough Council and 3 quotes were sought for the provision of a litter bin.

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that a Glasdon litter bin be purchased at a cost of £164.76 and installed at Beck Bottom. It was unanimously

RESOLVED – That a Glasdon litter bin be purchased at a cost of £164.76 and installed at Beck Bottom.

1578/20 **Donation to Georgian House**

The Council considered a report on a request from the Georgian House for a donation of £500.00 towards their flower display outside the premises. After a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that a donation be not given and Councillors unanimously

RESOLVED - That a donation be not given

1579/20 **Allotments**

The Council considered a report on Allotments. Various issues had arisen during the lockdown as identified in paragraphs 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Rayson that:-

- i. That the tenants of plots 1a and 38a and plot 1b and 38b respectively be allowed to swap their plots so that one tenant will have Plots 1a and 1b and the other tenant will have Plots 38a and 38b. (para 2.6 of the report).
- ii. That the tenant of Plot 21 at Cartgate who has been maintaining Plot 20b on behalf of an existing tenant for the past 7 years be allowed to take over the tenancy of Plot 20b now that existing tenant has indicated that he wishes to give up the tenancy. (para 2.7 of the report)
- iii. That 12 cubic yard skips be provided on each allotment site for October 2020 and March 2021 at the lowest quote of £240 plus VAT.(para 2.8 of the report)

Councillor E Dinsdale wished it to be noted that he had not responded to the requests at the time because he had received a request from the Clerk via the Chairman not to contact the Clerk

It was unanimously

RESOLVED – That the requests stated in i, ii and iii above be approved

1580/20 **Councillor Matters**

Councillor G Dinsdale returned to the Meeting during this item

- i. Councillor C Walmsley said there were problems on the estate with teenagers and the 2 old buildings that they were worried about. He said the Police were involved and he would report it back to the next months meeting and would be asking for support on some things.
- ii. Councillor C Walmsley thanked the Town Ranger and her Assistant for all the work done in the last week
- iii. Councillor Maudling referred to the issue of weeds and said the streets and pavements were done by CCC and the Council did not get much of a response from CCC on this.
- iv. Councillor Maudling said we are all Councillors working for the same team for the betterment of the Town and thought that if we had anything to say we should do it face to face or by phoning each other. To run to social media with all the defamatory comments resulted in people calling the Town Council a joke. He said that all of a sudden this is just running haywire and just looks absolutely silly and he just wished that people had

- the face to pick up the phone and have their disagreements with fellow councillors without all the social media.
- v. Councillor Roberts said there were a few weeds up at Harras Moor and photos had been submitted to the Ranger and had been sorted.
 - vi. Councillor Rayson said massive thanks to the Ranger and her Assistant for all the work done on her estate and other Wards as well.
 - vii. Councillor Rayson said HRLFC were hoping to have a festival on the bank holiday weekend depending on social distancing and were looking for any support/sponsorship that people could give.
 - viii. Councillor Rayson said thanks to Luke for hosting the zoom meetings
 - ix. Councillor Rayson said she had just heard that day that Councillor E Dinsdale had set up a site on Name and Shame to report things about weeds and asked Councillor E Dinsdale to email her the details of his project
 - x. Councillor E Dinsdale said that he and Councillor G Dinsdale had submitted 27 grot spots within Corkickle and said that he had set up a campaign about weeds to get it flushed out and to highlight where we need to cull these weeds. He asked all the Council to support this and get the pictures posted on social media to turn the town around. The Chairman applauded this and said it was back to the responsibility issue and said social media would always come back and ask if we had legal expenditure powers to do this. At the end of the day weeds were the responsibility of the CCC and street cleaning was the responsibility of CBC. Councillor Rayson referred to the social media campaign and said she was concerned that people would take photos of other peoples houses and post them on social media. Councillor E Dinsdale said that the problem was generic. Councillor Rayson suggested forming a task force on weeds with Councillor E Dinsdale as the lead. Councillor E Dinsdale said he appreciated that and if the Council wanted him to be the Town Council lead on weeds then he would accept that. Councillor Rayson thanked him and said that would be really good.
 - xi. Councillor G Dinsdale said all Councillors have a responsibility to put their own complaints in. The CCC have an online website and she was willing to share this process and to support and advise people on this but did not feel that they could not do it all
 - xii. Councillor G Dinsdale asked if there was an update on the bus shelter at Tower Hill. The Assistant Clerk said there was nothing further to report at this time
 - xiii. Councillor Hayes said there was a lot of trouble at Kells with children causing trouble and damaging cars etc and that they were going to have a walk through the estate with the Police to discuss this.
 - xiv. Councillor Hayes said that during the summer holidays there would be events on the Kells Welfare Ground around sport and food for the children and this was being done in conjunction with Councillor Emma Williamson.

- xv. Councillor Redmond said that although it was not Council property the Richmond Pub was looking a mess
- xvi. Councillor Gill asked about the progress on the bus shelter at Sneckyeat
- xvii. Councillor Gill said that each Councillor should get a copy of the electoral Register for their ward as there was a legal entitlement to this information. He asked that the Clerk write to CBC to ask for this information as soon as practicable
- xviii. Councillor Gill expressed concern about weeds and about the mess on the roads. He said he thought this should be an Agenda item for a future meeting and that the Council should make a strong resolution to put the full power of the Council behind it to send it to the relevant authorities.
- xix. Councillor O’Kane thanked the Ranger and Assistant Ranger for all the work done in his area.
- xx. Councillor O’Kane said he was surprised last week to hear a conversation about the town Council which ended with someone saying why don’t we start a petition to get rid of Whitehaven Town Council and this after all the hard work we’ve done and all this was not fair on the people in our town.
He said we’re all volunteers and all trying our hardest because we want the best for our town and that we’re here as a group of 12 to do things for our town. We vote for or against things and having done that we shouldn’t be bickering afterwards. Whitehaven has many problems and the Town Council shouldn’t be adding to them
- xxi. Councillor G Dinsdale said every elected member would be given a copy of the electoral register during an election but once the election was over they were required to shred them.
- xxii. Councillor G Dinsdale said there is a map on the CBC website that people can click onto which shows boundaries and ownership of land and that she would be happy to send the link to people.

1581/20 Date of next Meeting

The date of the next Council Meeting be on Thursday 27th August 2020

The Meeting closed at 7.30pm

Chairman

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the Zoom Platform on 7th August 2020

Present: Councillor B O’Kane (Chairman); Councillor C Arrighi; Councillor E Dinsdale; Councillor G Dinsdale; Councillor R Gill; Councillor C Hayes; 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

Members of the Public

Press

1582/20 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

1583/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

1584/20 Public Participation

A member of the public (AB) said she had written last week to members on one or two things: -

- i. AB said the premises had just opened and asked if the Copeland Disability Forum could have a copy of the Equality Impact Assessment which had not been received and asked if this could be rectified.
- ii. The Chairman said an Architect had been appointed who were up to scratch with these issues and (AB) asked if they could have a copy of the plans and this was agreed.
- iii. AB asked if the Council had a start date for the renovations or when the renovations had been done as every day the Council was open, they were operating illegally

- iv. AB referred to the documents on the council's website and problems downloading as all the documents were in pdf and asked that document also be put in word.

The Clerk reported that Heather Morrison from Copeland Borough Planning Department had recently visited the offices to give some advice about what measures could be taken to make the building accessible to all.

Councillor G Dinsdale asked that all correspondence from AB be sent to all Councillors.

1585/20 Social Media Policy

The Council considered a report on a Social Media Policy together with a prepared Social Media Policy.

Councillor E Dinsdale asked who the Councillors were and what concerns they had raised about social media

Councillor Rayson said she was one of those people and didn't like it when Councillors enticed people into arguments. Councillor Hayes said he was another of those people.

Councillor E Dinsdale said he was looking for a hard and fast example – a screen shot. Councillor Rayson replied that people were making comments and Councillors were getting into the debate and airing their comments in public.

Councillor Arrighi said why was it not just put into a Code of Conduct

Councillor Rayson said she didn't need to provide hard and fast evidence and asked not to be tagged onto any posts.

Councillor O'Kane said that CBC had a Social Media Policy for Councillors and that there was a difference between the Code of Conduct and a Social Media Policy. He said the most important thing about it was that it would help the Council in the future on how to address each other and move on.

Councillor E Dinsdale said he thought that Councillors were cherry picking from the AGM and that the LGA were currently looking at Codes of Conduct including social media and asked if it would not make more sense to wait for this

Councillor Gill said it was not an item for the AGM and it was not known how long the LGA would take.

Councillor Arrighi said there was no openness and transparency in this and the voting was illegal as it was against Article 10 of the Human Rights Act.

Councillor Maudling said there should be a Social Media Policy and it was not about stopping people speaking it was all about how we speak to people and not doing it in a bullying way.

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the Council adopts the Social Media Policy. A recorded vote was held and the results were as follows: -

Councillor O'Kane	For
Councillor Rayson	For
Councillor Arrighi	Against

Councillor E Dinsdale	Against
Councillor G Dinsdale	Against
Councillor Gill	For
Councillor Hayes	For
Councillor Maudling	For
Councillor Redmond	Against
Councillor Roberts	For
Councillor C Walmsley	For
Councillor L Walmsley	For

RESOLVED – That the Social Media Policy be approved and adopted by a majority of 8 votes to 4.

The Meeting Closed at 6.45pm

Chairman

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the Zoom Platform on 12th August 2020

Present: Councillor B O’Kane (Chairman); Councillor C Arrighi; Councillor E Dinsdale; Councillor G Dinsdale; Councillor R Gill; Councillor C Hayes; 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

Press

1568/20 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

1569/20 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Roberts declared that he was a Trustee on the Board of Age UK.

Councillor E Dinsdale said it was not a Declaration of Interest but it was a request regarding the Agenda submitted as the Public Participation on the Agenda was the last item and asked if it would be possible to shuffle the Agenda and make it as it was. The Chairman said no as the Public Participation is at the early part of the Agenda and was structured to come after Declarations of Interest.

1570/20 Public Participation

A member of the public (LB) wished to speak and the Chairman asked the Deputy Chairman to take over the meeting while LB spoke. (LB) said he had seen a lot of hate from Councillors about stuff that he had done trying to help people and his question was what had Councillors been doing to help the people of Whitehaven. The Deputy Chairman asked if Councillors wanted to answer that, if they were prepared to say what help they had provided:

Councillor Hayes said he had collected PPE from Thomas Graham and delivered this to old folks' homes; he was a team leader in the Covid 19 Area 6 Group; he had been involved in Trinity Gardens; doing and delivering shopping for older people; delivering prescriptions to people;

Councillor Dinsdale raised a point of order and said the normal procedure was that the public could make comments but Councillors didn't respond to any questions at the meeting and questioned whether Councillors should be involved in public participation.

Councillor Rayson referred this to Councillor O'Kane who said at the last meeting an issue had been debated for 11 minutes so it was only fair that we carry on. He then handed back the Chair to Councillor Rayson.

Councillor O'Kane said that as an asthmatic he had been self-isolating for a while and his attitude during the pandemic was to order as much PPE as possible and have it distributed and then when he decided to go out, he was driving to pick up the PPE equipment.

Councillor Roberts said he self-isolated for 12 weeks but as he was on the Board of Trustees for Age UK he had been mobilising officers to deliver food parcels, fielding telephone calls from residents and donating 150 sheets of acetate to a local school to make PPE visors.

Councillor G Dinsdale said she had

- set up a small business support Copeland Group to ensure that anyone isolating had accessibility to safe and local produce if needed
- created a mental health matters group and page which she contributed to every day with her own personal experience in mental health
- created a paid for 5-minute anonymous message group that anyone suffering from mental health or suicide could contact 24 hours a day to be directed to support systems
- donated to a local charity doing things around suicide hotspots to support prevention of suicide and to support people with mental health issues
- Both herself and Councillor E Dinsdale posted on Corkickle Residents Group contact details needed for local Councillors so that they could supply support needed
- They also communicated with residents and directed them to the County Council hub which was providing PPE which they had been advised to do by CBC and WTC
- They were answering residents' complaints
- They supported the Justice for Ellie campaign
- They were both essential key workers working 2/3 days a week on Sellafeld site keeping it safe

Councillor Maudling said he had been in self isolation for 12 weeks but since the start of lockdown had been putting a live music show on every night for people and doing the same in the afternoons for children.

Councillor Rayson said she had been dealing with: -

- resident issues and dealing with emails about bins
- Litter picking regularly in Jericho Play Park
- Dealt with a local homeless issue
- Helped with the Covid 19 area 6 group
- NHS Responder in dial in and chat, clocking almost 1000 hours
- Crotched 70 rainbows to give to children and NHS workers and also raised money from donations from these which were given to a WCH hospital ward
- Shopping twice a week for local residents and helping them out with electricity bills and computer problems and prescriptions

Councillor Gill said he had been self-isolating and had donated his ward grant of £1700 to the central fund for people in the town. He said he was supporting his wife who was working extra hours at WCH.

Councillor Arrighi said 1 week before lockdown she had had a fire in her shop and had to move to her apartment at Greysouthen. She said had worked with the Greysouthen Village Hall and had set up a not for profit shop and delivered supplies and prescriptions to people. After 14 weeks she moved to her apartment in Glasgow where she had been working twice a week giving out food and drinks and blankets.

Councillor Redmond said he had been delivering food parcels and then had to self-isolate following receiving a letter from the government.

Councillors C and L Walmsley said they had been asked to be the lead for the covid group for Corkickle and Mirehouse and this was all documented on the Mirehouse Matters page.

Councillor O’Kane returned to the Chair

1571/20

Councillors E Dinsdale, G Dinsdale, C Arrighi, R Redmond Report of Concerns while working under The High Consequence Infectious Disease Policy

Councillor O’Kane then asked Councillor E Dinsdale to go through his report and asked if he could respond to what he said with a note. Councillor Dinsdale agreed.

Councillor Dinsdale thanked the Chairman and the Clerk for granting permission for the Extraordinary Council Meeting.

Councillor Dinsdale said within the report there were real key points namely: -

- Issues around inadequate PPE;
- The Town Council relocated from the Civic Hall to the old Whitehaven News building without having a risk assessment on disability before moving into the premises on 8th July 2020;
- Issues around WTC following procurement process for tendering;
- Issue around paying over the odds for hand sanitiser (£270 for 5 litres);
- Issue around WTC chair who initially did not declare an interest for £1200 that was made to a family member;
- There is no evidence to suggest that the taxpayer received any benefit from the money that was donated;
- Issues around Carla Arrighi resigning as Deputy Chairman who said that the process that we were following around delegated authority was not open and transparent;
- A request was given in the report for receipts for certain numbered items and asked the Chairman to respond that the list was there and also a list of stakeholders;
- Also, a request was given around delegated authority in general and asked if it was possible for the Clerks to let the meeting know how many Council know in Copeland were working under delegated authority and also how many Councils in Cumbria;

Councillor O’Kane said the public needed to know exactly what the HCID Policy was and how it occurred. He said these were not comments and were not for debate and he made the following points: -

- That himself and Councillor Arrighi discussed all the proposals and all decisions are co-signed and no decisions required a casting vote;
- On 19/03/20 the office closed;
- On 23/03/20 staff started working from home;
- On 23/03/20 we adopted the HCID Policy to make delegated decisions on essential Council matters;
- On 25/03/20 the presentation of the Annual Accounts was postponed;
- No meeting was held on 26/03/20 and consequently a whole range of decisions were made by myself and Councillor Arrighi;
- We were focussed on the day to day running of the Council but there was a real recognition that PPE supply was a real problem and the emails and the WhatsApp group support revealed concerns that there were problems about the lack of supply and the delays in deliveries of PPE;
- 08/04/20 I made contact with Thomas Graham to order some equipment to give to CHOC and the Community Nurses. As a result, the decision on the WhatsApp group between Councillors was that several had ward grant monies left and the decision was that this should be pooled for PPE. This meant that £4989.00 had been pooled. Not all Councillors agreed to pool as they had allocated their money to other projects;

- 09/04/20 The Clerk contacted all care homes in the area to assess their PPE needs;
- 14/04/20 an email between myself and Councillor Arrighi where we discussed the possibility of the Whitehaven News building;
- 24/04/20 there was an update from CALC on the use of the HCID Policy which they said was to cover day to day business and that decisions should only be made by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and that while other Councillors could be copied in, they should not be making comments on items. To take other Councillors' views into account when making a decision was not correct. Decisions have to be made by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and put on the website.

