

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COCKERMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, COCKERMOUTH ON WEDNESDAY
17TH SEPTEMBER 2008 (7.00 P.M. TO 9.15 P.M.)

Present: Cllr Mrs I. Burns – Town Mayor/Chairman
Cllrs. S.T. Coates, A. Kennon, W.D. Newton, E.W. Nicholson,
A. Smith, Mrs C. Smith, S. Standage, A. Tyson, Mrs M. Wood

1 Member of the Press

Apologies: Cllrs. Mrs C.M. Jackson, L.G. Lytollis

Town Mayor's Announcements

The Town Mayor gave details of events she had attended since the July meeting including accompanying the Cumbria in Bloom judges around town with the Clerk, an Afternoon Tea reception she had provided for a group of visitors from Hungary, Broughton Carnival, Duet for Two at the Kirkgate Centre, a Blues Band event at the Kirkgate Centre, the Mayor of Allerdale's Civic service, the Allison Trio event, two evenings at the Fletcher Christian pub with visitors from Marvejols, a meeting of the Cockermouth Rural Safety group, a Civic Reception for a group from Marvejols visiting West House, the Cumbria in Bloom awards ceremony, a Civic Reception for a group of veteran footballers from Marvejols as well as attending both matches they played and several special meetings at the Town Hall in connection with the appointment of a new Town Clerk.

Minutes

Ref:M3

13449 RESOLVED

“that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Wednesday 20th August 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman”.

Attendance by Police

There was no Police representative at the meeting but a report had been forwarded which the Clerk read out for members' information.

The report indicated two males were currently on bail in connection with a serious assault on Main Street which appeared to be as a result of excessive alcohol consumption. The Dispersal Order appears to have been a success in reducing intimidation caused by large groups of youths and the size of groups has been significantly reduced although incidents of anti social behaviour are still being reported. An extension of the Dispersal Order is in the process of being sought. The report also indicated there had been no further calls concerning problems at the Cemetery on Lorton Road but officers had been briefed to pay passing attention.

A Rural Safety Group has been constituted in Cockermouth and will initially meet on a monthly basis. The CDRP has agreed to donate £500 to the group and the first meeting would be held on 18th September 2008.

The report then referred to crime statistics indicating that compared to the same period last year violent crime was down by 12.1%, injury assaults were down by 21.7% and criminal damage was down by 17.3%. During the period there had been 14 arrests for a variety of offences and there had been 36 recorded crimes.

Over the last month the police had dealt with 2 injury accidents and 22 damage only collisions. There had been a local traffic operation in September on the A66 at Oakhurst Roundabout aimed at targeting traffic offences and the criminal use of vehicles. There was an ongoing speed enforcement campaign at the present time targeting speeding on trunk roads. Tickets had also been issued to drivers and passengers for seat belt related offences.

The Police had also dealt with two missing person incidents both of whom were found safe and well. There had been two Mountain Rescue calls and one person detailed under the Mental Health Act.

A member then referred to the fact he was happy to see the CDRP was donating £500 to the Rural Safety Group but indicated it was a pity they could not support the speed camera appeal when another member indicated the camera appeal was not a community based project and thus did not qualify for support.

The Clerk indicated a report had been received from the Police relating to the proposed firework display on 2nd November and it was agreed this be dealt with later in the meeting.

Planning Applications

Ref:P3

13450 RESOLVED

- a) "that the Council's observations on the following planning applications to date be forwarded to the Chief Planning Officer".

2/2008/0580 - AMENDMENT

Mrs K. Beattie, Flat 4 Lorton Road, Cockermouth.

To change windows from wooden single glazed to UPVC double glazed on front of property at Ground Floor Flat, 4 Lorton Road, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0720

Mr Kjell Bergstorm, Ellesmere House, 10 Fern Bank, Cockermouth.

Dismantle chimney on back kitchen and re-cover roof with slate at Ellesmere House, 10 Fern Bank, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL AS PROPERTY IS IN A CONSERVATION AREA UNDER AN ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION AND CONSIDER THE CHIMNEY FORMS PART OF THE ARCHITECTURAL VALUE OF THE PROPERTY

2/2008/0731

Mr J. Cusack, Waterloo Developments, per Glen Beattie, Alpha Design, Unit 7 Europe Way, Cockermouth.

Proposed replacement shop front windows at 60 Main Street, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0735

Mr R McKay, per Glen Beattie, Alpha Design, Unit 7 Europe Way, Cockermouth.

Proposed alteration of 2 existing first floor one bed flats into one, two bed flat including single storey utility room/terrace extension at 91 Main Street, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0748

Trout Hotels Ltd., per Mr M. Wilson, Black Box Architects Ltd., Rickerby Buildings, Currock Road, Carlisle.

Replacement of side hung gates with sliding gates of similar style and profile, formation of two no. pass gate openings in existing stone wall within and removal of lean-to garden store at 10 Low Sand Lane, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0750

Miss K. Huntington, Happy Homes Interior Design, The Bank, Forrester Fold, Wigton.

Name plate on entrance gate at 5a Main Street, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL SUBJECT TO SIGN BEING IN KEEPING WITH CONSERVATION AREA AND IN WOOD

2/2008/0755

Mr M. Pratt, Brigrove (Five) Ltd., per N.J. Hodgson & Co Ltd., 29 Yearl Rise, Seaton, Workington.

Conversion and reformation of three cottages from obsolete offices to open market residential dwellings, removal of lean-to structure and asbestos roof sheets and replace with slates at 4 Main Street, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL SUBJECT TO COBBLED COURTYARD BEING RETAINED/REFURBISHED AS IT IS ONE OF THE LAST OF ITS KIND IN TOWN

2/2008/0756

Mr M. Pratt, Brigrove (Five) Ltd., per N.J. Hodgson & Co Ltd., 29 Yearl Rise, Seaton, Workington.

Listed Building Consent for conversion and reformation of three cottages from obsolete offices to open market residential dwellings, removal of lean-to structure and asbestos roof sheets and replace with slates at 4 Main Street, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL SUBJECT TO COBBLED COURTYARD BEING RETAINED/REFURBISHED AS IT IS ONE OF THE LAST OF ITS KIND IN TOWN

2/2008/0759

Mr D. Bell, 4 Culgarth Avenue, Cockermouth.

Erection of a detached garage adjacent to existing property at 4 Culgarth Avenue, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0762

Mr S. Lambert, per Kevin Dickinson UPVC Ltd., Bethel, Keys Brow, High Harrington, Workington.

To replace 6 wooden windows with UPVC white REHAU heritage sash windows at 4 Rubbybanks Road, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0773

Mr D. Burton, per Mrs E. Clark, 37 Mountain View, Cockermouth.

Installation of pipe finish centre pivot velux roof window to replace smaller existing decayed roof light at 23 Mountain View, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

2/2008/0774

Mrs J. Summers, Rope Walk Cottage, 33a Kirkgate, Cockermouth.

Listed Building Consent to install satellite dish to gable end of house at Rope Walk Cottage, 33a Kirkgate, Cockermouth.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- b) that the various notifications of planning decisions as received from the Borough Council be noted
- c) that no objection be raised to the application by Mr P. Jackson for various tree works on land at Wyndham Lodge, Castlegate Drive, Cockermouth
- d) that regarding the application by Mr C. Thomas to pollard 2 lime trees on land at Friends Meeting House, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, the Council recommend refusal to pollarding to the extent shown on the plan
- e) that the notifications of decisions concerning tree works and Tree Preservation Orders as received from the Borough Council and relating to land at Strawberry How and land at Oak Tree House, The Parklands be received and noted
- f) it be noted the appeal by Mr & Mrs W. Malaney against refusal to grant Listed Building Consent for the addition of two additional roof lights at The Stables, Castlegate, Cockermouth had been dismissed
- g) that write to the Borough Council informing them the new sign at the Computer Shop in Station Street appears to be against the advice of the recently adopted Conservation Area Design Guide guidelines and also enquiring about what action is being taken relating to the 'Bet Direct' sign on Main Street which has not received planning permission".

