

# WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Virtual Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the Zoom Platform on 17<sup>th</sup> November 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 G Roberts; Councillor C Walmsley; Councillor L Walmsley

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

V. Gorley, Assistant Clerk

Members of the Public

### 1643/20 **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence

### 1644/20 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Roberts declared that he was a member of Cumbria County Council

### 1645/20 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation

### 1646/20 **Whitehaven at Christmas**

The Council considered a report on proposals to help shops and businesses in Whitehaven during the Christmas period and to safeguard jobs in those shops. The proposals were shown at Appendix 1.

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that items 1-5 on Appendix 1 be approved.

Following a discussion an amendment was proposed by Councillor E Dinsdale and seconded by Councillor Arrighi that the proposal goes ahead only if the Government bring us out of lockdown into level 2. A vote was held and 6 Councillors voted for the amendment and 5 Councillors voted against it.

**RESOLVED** – That the amendment to the original proposal be approved  
This then became the substantive motion and a recorded vote was held as follows:-

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

5 Councillors voted for the substantive motion, 5 Councillors voted against it and one Councillor abstained. The Chairman exercised his casting vote and voted against the Substantive Motion.

**RESOLVED** – That the substantive motion be not approved.

The Chairman said that the original proposal should be put to a vote and Councillor G Dinsdale raised a point of order and said that once a decision had been made and a vote agreed the Council could not discuss that vote again for six months. The Chairman said that this was not the case and as far as he was concerned it was legal. The Clerk said she felt that the original proposal could be gone back to.

A recorded vote was held on the original proposal as follows:-

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

7 Councillors voted for the original proposal and 4 Councillors abstained.

**RESOLVED** – That the original proposal be approved.

Councillor E Dinsdale and Councillor G Dinsdale wished it to be noted that they had abstained because they considered the vote to be unlawful.

Councillor O'Kane said that he would ask the Clerk to check the position with CALC to clarify how we have progressed and to check that everything is completely legal and send everyone an email with what CALC has said to see if tonight's meeting was fully legal or if we have contravened the legalities in any way so that all Councillors know if the situation is correct or incorrect. If it is incorrect then we would have to come back to Councillors and discuss it again.


### **Item 6**

Councillor Rayson left the meeting at the start of this item and did not return

The Council discussed item 6 on Appendix 1 which was a proposal to hold a competition and to award vouchers to the winners to be spent in local shops. The Clerk reported that an email from Jenny Brumby which had been sent to all Town Councils had been received that day and that she was asking all Town Councils to run a competition whereby letters or numbers would be placed in shop windows and the public had to get all the numbers or letters correct and the winners would get a voucher of their choice from a retailer. During a discussion on this Councillor G Dinsdale asked if the Council could have further discussions on this as whilst she fully supported Jenny's idea she thought the Council should have more than 1 voucher scheme to encourage the shop local scheme and that the Council could do multiple different things. The Clerk explained what was on the Agenda for that night was the competition but that there was a full Council Meeting next week and suggested that if Councillor G Dinsdale would like to put forward to the Clerk her proposals or items for consideration on a range of things then they would be included on the Agenda for next week. Councillor G Dinsdale said that she would do that.

It was proposed by Councillor Maudling and seconded by Councillor C Walmsley that the competition be organised and that 10 £20 vouchers be awarded to the winners. It was unanimously

**RESOLVED** – That the competition be organised and that 10 £20 vouchers be awarded to the winners.



The meeting closed at 7.30

Chairman