

Minutes of a meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on 19 June 2013 at 7.00pm

Members

P Graham (Mayor)

I Burns	S Coates
L Davies	J Laidlow
E Nicholson	A Graham
A Kennon	A Smith
C Smith	S Standage

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C M Jackson

Also present: 1 press representative & 2 police representatives

There were also approximately 16 members of the public in attendance.

The Mayor pointed out to those present the new clock which had been gifted to the Town Council by Mr G Todhunter. Mr Todhunter was thanked for his generosity.

16 To authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 16 May 2013

Resolved – That the minutes of the last meeting held on 16 May 2013 be signed as a correct record.

17 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Davies declared an other registrable interest in relation to all planning applications due to being a member of the Development Panel.

Councillor A Smith declared an other registrable interest in matters relating to Allerdale Borough Council due to being Leader of Allerdale Borough Council.

Councillor S Standage declared an other registrable interest in relation to planning applications 2/2013/0318, 0339, 0386.

Councillor S Standage declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 2/2013/0348 due to residing nearby.

18 Mayors Announcements

The Mayor had attended the following events since the last meeting:-

- The Mayor Making in Maryport
- Laying flowers at the cenotaph in memory of Lee Rigby
- Flood Defence Opening Ceremony

- Civic Trust book launch
- Children's Party for 8 children from Chernobyl

19 Attendance by Police

Two police representatives attended the meeting.

Inspector Kelly reported that there had been 13 offences in Christchurch ward since the last meeting and four offences in All Saints ward.

The Problem Solving Team were investigating how to stop cars/lorries/vans parking inappropriately in Market Place.

20 Public Participation

Mr Brian Coley presented a petition from 201 residents of Towers Lane to the Mayor objecting to the construction of two residential properties on land off Towers Lane, Cockermouth.

Members also viewed the scale model Mr Coley had prepared.

Objections centred around the following issues:-

- Interference with tv/mountain rescue transmitter
- Non compliance with 'Building for Life'
- Affect on house prices
- Lack of water pressure
- No public foul sewer
- Access would be dangerously positioned between a bend and a blind dip
- Lack of pavement on the South side of Tower Lane
- The proposed buildings are out of character with existing properties
- The removal of most of the existing hedge which is home to nesting birds and various mammals
- Impaired visual amenity

21a Planning Applications

Recommended – That:-

2/2013/0308

Listed building consent to replace part glazed front door with part glazed hardwood door

13 St Helens Street Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0318

Change of use from offices to residential property – Retrospective

1 The Towers, Towers Lane, Cockermouth

Recommend – Approval

2/2013/0322

Replacement of forecourt building and workshop (following fire damage)

Fairfield Service Station, Station Street Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0326

Proposed single storey extension to rear kitchen and associated alterations

12 New Street Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0339

Erection of two residential properties

Land of Towers Lane Cockermouth

Recommend – Refusal. The massing/design of these two residential properties is out of character with the area and constitutes un-neighbourly development. The removal of 40m of established hedgerow will be detrimental to wildlife. There is no pavement on the south side of Towers Lane, this is dangerous for pedestrians.

2/2013/0344

Variation of condition 1 of planning approval 2/2012/0745 to amend house types

Former Highways Depot Sullart Street

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0348

Construction of first storey extension over existing attached garage to provide additional accommodation

14 Harrot Hill Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2012/0355

Replace existing advertisement with 1 no fascia sign, 1 no hanging sign and 1 no ATM surround

Lloyds TSB Bank Plc, 50 Main Street Cockermouth

Recommend – Approval (to amended plans)

2/2013/0368

Single storey rear extension and new porch to front

19 Simonscales Lane Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0370

Replacement of timber front windows to PVC sliding sash windows and replacement timber front door with composite door

9 Horsman Street Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0386

Small first floor extension and conversion of existing garage and snooker room to create a new dwelling

29 Fitz Road Cockermouth

Recommend – Refusal due to massing/overdevelopment

2/2013/0393

Change of use from B1 to Beauty Salon

Unit 3b Lakeland Business Park Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

2/2013/0397

Demolish existing garage to rear and rebuild

13 Skiddaw View Cockermouth

Recommend - Approval

21b Tree Works

Recommended – That no objection be raised regarding the 25% crown reduction of a walnut tree in the garden of 4, South Lodge, Cockermouth.

21c Tree Works

Recommended – That no objection be raised regarding the felling of 2 poplars and one willow tree in the garden of 24, Fell View, Cockermouth.

21d Woodland adjacent to 113, The Parklands

Agreed – That the 40% reduction of 2 alder trees in woodland adjacent to 113, The Parklands, Cockermouth be noted.

21e Proposed electronic consultation on planning applications

Development Services are aiming to increase efficiencies and streamline their existing procedure and are proposing to consult all Parish and Town Councils via electronic disc.

Resolved – That concern be expressed as to the practicality of implementing this system without significant investment to facilitate access for those councillors without computer access and access by members of the public.