Cumbria Association of Local Councils

Ref:A2

13451 RESOLVED

- a) "that CALC Circular dated September 2008 be received and the Clerk's comments noted concerning inter alia the curtailment of CILCA grants and new Quality Parish guidance when it was further noted he would send for a copy of the publication
- b) that the e-mail dated 17th September 2008 from CALC indicating discussions were continuing with planning officers following the publication of CALCs Guide to Planning following up, amongst other things, the quality of feedback a parish council received from the planning authority when it makes a decision which is contrary to the views of the parish council and indicating some Councils have expressed the view the feedback is frequently insufficient/inadequate and inviting Council's views be received and noted
- c) it be noted the CALC Annual General Meeting would be held at Rheged, Penrith on Saturday 8th November 2008 at 10.30 a.m. when the guest speaker would be Chief Constable Mr Craig Mackey who will speak on the latest developments in community/neighbourhood policing".

Annual Report of Cumbria County Playing Fields Association

Ref:P6

13452 RESOLVED

“that the Annual Report for 2007/08 of the Cumbria County Playing Fields Association be received”.

Chestnut Tree, Kirkgate

Ref:R4

13453 RESOLVED

“that the further correspondence received from Neville Elstone concerning the Chestnut Tree in Kirkgate expressing his concerns on the safety aspect be received and it be noted the Clerk had had further discussions with Alex Watson of ISS Waterers who had re-confirmed verbally that in his opinion he did not consider there was any immediate danger, but agreed it would need to come down in due course”.

Proposed New Footbridge

Ref:R4

13454 RESOLVED

“that the further correspondence received from Gill Greenhalgh and Aline Elliott concerning the new footbridge proposal be received and noted”.

All Saints Church Walk

Ref:R4

13455 RESOLVED

- a) “that the letter dated 22nd August from John Simmons, Warden of All Saints Church, indicating Church Walk is a public highway (an unclassified road) and any attempt to obstruct this highway which serves All Saints Church and the Church Rooms would be vigorously resisted by the Church be received and it be noted the Clerk had written to the County Council concerning the status of the area and a reply was still awaited
- b) that comments made by Councillors concerning lack of consultation by the Church authorities when the railings were removed and the fact that the Council has only asked for a bollard previously there to be put back and that vehicles are a hazard to pedestrians including children be noted”.

Allerdale Borough Council – Launch of Corporate Improvement Plan 2008-11

Ref:P3

13456 RESOLVED

“that the letter dated 28th August 2008 from the Leader of Allerdale Borough Council indicating that to celebrate the launch of the Council’s Corporate Improvement Plan 2008-11 a breakfast meeting was being held at the Wave Centre, Maryport on Thursday 18th September at 8 a.m. and the Council was invited to send a representative be received and noted”.

Zurich - Annual Inspection – Town Hall

Ref:I1

13457 RESOLVED

“that the letter dated 18th August 2008 from Zurich Insurance Company indicating they had carried out the annual inspection of equipment in the boiler room at the Town Hall and

had found no defects be received and it be noted the relevant schedule received would be placed on the Council's insurance file".

Len Roope's Paintings

Ref:M4

13458 RESOLVED

"that the letter dated 23rd August 2008 from a Mr & Mrs Krikkis of Denmark indicating they had a collection of Len Roope's paintings and would be prepared to let the town have some of the paintings on permanent loan for display in a local museum or cultural centre be received, noted and the letter passed to the Museum Group".

Bridge Over River Cocker on Greenway

Ref:R4

13459 RESOLVED

- a) "that the e-mail dated 1st September 2008 from the Civic Trust concerning complaints received about the state of the former railway bridge over the River Cocker on the Greenway be received and it be noted the Borough Council had recently arranged for some weeding to be done and that investigations were being carried out regarding the upkeep of the mosaic
- b) that the Clerk write to ex Councillor Mrs Dianne Moyes enquiring what was the final outcome of her previous investigations regarding the mosaic and the Clerk draw the attention of the Borough Council to the state of the mosaic on the Greenway approach path near Horsman Street which is in an overgrown state
- c) that Cllr. Nicholson's comments that the Cumbria County Council only gave permission for the mosaic on the bridge to be put down but did not accept any responsibility for its upkeep be noted including his comment that the Civic Trust would perhaps like to look at funding possibilities".

Closure of Whinfell Avenue

Ref:R4

13460 RESOLVED

"that the letter dated 3rd September 2008 from the County Council giving details of a temporary road closure in respect of Whinfell Avenue, Cockermouth for a five week period from 29th September to allow the reconstruction of a wall be received and noted".

Market Place Meeting

Ref:P10

13461 RESOLVED

- a) "it be noted the Mayor would be attending a meeting to be held with various interested parties on Thursday 18th September 2008 concerning an official opening for Market Place together with the production of a leaflet which Ged Acton is trying to pull together
- b) that the Clerk enquire as to who gave permission for the wheelchair sign to be painted on the ground near the Chinese restaurant".

Cockermouth Photographs

Ref:M4

13462 RESOLVED

“that the letter dated 1st September 2008 from Miss M.E. Burkett of Isel Hall enquiring if the Town Council would be interested in using some photographs by local photographer Richard Longstaff for publicity purposes for Cockermouth and indicating that some time ago she launched a small Trust administered by Cumbria Community Services to help deserving cases in the field of art be received and it be noted the Clerk had written to her for further information together with cost implications and his further comment (which was agreed in principle) that as the Council did not hold its own photographic library this matter would be best dealt with by the Cockermouth Museum Group”.

Rotary Club of Cockermouth – Charity Golf Tournament

Ref:G1

13463 RESOLVED

“that the letter dated 14th September 2008 from the Rotary Club of Cockermouth thanking the Council for its donation towards their Charity Golf Tournament held on Sunday 7th September when a sum of around £1,200 had been raised for distribution to various charities be received and noted”.

Lease – Town Hall Basement

Ref:T5

13464 RESOLVED

- a) “that the letter dated 15th September 2008 from Waugh & Musgrave Solicitors indicating the lease in respect of the Town Hall basement was due to be sealed by the County Council on 12th September and was therefore expected to be in his position any day be received and noted
- b) it be noted the Solicitor’s fees in respect of the new lease amounted to £300 plus VAT (which the County Council were not prepared to pay) and payment and this amount be formally approved”.

Bus Shelters in Cockermouth

Ref:M4

13465 RESOLVED

“that the e-mail dated 17th September 2008 from Dianne Standen inviting Councillors to accompany her to the bus stops on Main Street and speak to some of the passengers concerning the provision of bus shelters be received and noted”.

Request for Signage on Memorial Gardens

Ref:M1

13466 RESOLVED

“that the e-mail dated 17th September 2008 from the Senior Development Manager of Priority Sites Ltd indicating his company was presently developing 12 new industrial units at Derwent Mills which are being marketed locally through Smeatons Estate Agents and requesting permission for a ‘For Sale/To Let’ sign to be erected on land at the Memorial Gardens at the junction of Gote Road and Wakefield Road be received and noted and he be informed the Council would be agreeable to this for a fee of £150 per week and if this was not acceptable it is suggested they contact the County Council to see if they could help”.

Proposed New Footbridge

Ref:R4

13467 RESOLVED

“that the e-mail dated 17th September 2008 from Gill Greenhalgh indicating community involvement for the proposed new footbridge had been very supportive and requesting permission to use the TIC as an outlet for a forthcoming postcard exercise be received, noted and no objection raised thereto”.

Cockermouth Parish Plan

Ref:P3

13468 RESOLVED

“that the Clerk’s report on an e-mail enquiry he had received from the Borough Council requesting a copy of the Cockermouth Parish Plan when he had informed them the Council has no such plan and the subsequent enquiry for copies of plans for the rural areas when they had been again advised to contact the various parishes direct as Cockermouth Town Council only covered the Town of Cockermouth be received and noted”.

Victoria Hall

Ref:V2

13469 RESOLVED

“that the Clerk’s report giving details of advance bookings in the Hall for the month of October 2008 be received and noted”.

Tourism and Publicity

Ref:T2

13470 RESOLVED

- a) “that the Clerk’s report giving details inter alia of Tourist Information Centre statistics for the month of August 2008, exhibitions in the Tourist Information Centre and indicating a letter of appreciation had been received from a couple in Ipswich congratulating Beth, our TIC student, on the warm greeting and helpful manner which she had dealt with their queries during a recent visit to the Centre be received and noted and a letter of appreciation sent to the member of staff
- b) it be noted the Tourist Information Centre Manageress was actively seeking a replacement student for Beth who is leaving to attend Cambridge University where she has been awarded a place following successful exam results
- c) that the Clerk’s report indicating the Mayor and Mayoress were present at the Cumbria in Bloom awards ceremony at Houghton Hall Garden Centre on Thursday 4th September when sadly the town had not won its category but had been awarded a Silver Gilt Award be received and the results as circulated by the Clerk noted
- d) that the presentation evening for winners of the Garden and Allotment Competitions in town be held on Thursday 9th October 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall
- e) it be noted donations received to date in respect of the Cockermouth in Bloom effort totalled £890

- f) that no objection be raised to the request from the TIC Manageress for shorter opening hours on Saturdays between April and October with the Centre being open in future from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. which was a reduction of 1 hour during April, May, June, September and October and 1 ½ hours in July and August on current hours and it be noted staff had no objections to the proposals
- g) that the correspondence dated 11th and 12th September from Cumbria Tourism giving an update on 'Enjoy England Official Partner TIC Aspirations' and Provision of Visitor Information in Cumbria be received and noted including the Clerk's comments".

Town Twinning/Europe Matters

Ref:T8

13471 RESOLVED

- b) "that the Clerk's report giving details of the recent visit by the Marvejols Veterans Football Team to Cockermouth between 4th and 7th September and indicating the next visit to take place is the first leg of the school exchange with Cockermouth School visiting Marvejols later this month be received and noted
- b) that the Clerk's report indicating a meeting of the sub group in connection with the organisation of the 25th anniversary celebrations due to take place in Cockermouth between 26th October and 1st November was held on 9th September and that matters were in hand be received including an indication he was still awaiting a reply from the County Council concerning improvements to existing signage at the entrances to town and that ticket application forms in connection with the Anniversary Dinner on Monday 27th October had now been sent to everyone on the twinning lists
- c) that it be noted the next meeting of the Town Twinning Advisory Committee was scheduled for Monday 29th September".

Memorial Gardens

13472 RESOLVED

- a) "that the letter dated 27th August 2008 from a resident of Derwentside Gardens concerning ongoing problems caused by youths at the picnic bench on the Memorial Gardens to the rear of Derwentside Gardens be received and noted and it be agreed the bench be removed from the site
- b) that the Clerk's report he had written to ISS Waterers seeking a quotation for having the hedge removed and some sort of fencing put in place along the path from Millers Footbridge to Wakefield Road Car Park but a reply was still awaited be received and noted
- c) that the Clerk's report relating to seat renovation works being carried out for the Council by Philip Hartley be received and noted and Philip be requested to continue with the seat maintenance programme but as far as the more complex seats are concerned he be requested to submit quotations for renovation in due course to include for any necessary equipment hire costs rather than the Council hiring or buying equipment to enable works to be carried out

- d) it be noted a seat provided by the Lionesses was still to be sited on the Memorial Gardens and that the Clerk had written to the County Council concerning permission for a seat to be provided to the memory of Michael Renney at the corner of Wakefield Road near the flower bed following a request by his family
- e) it be noted Cllr. Standage had chased up the Borough Council concerning the provision of replacement dog bins on the Memorial Gardens and had received an indication these were imminent
- f) that following further correspondence received and consideration given no objection be raised to the request by the Environment Agency and Jack Abernethy of the Angling Association to move the canoe access/egress point on the River Derwent from its present point upstream of Millers Footbridge to a point nearer Gote Bridge
- g) it be noted repairs to the walkway opposite the Castle had recently been carried out
- h) that the Clerk again write to the resident of Derwentside Gardens who had constructed a gateway through his fence onto the Memorial Gardens and a crossing over the Mill Race requesting the area be immediately reinstated to its former state with a threat of legal action in the event of nothing being done”.

Memorial Gardens Play Area

Ref:M1

13473 RESOLVED

- a) “that the Clerk’s report following acceptance of Proludic’s tender after approval by the Lottery Fund and indicating Cllr. Standage and himself had met a representative from Proludic together with their appointed contractor (Simon Luscombe of Ulverston) on 1st September and had agreed a completion date of 17th October with works to start as soon as they finished their present job at Barrow be received and noted
- b) it be noted the Clerk had written to the Borough Council asking when the money would be paid over to the Town Council which it was believed was now in their possession and a reply was awaited
- c) the Clerk’s report that the Council’s solicitor had registered a restriction with the Land Registry, as required by the Lottery Fund, at a fee charged by the Land Registry of £40 which had been paid be received and the action approved and it be noted the Council’s Solicitor would not be charging any fees himself for his work in this connection”.

Tarn Close

Ref:P6 (TC)

13474 RESOLVED

- a) “that the Clerk’s report indicating Cockermouth Titans had now paid the £350 fee as proposed by the Council for their fixtures this season at Tarn Close and further indicating that due to inclement weather it had not been possible to carry out the pitch levelling works which had now been put on hold until the end of the season be received and noted
- b) that the previously agreed Civic reception for the Cockermouth Titans be arranged for Friday 17th October 2008 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall”.

Tarn Close Depot

Ref:T7

13475 RESOLVED

“that the Clerk’s report the depot needed tidied up as soon as possible to enable Christmas lights works to be progressed be received and noted”.

Allotments

Ref:A4

13476 RESOLVED

“that the Clerk’s report indicating inter alia the following be noted

- a) the Allotment Association had now requested late January for the previously agreed provision of a skip at the allotments and that they had been informed to contact the new Town Clerk in due course
- b) that there had been a problem with a padlock at St. Helen’s Street which had been replaced by the Clerk and as the lock had a 10 year guarantee Firms were taking the matter up with the manufacturers
- c) the Allotment Association had raised a query about responsibility for cutting the main grass paths and hedges and they had been informed the Council cuts the hedge at St Helens Street when considered necessary but as far as the paths were concerned could the Allotment Association themselves not help those allotment holders who do not have mowers/strimmers
- d) it be noted vandalism had been reported to plot 1a and 2 at St Helens Street during the weekend of the Cockermouth Show when plots were entered and crops dug up and taken away”.

Town Hall

Ref:T5

13477 RESOLVED

- a) “that the Clerk’s report indicating Simon Cain is in the process of carrying out roof repairs including sorting out a problem with an external downspout and renewing some panes of glass in one of the upstairs windows at the Town Hall and that some patching work would be required inside the Mayor’s Parlour at ceiling/coving height following water infiltration be received and noted and the various works approved
- b) it be noted a quotation from T & J Collins Ltd, Painting & Decorating Contractors, in the sum of £1,550 plus VAT for decorating works to the new upstairs front office and the downstairs kitchen and toilet area had been accepted under Executive Powers as per Standing Orders and Financial Regulations in view of the urgency of the situation and the action formally approved although it be noted works to the back toilet area downstairs would be delayed until a water infiltration problem had been sorted out

- c) that the Clerk's report the upstairs front office had duly been cleaned out with defunct equipment and non saleable furniture taken to the tip but that 3 fairly large tables and 8 carver chairs had been sent to Mitchells Auction and had raised a total of £409.82 be received an noted
- d) that the Clerk's report two telephone lines, as previously agreed by the Council, would be installed in the upstairs front office on 1st October, that a dedicated electrical circuit for the computers and various additional power points had also been installed in the office at a cost of £550.92 plus VAT with the amount included in this month's accounts and that it would be necessary to purchase two new desks and a telephone for use in the office be received, noted and approved
- e) that the quotations received from Edge Designs Ltd dated 9th September 2008 under Ref. C14014B for the general office and C14015B for the Tourist Information Centre and for the provision of new computer equipment for the Town Clerk's office and upgrading of equipment for the Tourist Information Centre including on site installation be received, noted and approved in the following sums
 - (i) Town Clerk's Office £3,360
 - (ii) Tourist Information Centre £1,558
 with the amount being met initially from balances and recovered by giving consideration to a provision to balances in the 2009/10 budget
- f) that the Clerk's report on recent photocopier problems which had resulted in the engineer being called out and his comment he had been informed spare parts were no longer being manufactured for the machine and maintenance therefore would only continue whilst parts could be found be received and noted and in view of this and the age of the machine a quotation sought for a replacement".

Firework Display

Ref:I2

13478 RESOLVED

- a) "that the Clerk's report indicating Pyro 2000 had sent him a confirmation form for completion requesting inter alia details of the venue and asking for a contact name on site and further indicating the Police had advised it would be necessary to have a site specific risk assessment prepared to take account of crowd control, stewarding and arrangements concerning access/egress for both traffic and pedestrians be received and noted
- b) that the written report received from the Police this very day detailing their concerns about the event and the site be received and noted
- c) that regretfully and in view of the Police concerns, the necessary requirements and shortness of time to provide a professional risk assessment or find a more suitable site, the fireworks display be cancelled for this year and every effort made to find a more suitable site for the future
- d) that Mitchells Auction Company be informed of the Council's decision".

Christmas Illuminations

Ref:C1

13479 RESOLVED

- a) “that the Clerk’s report indicating he was still awaiting the return of the various paperwork sent to the contractor some time ago for signature and return with instructions concerning risk assessments, a method statement, a detailed programme of work to be carried out and a tender document at the agreed price which represented a 3% increase over last year’s figure as previously agreed by the Council and that all other matters were in hand as far as they could be received and noted
- b) it be also noted the Clerk had not yet started on the actual Switch On Day programme apart from contacting one or two people to see if they would be participating
- c) that the Clerk’s report the usual appeal letters had now been sent out to various local organisations and the offer of Cllr. Mrs M. Wood to deliver appeal letters to various shops and businesses in town be accepted with thanks
- d) it be noted the Borough Council had agreed to 50 hours free car parking on car parks it was responsible for in town during the run up to Christmas on the following dates and times which had been agreed with the Chamber of Trade”.

Sunday 23 rd November	13.30 to 18.30	(5 hrs)
Saturday 6 th December	13.30 to 18.30	(5 hrs)
Friday 12 th December	08.30 to 13.30	(5 hrs)
Saturday 13 th December	13.30 to 18.30	(5 hrs)
Friday 19 th December	08.30 to 13.30	(5 hrs)
Saturday 20 th December	13.30 to 18.30	(5 hrs)
Monday 22 nd December	08.30 to 13.30	(5 hrs)
Tuesday 23 rd December	13.30 to 18.30	(5 hrs)
Wednesday 24 th December	08.30 to 18.30	(10 hrs)

Completion of Audit

Ref:A1

13480 RESOLVED

- a) “that the Clerk’s report the Annual Audit of the Council’s accounts had been completed by the new external auditors appointed by the Audit Commission who had signed off accordingly with no matters coming to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met
- b) that the various matters not affecting their opinion but which they would like to draw the Council’s attention to be noted and
 - (i) the Council increase its level of Fidelity Guarantee Insurance from the present £240,000 to £270,000
 - (ii) in view of the fact the Council’s Minute Book is loose leaf the Chairman, in the future, initial each page of the Minutes rather than just a signature at the end
 - (iii) it be noted the Clerk had amended the Council’s Asset Register to include not only the value of fixed assets owned as buildings but other non building items such as Christmas lighting stock, regalia and office furniture which are at present insured by the Council and it be also noted these should be included on future Annual Returns

- c) it be noted the Clerk had advertised the required notice regarding the completion of the Audit on the Council's notice board in the Town Hall
- d) that the fee for carrying out the Audit as included in this month's accounts be approved and paid".

Cockermouth Partnership

Ref:P10

13481 RESOLVED

- a) "that the Minutes of the meeting of the Cockermouth Partnership held on 17th September 2008 be received and noted
- b) that the attention of the Police be drawn to lorries parking on pavements in Market Place whilst loading/unloading rather than using the loading bays in Market Place".

Accounts for Payment

Ref:A3

13482 RESOLVED

"that accounts for payment amounting to £12,102.23 as set out in the Expenditure Journal be formally approved for payment and it be noted this included the second half years rates due to the Borough Council and the Audit fee".

Local Council Review

Ref:A2

13483 RESOLVED

"that the September 2008 edition of Local Council Review be received".

In Committee

Appointment of Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

Ref:S6

13484 RESOLVED

- a) "that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 16th September 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman
- b) that it be noted the Clerk had ordered the lunch as requested and that he had made arrangements for a member of the TIC staff to open up at 8.30 a.m.

Chairman