- On the next batch of decision made by myself and Councillor Arrighi were:
 - The Mayor and Deputy Mayor and all Committees and Groups should continue until next Annual Meeting;
 - Regulation 6 be approved;
 - No remote meetings be held at present time;
 - Council grant budget of £10,000 for 2020/2021 be allocated to coronavirus issues for present time;
 - Remaining £2923 for ordinary grants for 2019/2020 be carried over to be used for coronavirus;
 - Cut-off date for unused ward grants to be spent by 01/07/20;
 - No successors be appointed for HCID policy for Chairman and deputy chairman but that should the Clerk become incapacitated that the Assistant Clerk will undertake the duties;
 - 18/05/20 focussed on the upcoming health and safety guidelines where we discussed the idea of moving to the Whitehaven News office to give staff a safe environment;
 - 04/06/20 resignation of Deputy Chairman and new Deputy Chairman voted in at first Zoom Council Meeting held on 10/07/20;
 - Last decision under delegated authority where invoices and planning applications were decided was on 28/05/20;
 - 10/07/20 was first Zoom Council Meeting and we were a week behind Workington in doing this;
 - Decision 1 - all previous decisions were presented to be ratified and all decisions made previously were approved;
 - Decision 2 was the Finance report. All invoices up to that date were fully approved including the cash book, income and expenditure all fully approved;
 - S137 for purchasing PPE was fully approved;
 - The relocation of the move to the Council office was noted and approved;
 - Next meeting on 30/07/20 all Minutes for the previous meeting were approved.

Councillor O’Kane then invited comments from other Councillors.

Councillor Gill said he was surprised that Councillor Arrighi had raised exception to PPE for a pandemic as during her time as Chairman of Whitehaven Town Council Regeneration Group in 2016 she and the Town Clerk were given a budget of £2,000 to clean Lowther Street and all the works were given to a business which was owned by Councillor Arrighi’s sister’s partner. The bill came in for £12,000 and he took advice from CALC on this as there was no procurement and no paperwork. On advice half the money was paid.

Councillor Arrighi said it was not her sister’s partner as they had never lived together and he definitely hadn’t been a family member. Councillor Arrighi said that she knew the person and had declared an interest and totally disagreed with Councillor Gill and couldn’t understand why he was raising it after all this time.

Councillor Rayson said she was under the understanding that this money went to someone and we got PPE – hand sanitizer.

The Chairman said he had to make a crucial point of order. He said the Council had Standing Orders and that if we adhere to our Standing Orders tonight then we were going to be unpopular. If we don’t adhere to them, we will end up with complaints that we have acted illegally.

The meeting tonight is under Standing Order 6 and the Chairman read out Standing Order 7a and 7b and said that anything that had been discussed and decided upon can’t be reopened. The Chairman said that he had checked this with CALC and had been told that anything that had already been decided upon and passed by Council has to be held by that Standing Order. So that discussions on any of those items – and there were discussions tonight that weren’t in those items – that have already been proposed, voted and passed cannot at this stage be either discussed or reopened. So, any decision already reached whether by HCIP or the last two Council Meetings cannot be reopened, because they have already been completed.

At the moment we need to decide in the Report which items are open for discussion.

Councillor Arrighi said so you’re not going to answer my questions and asked who Councillor O’Kane was going to give his next £1,000 to.

Councillor Hayes referred to emails from several people and the Chairman stopped him and said if he had said there was no debate there was to be no debate.

Councillor O’Kane said they needed to go through the Agenda and work out the items that have not been put through already and discuss those items that have not been passed at the voting system.

Councillor O’Kane then referred back to Councillor E Dinsdale.

Councillor E Dinsdale proposed that we move to Agenda Item 6 which was the vote on a proposal for an independent investigation into the concerns that we have raised during the Council being under delegated authority.

1572/20

Councillors to vote on the proposal into an Independent Investigation of the Concerns

Councillor E Dinsdale wished to make an amendment to the proposal and said that if money was the issue to an investigation taking place, he requested that we put a shout out for anyone locally trained under ACAS to come forward and lead on an investigation at no cost to the Council and they can be provided with support and advice from CALC.

This was seconded by Councillor G Dinsdale.

Councillor Gill said he had dealt with ACAS but that it had no place in local Government. Councillor Gill asked for a recorded vote on the proposal and the Chairman said this was in order.

Councillor Arrighi said she thought it was pointless doing a vote because we knew exactly how it was going to go. It was an orchestrated meeting before it started and she wanted this noted.

Councillor Roberts said he had read the report and quite honestly there was nothing in this as it was speculative, it was presumption and perception and he was waiting to hear firm arguments and there were none.

Councillor Maudling said we have our own Auditor and we have CALC services and we don't want to use anyone else should it come to it.

Councillor G Dinsdale said that they had a hefty list of evidence and facts prepared to present to you to ask questions. But we have been told that we're not allowed to do that. We would like to make it clear that we would like to share it with you but have been told we can't because of item 7. If the investigation is going to be denied then the only thing that's going to happen is that it's going to be left for 6 months and said that she as a Councillor was completely sure and could promise that it will be brought forward and questions will be asked when legally allowed to do so. She said we have nothing to hide we are here to be open and transparent to the public and there is no reason why we shouldn't just allow a full investigation to go ahead to get it done and over with and give the community our full and complete stance that everything we have said is honest and that nothing unlawful has taken place.

Councillor Rayson said she agreed with Councillor Maudling and said whichever way the voting goes between now and when anyone wants to bring

it back to the table can we not have any grudges any personal vendettas and move on with what's important for the town.

Councillor Arrighi wanted 2 points noted the first was that it would be nice if Councillor O'Kane could tell members to stop putting nasty things on Facebook and also, she had submitted an official complaint to the Monitoring Officer and in this complaint, she had said how the vote would go on this because prior to this there had been an orchestrated meeting.

Councillor O'Kane made a closing submission:

- Like many Councils during the lockdown we had no face to face meetings and texts were the main means of our day to day communication;
- Our Council is a wide mixture of ages and health issues with many Councillors self-isolating;
- We were all and still are working in an emergency where people in our area are dying of a contagious disease and I applaud all the key workers risking their lives for others. Everyone came together to help those in need;
- As a Council we could either sit by and watch or we could do something. As a Council we are charged with working for our community;
- Rules went out of the window. However, my thought was that we have a public duty;
- Tonight, we should be celebrating every single thing that our staff and Councillors did to help others because an awful lot was done. There are many Councillors in the virtual room who did so much to help others and save lives;
- He said he was disgusted to be sitting here tonight when our Council is being attacked from within over things like transparency, staff working practices, purchasing PPE for distribution. We are transparent regarding our finances. Every month Councillors get a comprehensive breakdown of expenditure. Staff go above and beyond what is required of them every single week for us.
- We really worked hard to relocate as we had no choice and yet 4 Councillors have not set foot in the building. The last few weeks this Council should have been working with the Community. Instead we're all in a mental lockdown preparing for tonight. Some Councillors have forgotten how they voted in the last 2 meetings. Councillor Redmond voted for the key financial report the one he now objects to. Councillor Arrighi left that part of the meeting despite me asking her to vote and 2 Councillors decided to use social media to develop their arguments.
- Arguments as a democratic Councillor are here – debate it in the room, vote on it and accept it. If you choose not to ask yourself what the

outcome is. It could be the destruction of your own Council. Is it the desire to highlight your profile for the future?

- Mr Kirkbride stated the following recently “and so the next phase of the impeachment of O’Kane commences”.
- This Council is not about me, you or anybody else it’s every single one of us. We are supposed to be a team helping our community. Tonight, we should be celebrating not arguing.
- The quote ask not what your community can do for you but what you can do for your community. The key word is together.
- Some people have attempted to turn our Council into a laughing stock. I am laying a wreath on behalf of the Council at the cenotaph this Sunday and this wreath is dedicated to people who gave their lives for us and here we are arguing like kids in a playground.
- I echo everything that Councillor Rayson has said we should be putting everything behind us and concentrating on tomorrow and everything we can do for our community

Councillor O’Kane asked that we move to the vote.

Councillor E Dinsdale said that in his opinion Councillor O’Kane was in denial.

Councillor Rayson wanted it noted that she had not had any meetings with anybody and had not spoken to other Councillors about this evenings meeting or the way my vote goes.

Councillor Dinsdale said that the wording of the proposal was that they were voting on an independent investigation into all the concerns that had been raised since the Council was working under the HCID Policy.

A recorded vote was held and the votes were as follows: -

Councillor O’Kane	Against
Councillor Rayson	Against
Councillor Arrighi	For
Councillor E Dinsdale	For
Councillor G Dinsdale	For
Councillor Gill	Against
Councillor Hayes	Against
Councillor Maudling	Against
Councillor Redmond	For
Councillor Roberts	Against
Councillor C Walmsley	Against
Councillor L Walmsley	Against

RESOLVED – That by a majority of 8 votes to 4 that an independent investigation into the concerns raised since the Council was operating under the HCID Policy be not carried out.

The Meeting closed at 7.10

Chairman

WTC 27/08/2020

Item 7

Planning Application for Consideration by Whitehaven Town Council

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Detail</u>
CH/4/20/2272/0F1	PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF 18 NO. TWO AND THREE BEDROOM HOMES INCLUDING ALL ASSOCIATED EXTERNAL WORKS AND DRAINAGE WORKS LAND TO EAST OF MEADOW ROAD AT JUNCTION WITH ULDALE ROAD, MIREHOUSE, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2283/0B1	S73 APPLICATION TO REVISE APPROVED PLANS FOR A NEW RETAIL STORE BUILDING AND PETROL FILLING STATION AND THE CONVERSION OF THE FORMER SPAR STORE INTO TWO NO. RETAIL UNITS RELATING TO REVISED ELEVATIONS OF THE NEW STORE, CAR PARK LAYOUT, FUEL STATION CANOPY HEIGHT, PLANT AREA, RETAINING WALLS, INSTALLATION OF ROOF MOUNTED SOLAR PANELS AND VARIATION OF CONDITION 16 FOR BOUNDARY TREATMENT DETAILS IVY MILL, MAIN STREET, HENSINGHAM, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2281/HPAE	PRIOR NOTIFICATION FOR SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION BANKSIA, 14 LOOP ROAD SOUTH, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2272/0F1	Amended Site Address for: PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF 18 NO. TWO AND THREE BEDROOM HOMES INCLUDING ALL ASSOCIATED EXTERNAL WORKS AND DRAINAGE WORKS LAND TO WEST OF MEADOW ROAD JUNCTION WITH ULDALE ROAD, MIREHOUSE, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2279/001	OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR A TWO STOREY EXTENSION WITH PLANT INCLUDING THE ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING, PARKING, DEMOLITION AND THE CREATION OF A NEW WASTE COMPOUND WEST CUMBERLAND HOSPITAL, HOMEWOOD ROAD, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2294/0F1	PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY LIVING ROOM EXTENSION AND SUN ROOM 14 CRUMMOCK AVENUE, WOODHOUSE, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2298/0F1	INSTALLATION OF SIDE BOUNDARY FENCING LYNDHURST, 3 VICTORIA TERRACE, WHITEHAVEN

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Detail</u>
CH/4/20/2299/0L1	LISTED BUILDING CONSENT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SIDE BOUNDARY FENCING LYNDHURST, 3 VICTORIA TERRACE, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2304/0F1	DETACHED GARAGE 83 BALMORAL ROAD, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2307/0F1	TWO STOREY EXTENSION 162 HIGH ROAD, WHITEHAVEN
CH/4/20/2309/0F1	CONVERSION OF EXISTING BUILDING CONTAINING FLATS TO FORM FIVE DWELLINGS, MINOR EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS, DEMOLITION OF EXISTING SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION, THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ACCESS AND ASSOCIATED CAR PARKING AREA HENSINGHAM HOUSE, EGREMONT ROAD, HENSINGHAM, WHITEHAVEN

FINANCIAL REPORT

Purpose of the Report

Members are asked to consider a list of invoices for authorisation and payment as shown at Appendix 1 and approve the recommendations in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Authorise the payment of all invoices as listed in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The Council is asked to note the cashbook as reconciled with the bank account as shown at Appendix 2 together with income and expenditure at Appendix 3.

2.0 FINANCIAL POSITION

- 2.1 The bank reconciliation was carried out on 19th August 2020. This shows a balance of £392,203.83. There are however cheques to the value of £3,339.16 still to be presented and cleared.
- 2.2 The balance in the deposit account is £294,431.97.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The invoices listed and shown in Appendix 1 be approved and authorised for payment.
- 3.2 The Cashbook (Appendix 2) and the Income and Expenditure (Appendix 3) be noted.

Invoices for Consideration by Whitehaven Town Council

Date	Supplier	Category	Detail	Total Amount	Power	Transaction
30.04.2020	Clyde & Co	Contingencies	VAT element on Professional fees for the period 06.01.2020 - 23.04.2020	£ 858.40	£111 LGA 1972	
21.07.2020	Clyde & Co	Contingencies	VAT element on Professional fees for the period 05.05.2020 - 14.07.2020	£ 257.40	£111 LGA 1972	
25.07.2020	Eden Springs (UK) Ltd	Supplies & Services	3 x 18.5ltr Eden Water & August Environmental levy	£ 17.88	£111 LGA 1972	
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	3rd Party	Grass Cutting Contract - August 2020	£ 1,892.65	£111 LGA 1972	
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	3rd Party	Allotment & Pigeon Loft Maintenance Contract - August 2020	£ 696.53	£23 Allotments Act 1908	
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	Employees & Allowances	Parks & Open Spaces Ranger Contract - August 2020	£ 3,247.92	£111 LGA 1972	
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	Employees & Allowances	Parks & Open Spaces Assistant Ranger Contract - August 2020	£ 2,149.00	£111 LGA 1972	
05.08.2020	Mrs V Gorley	Supplies & Services	Postage of Annual Accounts to External Auditor	£ 7.50	£111 LGA 1972	
10.08.2020	Stuart Park	Premises	Service and Gas Safety Check	£ 80.00	£111 LGA 1972	
19.08.2020	Mrs V Gorley	Supplies & Services	Adobe Acrobat Export PDF to word - annual fee	£ 21.14	£111 LGA 1972	
				£ 9,228.42		

Invoices for Consideration by Whitehaven Town Council

Date	Supplier	Category	Detail	Total Amount	Power	Transaction
30.04.2020	Clyde & Co	Contingencies	VAT element on Professional fees for the period 06.01.2020 - 23.04.2020	£ 858.40		s111 LGA 1972
21.07.2020	Clyde & Co	Contingencies	VAT element on Professional fees for the period 05.05.2020 - 14.07.2020	£ 257.40		s111 LGA 1972
25.07.2020	Eden Springs (UK) Ltd	Supplies & Services	3 x 18.5ltr Eden Water & August Environmental levy	£ 17.88		s111 LGA 1972
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	3rd Party	Grass Cutting Contract - August 2020	£ 1,892.65		s111 LGA 1972
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	3rd Party	Allotment & Pigeon Loft Maintenance Contract - August 2020	£ 696.53		s23 Allotments Act 1908
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	Employees & Allowances	Parks & Open Spaces Ranger Contract - August 2020	£ 3,247.92		s111 LGA 1972
01.08.2020	Copeland Borough Council	Employees & Allowances	Parks & Open Spaces Assistant Ranger Contract - August 2020	£ 2,149.00		s111 LGA 1972
05.08.2020	Mrs V Gorley	Supplies & Services	Postage of Annual Accounts to External Auditor	£ 7.50		s111 LGA 1972
10.08.2020	Stuart Park	Premises	Service and Gas Safety Check	£ 80.00		s111 LGA 1972
19.08.2020	Mrs V Gorley	Supplies & Services	Adobe Acrobat Export PDF to word - annual fee	£ 21.14		s111 LGA 1972
19.08.2020	Cumbria Media	Supplies & Services	Zoom Support, Maintenance of website, Job No's 318 - 323	£ 264.00		s111 LGA 1972
				£ 9,492.42		