21f Allerdale Local Plan (part 1) Pre Submission Draft Consultation: Topic Papers

Public consultation on the proposed Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) Pre-Submission Draft has been extended until 12 July 2013 to enable the submission of representations on the following topic papers:-

- Wind Turbine Separation Distance Topic Paper
- Spatial Strategy Topic Paper
- Housing Growth Topic Paper
- Cumulative Viability Assessment

Resolved – That comments on the topic papers be forwarded to the Town Clerk.

21g Local Planning and Onshore Wind

Agreed – That the contents of the written ministerial statement made on 6 June 2013 by Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP be noted and welcomed.

Councillor Kennon declared a prejudicial interest regarding the use of the loading bay

outside Leslie Cleelands as an additional taxi rank after 6pm.

21h Traffic Management in Cockermouth

The Traffic Management Officer was reviewing:-

- The existing parking arrangements in Main Street
- The existing double yellow lines in Oaktree Crescent
- The proposed introduction of double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) in St Helen's Street; at the junction of Waste Lane, St Helen's Close and Beckside Close

Recommended – (a) That the following comments be forwarded to the traffic management officer:-

- We object to the loading bay outside the Wordsworth Hotel, we would prefer the provision of additional disc parking bays instead
- The Town Council would like to see the loading bay outside Leslie Cleelands to become an additional taxi bay after 6pm

(b) That the existing parking restriction on Oaktree Crescent be made permanent.

(c) That the introduction of double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) in St Helen's Street; at the junctions of Waste Lane, St Helen's Close and Beckside Close be supported.

22 Financial Matters

22a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £17,348.56 as amended in the expenditure transactions approval list be formally approved for payment.

22b Internal Auditor's Certification

Agreed – That the contents of the report from our internal auditor for the financial year ending 31 March 2013 be noted.

22c Accounts for the year ending March 2013

Resolved – That the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013 be agreed and accepted subject to audit.

22d Audit Commission Return for the Year ended 31 March 2013

Resolved – (a) That Section 1 of the annual return relating to the Statement of accounts be formally certified and the accounts approved and duly signed by the Clerk/RFO and the Chairman.

(b) That Section 2 of the Annual Return relating to the annual governance statement be also formally approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

(c) That it be noted that Section 4 of the Annual Return has been duly completed by our internal auditor.

(d) That it be noted that the required notice concerning the appointment of date for the exercise of electors rights had been displayed.

(e) That it be noted that the Clerk would send the documentation required by the external auditor as soon as practicable.

23 Correspondence

23a Calc Circular

Agreed – That the contents of the June 2013 circular be noted.

23b Cockermouth Rural Safety Group

Resolved – (a) That the minutes of the last meeting be noted.

(b) That the clerk investigates insurance provision should other villages use the speed indication device.

(c) That the use of the speed indication device by other villages be discussed at the next meeting.

23c Proposed new bye laws on the River Derwent

The new byelaws will:-

- Introduce a 2 salmon per day bag limit on the River Derwent and its tributaries from 16 June to 31 October
- Require the return to the river of all female salmon caught during October on the River Derwent and its tributaries.

Recommended– That a letter be sent to the Environment Agency supporting the introduction of the new proposed bye laws.

23d Bluebells in the Memorial Gardens

Resolved – That Mr Bowen's generous donation be accepted and that a small plaque be erected within the Memorial Gardens to publicise his generosity.

24 Clerks Report

Those present considered the content of the Clerks report.

Resolved – (a) That the contents of the report be noted.

(b) That Day Services be allowed to site a refurbished bench outside the Town Hall.

(c) That arrangements be made to judge the allotments and private garden competition and that the awards evening be held on 12 September 2013.

(e) That our Civic Service be held on Sunday 21 July 2013.

(f) That a cheque for £25,808.00 in respect of sale of tarn close, searches and solicitors fees be paid to Waugh & Musgrave.

25 Spring Fair

Members of the Town Council expressed their concern regarding proposals to move the Spring Fair to Wakefield Road Car Park.

However, the Town Centre Manager was investigating the use of the car park near Wilkinson's instead as this car park was empty during the Fair due to the closure of South Street. Members preferred that the fair remain on Fairfield but felt that if this was not an option, moving it to the car park outside Wilkinson's could be a good compromise.

Resolved – That the situation be closely monitored.

26 Cockermouth & Papcastle Recreational Trust

Resolved – That Councillor Jackson be replaced on the management committee of Cockermouth & Papcastle Recreational Trust by Councillor A Smith.

27 Cockermouth Frontrunner Project Update

The documentation for all four proposed Neighbourhood Development Orders is now complete. A first stage consultation will be undertaken between 7 June 2013 and 2 August 2013.

Responses will be recorded and filed ready for consideration following the end of the consultation.

Agreed – That progress be noted.

28 Special Meeting

Resolved – That a special meeting be held to consider the new staff contracts of employment, personnel policies and staff handbook.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm