

Minutes of a meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 18 February 2009 at 7pm

Members

I Burns (Mayor)

S Coates	A Kennon
D Newton	L G Lytollis
E W Nicholson	A Smith
C Smith	S Standage
A Tyson	

Apologies: C M Jackson & Martin Connolly

Also Present: 2 press representatives

13643 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Cockermouth Town Council held on 21 January 2009 and the Special Meeting held on 5 February 2009.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meetings of Cockermouth Town Council held on 21 January and 5 February 2009 be signed as a correct record.

13644 Declaration of Interest

Councillor E Nicholson declared a personal interest relating to the Tree Preservation Order on Lorton Road due to living in close proximity to the property.

13645 Mayors Announcements

The Town Mayor gave details of the events she had attended since the last meeting.

These included:-

- Young speakers from Cockermouth Junior School
- Europe Prize Presentation
- Special Council Meeting
- Allerdale Mayor's Civic Dinner

13646 Attendance by Police

The Police were not in attendance.

13647 Planning Applications

Resolved - That the Council's observations on the following planning

applications to date be forwarded to the Chief Planning Officer:-

2/2008/0854 (amended plan and amended opening hours)

Change of use to food takeaway, including installation of external flue.

14 South Street, Cockermouth

The application has already been refused by Allerdale Borough Council

2/2009/0025

Single storey extension to the front elevation

101 The Parklands, Cockermouth.

Recommend Approval

2/2009/0027

Replacement of timber panelled door with a white composite panelled door (retrospective)

30 Crown Street, Cockermouth

Recommend Approval

2/2009/0056

Redevelopment of coal yard for use as a car wash

Land of former coal store yard Low Road Cockermouth

Recommend Approval

02/2009/0065

Extension to existing dwelling

61 Castlegate Drive, Cockermouth

Recommend Approval

02/2009/0073

Proposed B8/B1 unit

Land off Strawberry How Road, Strawberry How Cockermouth

Recommend Approval

13648 Notification of decisions from Allerdale Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.

Agreed - That the various notifications of planning decisions as received from the Borough Council and County Council be noted.

13649 Applications for Tree Works

Members noted that approval had been given for the following tree works:-

- (a) Remove a cypress tree, land at White House, Brigham Road
- (b) Crown raise a beech tree, land at White House, Brigham Road
- (c) Various works, land at Bridge House, Gote Road
- (d) Various works, land at Friends Meeting House, Kirkgate

13650 Notification of decisions regarding tree works and tree preservation orders

Tree Preservation Order No 2 – 2009 – land opposite Hillcrest, Lorton Road was received by the Council on 20 January 2009. However, this Order was revoked on the 5th February 2009 as the Forestry Commission had granted a licence for the felling of the protected trees.

Members were disappointed that Allerdale Borough Council had not objected to the granting of the felling licence.

13551 Other Planning Matters

Members noted the Principal Planning Officer's kind invitation to give a more general presentation on planning and the opportunities to get involved including the new Local Development Framework.

Members also noted that the Fleeter Wood Wind Farm had been withdrawn.

13652 The next Poet Laureate?

Members considered the content of a letter from Mr Baron regarding a repeat visit to Cockermouth by the next Laureate in 2010.

Resolved – That the Town Clerk contacts the Wordsworth Trust regarding the organisation of a joint day of enterprise.

13653 Royal Garden Party 2009

The Town Council had been invited to nominate the Chairman or Town Mayor to attend the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 7 July 2009. The names of the winning nominees in the ballot will be forwarded to the National Association of Local Councils and in due time an official invitation will be sent from the Lord Chamberlain's Office direct to the nominees.

Resolved - That Councillor I Burns be nominated to attend.

13654 Calc Circular – February 2009

The contents of the circular, particularly the raft of new legislation was noted.

13655 Heavy Goods Vehicles

Mr Barwise had written to the Town Council expressing concern that heavy goods vehicles enter the town from the Sheep and Wool Centre roundabout thereby travelling through a narrow residential area of restricted width with on street parking passing a childrens playing field and 3 schools. Mr Barwise suggested that if they all travelled west to the next roundabout on the A66 all of the above would be avoided.

Members agreed with all of the comments raised.

Resolved – That the Town Clerk contacts the Managers of Sainsbury's and Wilkinson's to request that in future that their HGV drivers enter the Town via Low Road.

13656 Sportzpod

A new company called Flexipodz refurbishes used once shipping containers and fills them with sports equipment. Funding could be obtained by the Town Council from Awards for All.

Agreed – That the information be noted.

13657 Spinal Injuries Association

The Spinal Injuries Association were highlighting their Great British Fish and Chip Supper Event to be held on Friday 15th May 2009 to raise money and awareness.

Agreed – That the event be noted.

13658 General Meeting of CALC

Agreed – That the next meeting due to be held on 26 February 2009 be noted.

13659 Victoria Hall

Members considered the content of the Clerk's report.

There were 11 advance bookings for March 2009.

Agreed – That the content of the Clerk's report be noted.

13660 Tourism and Publicity

Members considered the content of the Clerk's report.

There had been 1224 general enquiries during January 2009.

Agreed – That the content of the Clerk's report be noted.

13661 Town Twinning/Europe Matters

Members considered the content of the Clerk's report

48 of the 49 seats on the coach to Marvejols had been taken up.

The flights had been booked for the two youth delegates going to Szeged.

Agreed – That the content of the Clerk's report be noted.

13662 Memorial Gardens

Members noted that the TPO was being re-assessed by Capita and that two further letters of objection had been received.

Resolved – (a) That the content of the Clerk's report be noted.

(b) That the Town Clerk contacts the Council's solicitor regarding progress in respect of the unauthorised gate.

13663 Allotments

The lock on the lower gate at the St. Helens street allotments had been fixed and replaced. The skips had been ordered for Friday 20 February 2009, the Allotments Association had kindly agreed to assist with the policing of what is placed inside the skip.

Resolved – That the content of the Clerk's report be noted and that payment of £328.90 to Alco in respect of the skips be endorsed.

13664 Town Hall

Members considered the content of the Clerk's report.

The listed building consent for the replacement window in the Council Chamber had been submitted to Allerdale Borough Council.

All councillors, employees and Day Services Staff had been issued with their parking permit.

Agreed – That the content of the Clerk's report be noted.

13665 Cockermouth Festival

A draft programme of events had been drawn up. Councillor Tyson informed those present that the Neighbourhood Forum had kindly awarded Solway Arts £1000 in grant aid.

Councillor Tyson enquired whether or not the Town Council would be willing to provide refreshments at the Excited by Science Lecture.

Councillor Tyson also informed those present that Cockermouth School wished to refurbish the Christmas Crib and requested suggestions as to design etc.

Resolved – (a) That progress be noted.

(b) That the Town Council provides the refreshments at the Excited by Science Lecture.

13666 Cockermouth Partnership

Members noted that the Partnership was being wound up and that there was approximately £7-11k remaining in their budget.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2009 be noted.

13667 Accounts for Payment

Resolved – That accounts for payment in the sum of £7535.49 as set out in the expenditure journal be formally approved for payment.

13668 Investments

Members considered the report prepared by the Town Clerk.

Members considered –

- Our current position
- How safe our savings currently are
- What our own bank can offer regarding investment(s)
- Alternative investment(s)
- Level of risk
- Level of access

Resolved – That the money be invested in 3 different UK regulated bank or building society accounts so that it is protected under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FCCS)

13669 Fireworks 2009

A discussion ensued regarding the siting and organisation of such an event this

year.

Resolved – (a) That the Town Clerk contacts the organiser of the Carlisle Fireworks Display for information regarding costs/health and safety/risk assessments and road closure issues prior to the matter being further discussed at a Special Meeting of the Council.

13670 Public Participation

Members considered the draft summary of public rights which outlined how the public could interact with the Town Council.

Resolved – (a) That paragraph 12(2) be adopted.

(b) That the summary of public rights be adopted.

The following item was confidential due to staffing matters being discussed.

13671 Staffing Matters

Resolved – (a) That the appointment of Kirstie Goodger as Administrative Assistant be noted.

(b) That the content of her contract of employment be endorsed subject to the post of Administrative Assistant being offered as pensionable.

(c) That following the completion of her 13 week probationary period, the position of Town Clerk be confirmed.

(d) That online training on Advantedge be endorsed at a cost of £330.

(e) That due to the benefits of online use, the Town Council agrees to migrating to online use of Advantedge.

(f) That the Clerk provides an estimate of the running costs of Advantedge at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm