

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the 17th January 2024

Present: Councillor C Hayes (Chairman); Councillor R Gill; Councillor E Dinsdale; Councillor B O’Kane; Councillor A Pearson; Councillor G Roberts; Councillor R White

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Members of the Public

Prior to the Meeting starting the Chairman and the Councillors introduced themselves to the public and the Chairman referred to fire alarms/escape and toilets

2427/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor G Dinsdale	Maternity Leave
Councillor R Redmond	Holiday
Councillor A Spedding	ill
Councillor J Carr	Work commitments
Councillor R Taylor	Work commitments

It was proposed by Councillor Roberts seconded by Councillor Gill that the apologies for absence be accepted and noted. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – That the apologies for absence be accepted and noted.

2428/24 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hayes declared that he was a member of the Whitehaven Tidy Town Committee and the Harbour Users Group.

2429/24 Public Participation

There was no public participation

2430/24 Revenue Budget and Precept 2024/25

Councillor White entered the Meeting during this item

The Council considered a report on and supporting papers on the proposed Revenue Budget and Precept for 2024/25 which incorporated recommendations made by 3 previous meetings of the Budget Working Group. Councillor E Dinsdale asked what the percentage increase was in the precept and was informed that it was a percentage decrease. No further recommendations/amendments to the proposed Revenue Budget and Precept were made by the Council. It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Gill as follows

- (i). That the proposed Revenue Budget and Precept for 2024/25 be approved
- (ii). That the Clerk and the Chairman sign the Precept 2024/25 Form received from Cumberland Council to advise Cumberland Council of the approved Whitehaven Town Council Precept for 2024/25 to inform the setting of the overall Council Tax Requirement for 2024/25

A vote was held and 6 Councillors voted for the proposal and 1 Councillor abstained

RESOLVED – That –

- (i). That the proposed Revenue Budget and Precept for 2024/25 be approved
- (ii). That the Clerk and the Chairman sign the Precept 2024/25 Form received from Cumberland Council to advise Cumberland Council of the approved Whitehaven Town Council Precept for 2024/25 to inform the setting of the overall Council Tax Requirement for 2024/25

2431/24 Quotes Received for St Nicholas Gardens – Planting and Maintenance 2024/25

The Council considered a report on quotes that had been received for the planting and maintenance of summer and winter plants in St Nicholas Gardens for 2024/25. Two quotes had been received and it was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the quote received from supplier A in the sum of £10,550 plus VAT be accepted. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – That the quote received from Supplier A in the sum of £ 10,550 plus VAT be accepted.

The Chairman had agreed to the following extra item

2432/24 Cutting Back Bushes and Ivy on the sides of St Nicholas Church Building

The Clerk reported that some time ago the Council had agreed with the Church

that the Council would carry out this work. A quote had been received to carry out this work for £800 plus VAT including transport, machinery etc. It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor O’Kane that the quote of £800 plus VAT to carry out the work be accepted. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED - That the quote of £800 plus VAT to carry out the work be accepted.

2433/24 Consultation of the Road Traffic Regulation Order for Whitehaven

The Council considered a report regarding consultation on the proposed Road Traffic Regulation Order for Whitehaven which had been received from Cumberland Council. The consultation consisted of 25 maps showing the proposed amendments.

- (i) The Council considered that its previous comments submitted to Cumberland Council and annexed to the Report be resubmitted
- (ii) Councillor Gill asked if he could make an individual in depth comment to Cumberland Council regarding roads in his Ward and the Clerk confirmed that he could as could any other Councillor
- (iii) Councillor E Dinsdale said on page 14 of the report – Proposal Map 4 - this should be residents parking only
- (iv) The following comments were made on the Consultation Proposal Maps:-
 - **Proposal Map 1** - Pelican Garage. Where are the pelican crossings? The Council was promised pelican crossings just opposite the entrance to the Pelican Garage on the Loop Road side by CCC. Drawings were prepared and the Council would ask that this be included in the RTRO.
 - **Proposal Map 2**- Calder Avenue. No objections or comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 3** – Bransty Area. No objection or comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 4** – Front Corkickle. No objections or comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 5** – Holly Terrace. No objections or comments on this but email to be sent to CC to query it
 - **Proposal Map 6** – High Road. No objections or comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 7** – Inkerman Terrace. No objections or comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 8** – Rutland Avenue. Totally in favour of this
 - **Proposal Map 9** – Duke St/ Scotch Street Junction. The Council did not think this was necessary and were concerned that the traffic would go up Michael street which was a narrow street. The Council asked that Cumberland Council be contacted on this to share the justification for this

- **Proposal Map 10** – Jericho Road. The Council supported this but queried if it was sufficient and in line with the schools expectations. The Council also suggested that this be reviewed in 12 months time
 - **Proposal Map 11** – Strand Street. No objections and no comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 12** – Duke Street. No objections and no comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 13** – Park Drive. No objections and no comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 14** -Irt Avenue. No objections to this but the Council felt it would be worth reviewing in 12 months to see if it was working
 - **Proposal Map 15** – Swingpump Lane. No objections and no comments on this
 - **Proposal Map 16** – St Johns Court. No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 17** - Monkway Court. No objection and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 19** – Lowther Street Part 1. No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 19** – Lowther Street Part 2.No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 20** – Market Place. Agreed. However the Council considered that the whole of the Market Place should be looked at eg that side of the road from the Anchor Vaults to number 13 Market Place
 - **Proposal Map 20** – Winston Drive. No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 21** – James Pit Road. No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 22** – Strand Street. No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 23** – Lowther Street Loading Bays. No objections and no comments
 - **Proposal Map 24.** Duke Street Loading Bay. No objections and no comments
- (v) Councillor Gill said that he would be making comments direct to Cumberland Council around West Cumberland Hospital and the parking issues on estate roads
- (vi) The Council were concerned that there were no proposals in the RTRO for Red Lonning relating to the amount of traffic etc from the 2 schools and that this had been raised several times and asked that consideration be given to this
- (vii) The Council wanted the RTRO to move the central bus stop from Lowther Street. During the pandemic the bus service had been re-routed down Scotch Street to the bus stop outside Albion Square and then to the

off-road bus stop on Strand Street and that this had worked well. Previously CCC had prepared plans to take away the bus stop on Lowther Street and re-route it so that the bus stop was round the corner from the Civic Hall on Scotch Street and then round the one way system to the bus stops on Swingpump Lane and Strand Street. This would take the buses away from Lowther Street and would improve traffic flow and the safety aspect to Lowther Street

The Council are asking Cumberland Council to remove the bus stop from Lowther Street (opposite St Nicholas Gardens) and re-route it round the town

- (viii) Councillor E Dinsdale suggested that residents be consulted on this and this was agreed
- (ix) The Council thought Cumberland Council should consider strengthening King Street in the RTRO so that the Traffic Wardens could enforce it. There were lorries and vans going up and down all day and all that was needed was an extra yellow line on the pavement so that Traffic Wardens could issue tickets
- (x) Councillor E Dinsdale said round the infant school and St Beghs school there was a lot of grassed land that could be used for additional parking. Also on Copeland Avenue and outside St Begh's Church that could be used for parking

The Clerk would pass all of these comments and queries to Cumberland Council and report back when a response had been received

The Meeting closed at 7.15

Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Dinsdale', written in a cursive style.