

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the 12th January

2023

Present: Councillor C Maudling (Chairman); Councillor E Dinsdale; Councillor G Dinsdale; Councillor C Hayes; Councillor B O’Kane; Councillor J Rayson; Councillor G Roberts

M. Jewell, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

V. Gorley, Assistant Clerk

Emanuel Flecken, CBC

2163/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor J Carr	Work Commitments
Councillor Redmond	Away
Councillor Gill	ill

It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hayes 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

2164/23 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Maudling declared an interest in Agenda Item 4 as he was a member of CBC

Councillor O’Kane declared an interest in Agenda Item 4 as he was a member of CBC

Councillor G Dinsdale declared an interest in Item 4 as she was a member of CBC

Councillor Roberts declared an interest as he was a member of CCC

2165/23 Public Participation

There was no public participation

IN PRIVATE

That prior to the following items of business the Chairman moved the following resolution: -

That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public and or press be instructed to withdraw from the meeting. Councillor Hayes proposed this and Councillor Roberts seconded it. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be instructed to withdraw from the Meeting. All members of the public and press then left the Meeting.

2166/23 Quote for Contract for the Services of 2 Operatives 2023/24

Further to Minute 2161/22 which said that the quote received from CBC for the partnership agreement with CBC for the provision of the services of 2 operatives for 2023/24 be not approved in its current form and that it was open for renegotiation with Mr Flecken at the next Council Meeting, Mr Flecken attended the Meeting to discuss this. Following the discussion Mr Flecken was asked to leave the room while the Council made a decision. It was proposed by Councillor O’Kane and seconded by Councillor Roberts that last year’s contract figure be used with 10% added for year 2023/24 to cover inflation. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED - That last year’s contract figure be used with 10% added for year 2023/24 to cover inflation.

Mr Flecken was asked back into the Meeting and informed of the Council’s decision. Mr Flecken confirmed that this was acceptable for the service contract for the provision of 2 operatives for 2023/24.

Mr Flecken then left the Meeting

2167/23 IN PUBLIC

The Chairman then returned the Meeting to public session

2168/23 Revenue Budget and Precept 2023/24

The Council considered a report and documents on the Revenue Budget and Precept for 2023/24 which incorporated recommendations made following 3 meetings of the Budget Setting Advisory Group held on 3rd November 2022, 12th December 2022, and 5th January 2023. It was reported to the Council that there were 3 amendments to be made to the Budget and Precept:-

- (i) That the amount for the Service contract with CBC be £63,003.00
- (ii) That because of the Coronation the amount of earmarked reserve be £30,000
- (iii) That the cash precept figure be £495,901.48

It was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Roberts that the following recommendations be approved :-

- a) Consider the proposed 2023/24 Revenue Budget and Precept;
- b) Make the proposed amendments mentioned above;
- c) Subsequent to a) and b), that the 2023/24 Revenue Budget and Precept be approved; and
- d) That the Chairman sign the Precept 2023/24 Form received from Copeland Borough Council to advise Copeland Borough Council of the approved Whitehaven Town Council Precept for 2023/24 to inform the setting of the overall Council Tax requirement for 2023/24.

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

RESOLVED – That:-

- a) Consider the proposed 2023/24 Revenue Budget and Precept;
- b) Make the proposed amendments mentioned above;
- c) Subsequent to a) and b), that the 2023/24 Revenue Budget and Precept be approved; and
- d) That the Chairman sign the Precept 2023/24 Form received from Copeland Borough Council to advise Copeland Borough Council of the approved Whitehaven Town Council Precept for 2023/24 to inform the setting of the overall Council Tax requirement for 2023/24.

The Chairman agreed that the following items of business be dealt with.

2169/23 Update on Council Offices

The Clerk reported that the Councils Architect had received a quote for Building Control Services required during the construction works for the Council Offices. A quote had also been sought from CBC's Building Control Department. The Council considered the two quotes and it was proposed by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Maudling that the quote of £2,520.00 from CBC's Building Control Department be accepted. A vote was held and 6 Councillors voted for the proposal and 1 Councillor abstained

RESOLVED – That that the quote of £2,520.00 from CBC’s Building Control Department be accepted.

2170/23 Electricity costs in St Nicholas Gardens for Council Events

The Clerk reported that St Nicholas had asked if it would be possible for the Council to make a contribution for the electricity used by the Council for the various Council events that took place in St Nicholas Gardens during the year. It was proposed by Councillor Maudling and seconded by Councillor Hayes that a contribution of £250 be given to St Nicholas for electricity used for Council events in 2023. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED - That a contribution of £250 be given to St Nicholas for electricity used for Council events in 2023.

Councillor Rayson left the Meeting and did not return

2171/23 Council Events 2003

- i. Leyland Bus. Minute 2110/22 authorised the Leyland bus event subject to further details being given and the Clerk circulated a leaflet on this. Last year the Council supported the event by providing toilets and security. The cost of toilets is approx. £500 and the cost of security is £350. It was proposed by Councillor Maudling and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the Council support the event by provision of toilets and security. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED - That the Council support the event by provision of toilets and security.

- ii. King’s Coronation.
 - a. It is proposed to have a marquee in St Nicholas Gardens from Sunday 30th April 2023 to Monday 8th May 2023 for a photo exhibition of the Royal Family and King Charles III. This will cost £1095 for the marquee and £545 for the flooring
 - b. It is proposed to have the red, white and blue uplighters around St Nicholas Tower for three nights as we did last year for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee at the same cost as last year of £1586.40
 - c. Security for the event will cost £2800.00
 - d. New photographs for the exhibition will cost £1000
 - e. An amount of £200.00 for incidentals/unforeseen expenditureIt was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the events and expenditure in a to e above be approved. A vote was held and it was unanimously

RESOLVED - That the events and expenditure in a to e above be approved

2172/23

Commemorative Medals for School Pupils

The Clerk gave a report on the commemorative medals for the Coronation and passed round 2 samples but the cost of providing these to each school pupil was quite high and Councillors did not feel that it was appropriate. The Clerk said that another idea would be to run a painting competition for school pupils and give a prize for the best painting depicting the Coronation in the junior school age and the secondary school age and also a prize to the individual schools where the winning pupils attended. The Council did not make a decision but requested that this be worked up and presented to the next Meeting for consideration.

CHAIRMAN