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
CASH BOOK FROM 1 APRIL 2020
APPENDIX 2

Date	Ref	Payee	Employee Allowances	Premises	Supplies/Services	3rd Party	Grants	Alibonits	Market	Commun ity Plan	Ground Maint	Civic Hospitality	Ranger/SO	W.I.B	Ward Grants	Elections	Environmental Improvements	Events	Contingencies	Reserves	Net Total	VAT	Total	Min. Ref.
01/04/2020	877	Copeland Borough Council	10880.00																		10,880.00		£ 10,880.00	D.A.O'S/7
06/04/2020	BACS	Mrs V Gorley																			270.00		£ 270.00	Ward Grant
09/04/2020	BACS	Mr Hugh Brian O'Kane																			617.82	123.56	£ 741.38	Ward Grant
15/04/2020	878	HMRC																			2,019.05		£ 2,019.05	HMRC
15/04/2020	BACS	Staff	2019.05																		4,400.55		£ 4,400.55	HMRC
15/04/2020	BACS	Cumbria LGPS	693.24																		693.24		£ 693.24	6317/19
15/04/2020	879	JM Skips						1640.00													1,640.00		£ 1,640.00	3139/29 (0)
15/04/2020	BACS	Mr Hugh Brian O'Kane																			240.00		£ 240.00	Ward Grant
17/04/2020	BACS	Mr Hugh Brian O'Kane																			239.40		£ 239.40	Ward Grant
20/04/2020	DD	Atom Packs Ltd																			1,600.00		£ 1,600.00	Ward Grant
20/04/2020	BACS	BT Group			82.40																82.40		£ 82.40	Ward Grant
20/04/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			997.50		£ 997.50	Contract
21/04/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			1,440.00		£ 1,440.00	Ward Grant
24/04/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			267.50		£ 267.50	Ward Grant
01/05/2020	DD	CF Corporate			340.00																340.00		£ 340.00	Contract
01/05/2020	880	Mrs V Gorley			39.96																39.96		£ 39.96	
01/05/2020	BACS	Mr Des Horner																			450.00		£ 450.00	
01/05/2020	BACS	Online Systems Northern Ltd			210.00																450.00		£ 450.00	
01/05/2020	881	Zurich Municipal			3230.39																3230.39		£ 3,230.39	
01/05/2020	BACS	Cumbria Media			116.00																116.00		£ 116.00	
01/05/2020	882	CALC			1842.93																1842.93		£ 1,842.93	
01/05/2020	BACS	Mrs J Hartley				250.00															250.00		£ 250.00	
06/05/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			210.00		£ 210.00	Ward Grant
06/05/2020	BACS	Xtreme Fitness																			1,000.00		£ 1,000.00	Ward Grant
15/05/2020	BACS	Staff			4400.15																4400.15		£ 4,400.15	6317/19
15/05/2020	BACS	Cumbria LGPS			693.24																693.24		£ 693.24	6317/19
15/05/2020	883	HMRC			2019.45																2019.45		£ 2,019.45	HMRC
15/05/2020	BACS	St Benedicts Rugby Union Club																			800.00		£ 800.00	Ward Grant
19/05/2020	DD	BT Group			73.30																73.30		£ 73.30	Contract
01/06/2020	884	Copeland Borough Council																			597.00		£ 597.00	Ward Grant
01/06/2020	885	Copeland Borough Council											2706.60								2706.60		£ 2,706.60	Ward Grant
01/06/2020	886	Copeland Borough Council											1790.83								541.32		£ 541.32	Ward Grant
01/06/2020	887	Copeland Borough Council						580.44													358.17	2,149.00	£ 2,149.00	Ward Grant
01/06/2020	888	Copeland Borough Council									1577.21										580.44		£ 580.44	Ward Grant
01/06/2020	889	Copeland Borough Council																			1577.21		£ 1,577.21	Ward Grant
01/06/2020	890	Mrs V Gorley			65.40																65.40		£ 65.40	
01/06/2020	BACS	Copeland Borough Council																			3.04		£ 3.04	
01/06/2020	891	Copeland Borough Council																			65.40		£ 65.40	
01/06/2020	892	Copeland Borough Council																			1790.83		£ 1,790.83	
01/06/2020	893	Copeland Borough Council																			2706.60		£ 2,706.60	
01/06/2020	894	Copeland Borough Council																			580.44		£ 580.44	
01/06/2020	895	Copeland Borough Council																			1577.21		£ 1,577.21	
01/06/2020	896	Middleshire			188.45																188.45		£ 188.45	
01/06/2020	BACS	Cumbria Media			48.00																48.00		£ 48.00	
01/06/2020	BACS	Mrs V Gorley																			120.68		£ 120.68	
01/06/2020	BACS	Thomson Electrical																			1859.00		£ 1,859.00	
01/06/2020	BACS	Carlisle City Fire Protection																			500.00		£ 500.00	
01/06/2020	897	Clr. Chris Hayes																			29.92		£ 29.92	
05/06/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			422.50		£ 422.50	
15/06/2020	BACS	Cumbria LGPS			4400.35																4400.35		£ 4,400.35	
15/06/2020	BACS	HMRC			693.24																693.24		£ 693.24	
15/06/2020	898	Mr C Wainmsley																			2019.25		£ 2,019.25	
17/06/2020	BACS	BT Group																			264.00		£ 264.00	
22/06/2020	DD	BT Group																			216.00		£ 216.00	
24/06/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			2000.00		£ 2,000.00	
25/06/2020	BACS	Always Another Way Cumbria																			336.00		£ 336.00	
25/06/2020	BACS	Mirehouse Residents Group																			1000.00		£ 1,000.00	
25/06/2020	BACS	The Copeland Veterans Group																			2000.00		£ 2,000.00	
29/06/2020	BACS	Rosehill Youth Theatre																			846.98		£ 846.98	
30/06/2020	BACS	R G Redmond																			60.00		£ 60.00	
30/06/2020	BACS	R G Redmond																			392.00		£ 392.00	
30/06/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			265.00		£ 265.00	
30/06/2020	BACS	M Thomson Electrical Ltd																			415.50		£ 415.50	
30/06/2020	BACS	C Armstrong Removals																			825.00		£ 825.00	
02/07/2020	BACS	Rentokil Initial																			7.00		£ 7.00	
06/07/2020	BACS	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd																			50.80		£ 50.80	
09/07/2020	BACS	R G Redmond																			1.68		£ 1.68	
13/07/2020	BACS	Mrs J Hartley																			15.00		£ 15.00	
13/07/2020	899	All Clean Window Cleaning			1.68																15.00		£ 15.00	

INCOME 2020-21

Date	Item	Precept	Interest	Other
07.04.2020	HMRC - VAT Refund March			1395.38
15.04.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			570.00
17.04.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			80.00
22.04.2020	2020/2021 Precept	437769.52		
01.05.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			100.00
15.05.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			60.00
29.05.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			120.00
04.06.2020	Hanging Basket Contribution			50.00
05.06.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			70.00
22.06.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			20.00
12.06.2020	HMRC - VAT Refund May			3574.04
06.07.2020	HMRC - VAT Refund April			770.92
08.07.2020	HMRC - VAT Refund June			251.26
13.07.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			30.00
23.07.2020	NNDR Refund			211.16
23.07.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			450.00
31.07.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			360.00
11.08.2020	HMRC -VAT Refund July			3751.91
19.08.2020	Allotment Rents 2020/2021			250.00

437769.52	0.00	12114.67	449884.19
------------------	-------------	-----------------	------------------

**WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
SUMMARISED INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FINANCIAL YEAR 2020-21**

**Expenditure Net
of VAT Invoices not yet
processed Budget**

BANK BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD

CBS 53905917 (01.04.2020) 55,942.04

CBS 53906216 (01.04.2020) 297,911.86

TOTAL OPENING BALANCE £ 353,853.90

INCOME:

Precept 437,769.52

Interest

Other Income 12,114.67

TOTAL INCOME £ 449,884.19

EXPENDITURE

Employees & Allowances 36083.25

Premises 11481.29

Supplies/Services 7028.06

3rd Party 250.00

Grants 1000.00

Allotments 4057.36

Christmas 0.00

Markets 0.00

Community Plan 0.00

Ground Maintenance 6308.84

Civic Hospitality 0.00

Ranger 17989.72

Whitehaven In Bloom 3790.68

Ward Grants 14474.92

Elections 0.00

Environmental Improvements 191.85

Events 0.00

Contingencies 5843.46

Reserves 0.00

VAT (to be reclaimed) 8462.13

TOTAL EXPENDITURE £ 116,961.56

CASH BOOK BALANCE

Brought forward £ 353,853.90

Income £ 449,884.19

Expenditure £ 116,961.56

Town Council Funds £ 686,776.53

BANK BALANCES

CBS 53905917 (19/08/2020) 392,203.83

CBS 53906216 (19/08/2020) 297,911.86

£ 690,115.69

Unpresented Cheques 2020/2021 3,339.16

FINANCIAL POSITION £ 686,776.53

Item 9

Local Government Re-Organisation

Purpose of the Report and Recommendation

To consider a letter and the Interim Statement Position on Local Government and to ask that the Council's views of the on the Interim Position Statement be sent to CALC

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A letter has been received from CALC together with an Interim Position Statement on Local Government Reorganisation.
- 1.2 There are various options under discussion including the creation of one or two unitary authorities in Cumbria. This then brings into play the role of Town and Parish Councils in any new arrangements.
- 1.3 CALC felt that they should be active in the debate taking place in Cumbria about Reorganisation and therefore prepared the Interim Statement

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members consider the Interim Statement Position from CALC and state their view on this so that those views can be forwarded to CALC

WTC 27/08/20
ITEM 9



Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Carleton Avenue
Penrith
Cumbria, CA10 2FA

01768 812663
office@calc.org.uk

To: Clerks of CALC member Councils and Meetings

13 August 2020

Dear Clerk

Local government reorganisation in Cumbria – interim position statement

The national government is actively driving a devolution agenda across the UK. This is most likely to result in the reform of the existing two tiers of local government within the county.

In early July 2020, the leaders and chief executives of the County Council and the District Councils met with Simon Clark MP to discuss what this might mean for Cumbria. At that meeting, the principal authorities of Cumbria were invited to submit a collective proposal, or separate proposals, for how devolution and local government reorganisation might look. Any new structure of local government will be subject to consultation but the decision will sit with Ministers.

There are various options currently under discussion including all the present councils being replaced with one or two unitary authorities providing public services and the creation of a combined authority to receive the additional powers.

CALC's Executive Committee gave consideration to the association's position at its virtual meeting on 12 August 2020.

The view of the Executive Committee is that CALC should be active in the debate that is now taking place in Cumbria about future local government arrangements. The Executive Committee also considered it important to respond promptly to requests from the County and District Councils for CALC's views on the role of town and parish councils in any new arrangements.

The Executive Committee has therefore agreed an 'Interim Position' statement and I attach a copy.

The Executive Committee would like to hear the views of your council or parish meeting on the 'Interim Position' statement and requests that you email them to the CALC office as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samantha Bagshaw', is written over a horizontal line.

Samantha Bagshaw, Chief Officer



Local government reorganisation in Cumbria Interim position - August 2020

The purpose of this paper is to clarify CALC's current position on the future of local government in Cumbria and the role of town and parish councils.

Summary of Cumbria Association of Local Councils' interim position

1. Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) welcomes in principle the aim of delivering better public services through a local government reorganisation in Cumbria.
2. CALC feels that local government in two tier areas like Cumbria faces additional challenges that can sometimes make it harder to achieve the strong leadership and clear accountability which our communities need. There are risks of duplication and inefficiency between tiers resulting in confusion for local residents and the stretching of limited resources for small districts.
3. CALC agrees with the government's view that in two tier local government areas like Cumbria, maintaining the status quo is no longer an option. Our view is that the people of Cumbria are not as well served by existing local government as they could be and the time has come to make significant changes in the way local government operates within the county.
4. The best prospect of achieving high quality local government in Cumbria in the future lies in the replacement of the present two tier local government structure with one or more unitary authorities delivering services and the creation of a combined authority to receive the additional powers. We understand that any new model of local government will be subject to consultation but the decision will be made by ministers.
5. CALC will consider and take a position on any proposals submitted to the government and hopes that the present county and district councils will produce practical proposals for a unitary local authority structure in Cumbria by the government's deadline.
6. In any reorganisation, CALC would expect to see arrangements in place which allow communities, through their elected town and parish councils, greater influence over what happens in their areas. We are looking for decentralised decision making which enables service planning and delivery to be sensitive to local aspirations and circumstances. CALC is looking for this level of community influence to be integral to any new arrangements.

Empowered communities

7. CALC's particular interest in any future local government arrangements is focussed on how town and parish councils and a principle authority could work together to achieve empowered communities. The following paragraphs are a contribution to debate on how this may be achieved.
8. Some general principles are:
 - a. The empowerment of local communities should be an explicit objective of the principle authority. It will need to organise itself appropriately and allocate adequate resources to achieve the objective.

- b. Governance at the local community level should be led by elected town and parish councils in partnership with the principle authority and other community groups. This means town or parish councils should be created in those areas where they currently do not exist.
 - c. The principle authority should not micro-manage at the community level itself but should empower town and parish councils and others to do so.
 - d. Arrangements for community governance and empowerment should be flexible to allow for variations in capacity and aspirations amongst town and parish councils. Communities should be free to choose the nature and extent of their involvement.
 - e. Local diversity should be viewed as an opportunity, not a problem. There should be no 'one size fits all' solutions.
9. The interest of town and parish councils in empowerment covers:
- a. Influencing principle authority decisions before they are made
 - b. The opportunity to take on responsibility for the management of local services, facilities and land
 - c. scrutinising and challenging principle authority performance

Influencing decisions

10. Influencing decisions is about town and parish councils collectively influencing broader policy decisions and also about individual councils influencing decisions affecting their specific area.
11. Currently decisions are taken at local level within the framework of policies that have been decided at a more strategic level. This presents a dilemma for town and parish councils – their forte is handling detailed local matters yet they need to find time and resources to participate at the strategic level to ensure the options at local level are not closed down. This means that individual council representatives or CALC representatives need to commit, often over lengthy time scales, to debates, discussions and consultations. Sometimes representatives with sufficient expertise and free time are difficult to find. A way will need to be found to resource community participation in strategic policy making.
12. At the individual parish level, councils want consultation and participation processes to leave them with the feeling that they have been listened to and their views actually taken into account. This is particularly important in town and country planning where the current process leaves local councillors feeling that sometimes decisions have been taken without their views being properly heard or considered. The 'neighbourhood plan' initiative has helped in recent years but many smaller communities are not in a position to develop their own neighbourhood planning strategy.
13. Town and parish councils have been increasingly working with their communities to prepare and adopt a 'community plan', which is a constructive contribution to place shaping by the community. It is increasingly the main way that a community will seek to highlight and prioritise matters of importance to them. The principle authority should actively engage in the preparation of community plans and establish protocols which enable them to influence policy decisions and initiate actions. In particular, there needs to be arrangements that enable all aspects of a parish plan to influence community strategies and local development frameworks.

Devolution of service responsibility

14. A town or parish council's interest in taking on a service responsibility from the principle authority will depend on whether the council believes it can provide a better service or better value for money, the benefits of the service or facility to the community and the adequacy of resources and officer support from the principle authority. It will also depend on the council's preferences and its assessment of its own capacity.
15. A principle authority should not think in terms of either 'we' do it or 'they' do it. Often the combination of local resources, local knowledge and sensitivity to local considerations provided by the town or parish council, coupled with the professional officer expertise and support provided by the principle authority will provide the best arrangement.
16. The initiative to encourage town and parish councils to take on ownership and management of services, facilities and land should come in the first instance from the principle authority. The principle authority is in the best position to shape some possibilities for discussion, enabling town and parish councils to explore the specific opportunities.
19. Proposals for the devolution of service responsibility should be accompanied by the necessary financial resources from the principle authority to deliver the service. This does not mean that town and parish councils are always looking to undertake service provisions at no cost to themselves and their communities. In fact they will sometimes be prepared to provide some form of 'added value' from their own resources.
20. Arrangements to enable town and parish councils to take on the ownership and management of services, facilities and land will need to be flexible to allow for the variations in capacity and aspirations. Allowances will need to be made for the likely increase in capacity and aspirations over time. It is anticipated that in the future, more councils will be recognised under the Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS) and as more clerks qualify with the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA), an increasing number of councils will also become eligible to implement the General Power of Competence. However until that time, fixed long term contractual arrangements will not always be appropriate.
21. Although town and parish councils will resist being pushed into geographical 'clusters' where a loss of identity will be feared, they recognise that working in groups on cross boundary service provisions will often be the only practical arrangement. This can also deliver economies of scale.

Scrutinising performance

22. The 2000+ town and parish councillors across the county have considerable knowledge and experience of principle authority performance in the delivery of services. At present feedback to the principle authority is random, partial and most commonly in the form of complaints. There needs to be a mechanism for this wealth of experience to be gathered in a more systematic and constructive manner. There should be a clear role for town and parish councils (perhaps via CALC) in formal scrutiny and review of activities, as well as more informal mechanisms through the principle authority's own front line councillors.
23. Arrangements which enable town and parish councils to hold principle authorities to account are of no value unless they also enable town and parish councils to influence change. Following the scrutiny and review of existing performance, processes need to be in place to either implement change or give full explanations of why change is not possible.

Capacity of town and parish councils and availability of resources

24. A review by CALC indicates that in relation to 'good practice' the performance of town and parish councils has improved in recent years. There is good attendance at CALC training courses, there was an encouraging cross section of councillors from across the county at the 2019 summer conference, there is a more professional approach amongst parish clerks with a growing number serving more than one council, there is widespread interest in the preparation of community plans, the use of IT and the internet is now universal despite variations in availability of Broadband, most councils have recently embraced virtual meetings as routine and there is a willingness to raise money through the precept to implement projects.
25. However there remain differences in capacity across the parish sector which will need to be taken into account if empowerment of communities through town and parish councils is to be a reality across the county. A variety of measures will need to be implemented with the support of the principle authority.
26. CALC and other organisations will need to continue to provide basic training for councillors and clerks. This work may include a mix of traditional courses, workshops and conferences (Covid-19 restrictions permitting), discussions and coaching via virtual meeting platforms and webinars. The Local Council Award Scheme will need to be promoted more actively, alongside the Certificate in Local Council Administration qualification course.
27. Efforts will need to be made to attract new people to local council activities and this will require a higher profile for parish elections without the fear of the financial burden of a poll. It is acknowledged that some parish councils are too small to generate sufficient capacity and should be encouraged to join with an adjacent council, while many other councils should be encouraged to reduce their number of councillors to improve decision making.
28. Town and parish councils have to raise their income from the parish precept. There is an understandable reluctance amongst town and parish councillors to add to the council tax burden and face the disapproval of their neighbours. All town and parish councils have considerable 'back office' costs, including salaries, insurance, audit fees, health and safety inspections, subscriptions and IT costs. As a consequence, financial allocations for training and parish elections are often lower down the list of annual budget priorities and there is a wariness about taking on new responsibilities unless the financial consequences are small.
29. Town and parish councils' natural caution about spending will constrain efforts to empower them unless the principle authority is prepared to help find economies of scale in meeting their 'back office' costs and where appropriate fund or subsidise specific expenditure such as training costs, election costs, IT costs etc.
30. CALC is capable of helping to facilitate change and assist in the empowerment of town and parish councils but has limited income provided by its member councils and grants from county and district councils. In view of the potential contribution CALC could make to successfully implementing an agreed local government reorganisation in Cumbria, CALC will be seeking principle authority assistance to promote and support the key training and development programmes of Local Council Award Scheme and Certificate in Local Council Administration.

CALC Executive Committee
August 2020

Planning For The Future

Purpose of the Report and Recommendation

To consider a letter and a White Paper entitled Planning For The Future Received from NALC asking that all Councils put the White Paper on their Agendas and send their views on this to NALC and the Government.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 A letter and White Paper on Planning For The Future has been Received from NALC. The White Paper is subject to consultation and according to NALC contains some radical proposals.

1.2 NALC has requested that the White Paper be put on Council Agendas for discussion so that you can consider the proposals and send your views to NALC and the Government.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Members consider the White Paper on Planning for the Future and send views on this to NALC and the Government

Whitehaven Town Council

From: National Association of Local Councils <newsletter@nalc.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 15:09
To: Whitehaven Town Council
Subject: 🧑 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN



Chief executive's bulletin

Planning white paper

I'm sure at the weekend many of you will have read the media's trailing of likely proposals in the government's planning white paper, well the wait is over as this was published on 6 August. I think it's fair to say the radical proposals in *Planning for the future* have provoked quite a response, and you can read our short initial reaction [here](#).

Headlines on the proposals include: a 300,000 annual housing target; a 30 month time limit to prepare local plans which will be shorter and identify land in three categories of growth, renewal and protection; a single flat rate infrastructure levy to replace section 106 agreements and community infrastructure levy, with a neighbourhood share retained; a new focus on design; and greater use of digital and data. Importantly, neighbourhood planning is being retained, and proposed to be made easier, content more focussed, and again greater use of technology.

The white paper is subject to consultation, and two other policy papers have been published alongside it, and we will be publishing our own consultation documents on these asking for your views to inform our own response. We are hoping to hold an online event to help explain the proposals, more details on this shortly.

But can I urge all county associations and local councils to put the planning white paper on your agendas over the coming weeks so you can consider the proposals and share your views with us and the government.

Bill Grimsey to speak at NALC online event

I was delighted this week to **announce** high street expert and author of three reviews on the high street, Bill Grimsey, will be speaking at our next online event on 25 August. Other speakers are chairman of the Local Government Association (LGA), Cllr James Jamieson, and our own chairman, Cllr Sue Baxter. Places are filling up fast so do **book your places** quickly!

NALC chairman writes to LGA chairman

Following last week's announcement on funding for local councils in Cornwall, Sue has written to James, urging the LGA to encourage principal councils to follow the example of Cornwall. Other issues covered include the code of conduct, sector led improvement, planning, and remote meetings.

Management Board and National Assembly

We held two informal remote meetings this week. Our Management Board met on 4 August and agreed it would be good to take stock of what the changes over the last few months (remote meetings, home working and greater volunteer engagement) meant for the future working of NALC, county associations and councils more widely. They also supported piloting e-learning opportunities with some county associations.

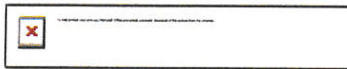
On 6 July around 40 councillors and county officers from county associations took part in our National Assembly, noting how hard councils, councillors, clerks and county associations had worked over the last few months. They felt that remote meetings had worked well and would like to see the flexibility continue after May next year. They also stressed the importance of the sector responding to the current consultation on the code of conduct and emphasised that it should be underpinned by sanctions for poor behaviour.

Climate change

NALC's climate change task and finish group met for their second meeting on the 24 July, covering a survey to calculate how many local councils have declared a climate emergency and what actions have they planned, what powers do local councils have and what should NALC lobby the government for, the use of **carbon audit calculators**; and a **petition** on a green new deal. You can find out more about our work on climate change on our **dedicated webpage** on the website, including more information about the green new deal.

And finally...

Our Prospectus for ultralocalism calls for improved links with combined authorities and directly elected mayors, so I was pleased this week Cllr Peter Allison, Yorkshire Associations of Local Councils (supported by our head of policy and communications, Justin Griggs) met with the chairman of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe. This first meeting was really positive and covered the devolution deal, next year's election of the mayor and future engagement with YLCA and local councils – well done Peter!



Copyright © 2020 National Association of Local Councils, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in at our website, or requested to be added to the mailing list, or as a member are obliged to be kept up-to-date on NALC matters.

Our mailing address is:

National Association of Local Councils
109 Great Russell Street
London, WC1B 3LD
United Kingdom

Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can **update your preferences** or **unsubscribe from this list**.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

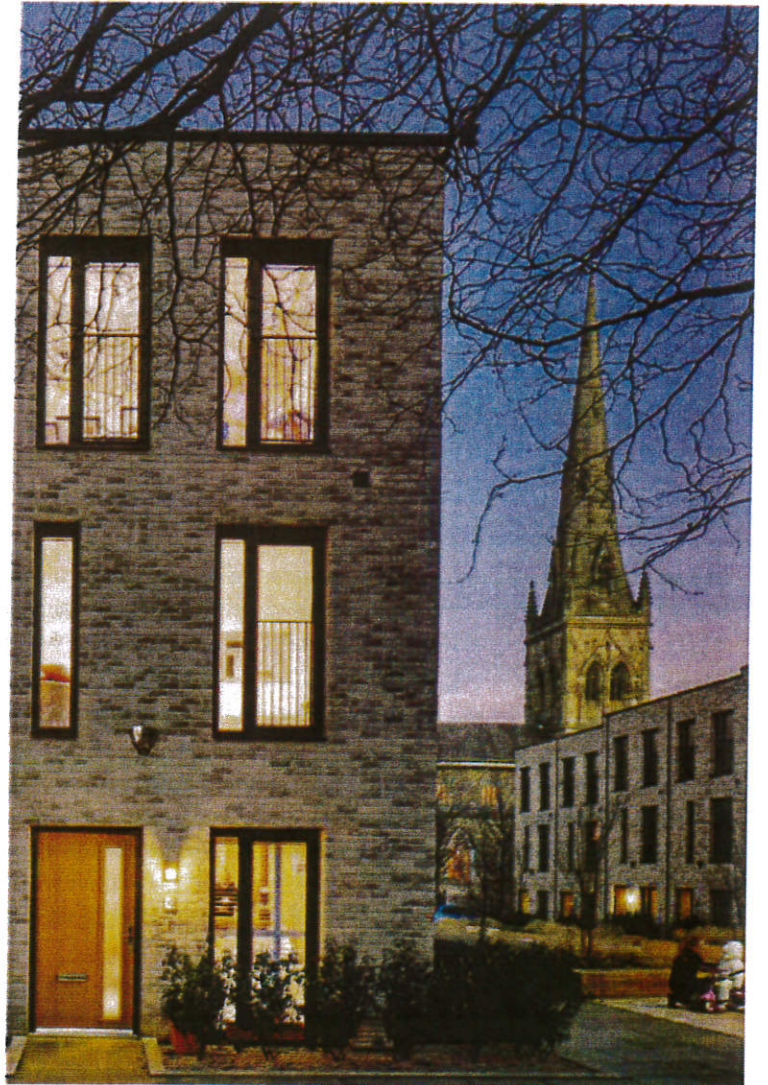
White Paper August 2020





Contents

Scope of the consultation	4
Ministerial Foreword	5
Introduction	13
Pillar One – Planning for development	26
Pillar Two – Planning for beautiful and sustainable places	44
Pillar Three – Planning for infrastructure and connected places	60
Delivering change	68
What happens next	74
Annex A	78



Scope of the consultation

Topic of this consultation:	This consultation seeks any views on each part of a package of proposals for reform of the planning system in England to streamline and modernise the planning process, improve outcomes on design and sustainability, reform developer contributions and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed.
Scope of this consultation:	<p>This consultation covers a package of proposals for reform of the planning system in England, covering plan-making, development management, development contributions, and other related policy proposals.</p> <p>Views are sought for specific proposals and the wider package of reforms presented.</p>
Geographical scope:	These proposals relate to England only.
Impact Assessment:	The Government is mindful of its responsibility to have regard to the potential impact of any proposal on the Public Sector Equality Duty. In each part of the consultation we would invite any views on the duty. We are also seeking views on the potential impact of the package as a whole on the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Basic information

To:	This consultation is open to everyone. We are keen to hear from a wide range of interested parties from across the public and private sectors, as well as from the general public.
Body/bodies responsible for the consultation:	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Duration:	This consultation will last for 12 weeks from 6 August 2020.
Enquiries:	For any enquiries about the consultation please contact planningforthefuture@communities.gov.uk .
How to respond:	<p>You may respond by going to our website https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future</p> <p>Alternatively you can email your response to the questions in this consultation to planningforthefuture@communities.gov.uk.</p> <p>If you are responding in writing, please make it clear which questions you are responding to.</p> <p>Written responses should be sent to: Planning for the Future Consultation, Planning Directorate, 3rd Floor, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF.</p> <p>When you reply it would be very useful if you confirm whether you are replying as an individual or submitting an official response on behalf of an organisation and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* your name,* your position (if applicable), and* the name of organisation (if applicable).

Foreword from the Prime Minister

I never cease to be amazed by the incredible potential of this country. The vast array of innovations and talent that, when combined with our extraordinary can-do spirit, has brought forth everything from the jet engine to gene editing therapy.

But as we approach the second decade of the 21st century that potential is being artificially constrained by a relic from the middle of the 20th – our outdated and ineffective planning system.

Designed and built in 1947 it has, like any building of that age, been patched up here and there over the decades.

Extensions have been added on, knocked down and rebuilt according to the whims of whoever's name is on the deeds at the time. Eight years ago a new landlord stripped most of the asbestos from the roof.

But make-do-and-mend can only last for so long and, in 2020, it is no longer fit for human habitation.

Thanks to our planning system, we have nowhere near enough homes in the right places. People cannot afford to move to where their talents can be matched with opportunity. Businesses cannot afford to grow and create jobs. The whole thing is beginning to crumble and the time has come to do what too many have for too long lacked the courage to do – tear it down and start again.

That is what this paper proposes.

Radical reform unlike anything we have seen since the Second World War.

Not more fiddling around the edges, not simply painting over the damp patches, but levelling the foundations and building, from the ground up, a whole new planning system for England.

One that is simpler, clearer and quicker to navigate, delivering results in weeks and months rather than years and decades.

That actively encourages sustainable, beautiful, safe and useful development rather than obstructing it.

That makes it harder for developers to dodge their obligations to improve infrastructure and opens up housebuilding to more than just the current handful of massive corporations.

That gives you a greater say over what gets built in your community.

That makes sure start-ups have a place to put down roots and that businesses great and small have the space they need to grow and create jobs.

And, above all, that gives the people of this country the homes we need in the places we want to live at prices we can afford, so that all of us are free to live where we can connect our talents with opportunity.

Getting homes built is always a controversial business. Any planning application, however modest, almost inevitably attracts objections and I am sure there will be those who say this paper represents too much change too fast, too much of a break from what has gone before.

But what we have now simply does not work.

So let's do better. Let's make the system work for all of us. And let's take big, bold steps so that we in this country can finally build the homes we all need and the future we all want to see.

The Rt Hon. Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister



"The homes we need in the places we want to live in at prices we can afford, so that all of us are free to live where we can connect our talents with opportunity."