

Minutes of a meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Thursday 16 November 2017 at 7.00pm

Members

A Tyson (Mayor)

I Burns
R Hanson
D Malloy
S Nicholson
K Scales

L Davies
J Laidlow
E Nicholson
A Smith
S Standage

Apologies: A Kennon

Also Present: A police representative, a press representative and one member of the public.

103 To authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last Meeting held on 18 October 2017

Resolved – That the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 October 2017 be signed as a correct record.

104 To authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last Special Planning meeting held on 2 November 2017

Resolved – That the minutes of the last special planning meeting held on 2 November 2017 be signed as a correct record.

105 Declaration of Interest

Councillor A Smith declared a personal interest in any item on the agenda relating to Allerdale Borough Council due to being Council Leader.

106 Mayors Announcements

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

- 34th Anniversary celebrations in Marvejols
- Civic Service at Wigton

Those present agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Richard Moyes & Malcolm Wilson following their recent achievements.

107 Police Report

The Police report was circulated prior to the meeting.

The following issues were raised:-

- Police engagement with the residents of South Street regarding boy racers
- Parking in Market Place

108 Public Participation

There was none.

109 Planning Applications

HOU/2017/0229

Two storey side extension

The Old Coach House, Vicarage Lane, Cockermouth

Recommended – Approval

HOU/2017/0231

Erection of 2 storey extension to rear

84 Kirkgate

Recommended – Approval

2/2017/0527

Erection of medical surgery

Land at Wakefield Road

Recommended – Refusal pending resolution of highway concerns

2/2017/0535

New detached 3 bed dwelling

87, St Helens Street

Recommended - Approval

110 Tree Preservation Order No. 4 2017 and Tree Preservation Order No.8 2017

Agreed – That it be noted that TPO No. 4 2017 has been revoked and replaced with TPO No. 8 2017.

111 Finance

111a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That the schedule of payments in the sum of £7,295.91 be formally approved for payment.

111b Auditor's Internal Report

Resolved – (a) That the interim report by our internal auditor for the period 1 April to 30 September 2017 be agreed and accepted.

(b) That the Town Clerk/RFO be congratulated on her high standard of record keeping.

112 Correspondence

112a Revised proposals for new constituency boundaries in the North West

The Boundary Commission for England is conducting a review of the Parliamentary Constituency boundaries in England which will involve a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England (533 to 501).

Of the six existing constituencies in Cumbria, none are within the permitted electoral range i.e. 71,031 – 78,507. Cumbria is entitled to 5.02 constituencies. Significant changes are required to bring five constituencies within the permitted electoral range.

Under the new proposals the wards of All Saints and Christchurch will fall under Penrith and Solway constituency.

A lengthy debate ensued regard the pros and cons of the revised proposals.

Councillor Smith and Councillor Burns argued that the vastness of the new Penrith and Solway constituency was a disadvantage and that it was not feasible to travel sixty miles to see your M.P. Councillor Hanson was concerned that an M.P. for Penrith and Solway would have difficulty in responding to so many communities across such a large area in relation to infrastructure issues and flooding in particular.

Councillor E Nicholson argued that a reduction in the number of M.P's was needed and that the new proposals were a sensible way forward.

Recommended – That the revised proposals for the new constituency boundaries in the North West be supported.

112b Payment of fees to the Information Commissioner's Office

A recent ICO blog has confirmed that there will still be a legal requirement on data controllers to pay a 'data protection fee' when the new data protection legislation comes into force next year.

The new system will aim to make sure the fees are fair and reflect the relative risk of an organisation's processing of personal data.

Agreed – That the contents of the NALC briefing note on the payment of fees to the Information Commissioner’s Office be noted.

112c Police and Crime Commissioner for Cumbria

Those present considered the response from Peter McCall, Police and Crime Commissioner regarding our letter of 2 August 2017.

Agreed – That it be noted that going forwards the police newsletter will clearly state what type of CCTV is being referred to.

112d Inclusive Mobility Budget

Cumbria County Council’s Allerdale Local Committee have recently introduced an Inclusive Mobility Budget which will be used to improve accessibility on the highway to aid people with disabilities or mobility issues.

Recommended – That the following suggested improvements be relayed to CCC:-

- Dropped kerb on right hand side of St. Helen’s Street on the turn up to the swimming pool
- Extending the pavement up Castlegate
- Dropped kerbs on Crown Street near St. Joseph’s Church
- Refuge in the middle of Low Road opposite the shepherd statue near the entrance to The Laureates
- Dropped kerbs on Kirkgate and Windmill Lane require attention, a one inch lip has developed where the road has sunk

113 Clerks Report

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

(b) That consideration of works required to the Rotary circle of trees be deferred to the next meeting.

(c) That Councillors Smith and Kennon remain as trustees of Cockermouth & Papcastle Recreational Trust.

(d) That a small sub committee comprising of Councillor Burns, Tyson, Standage & Malloy, Gordon Morris and Gillian Telford be formed to organise the 35th anniversary.

(e) That the Town Clerk investigates the purchase of speakers to enhance our pa System for outside events.

(f) That Mr Bowen be thanked for his donation of bluebells which Councillor Kennon planted in the Memorial Gardens.

114 Speed on Windmill Lane

Those present considered a report by Councillor Hanson regarding her investigations into what could be done by County Highways to reduce speed on Windmill Lane.

An 85%ile of 27mph means that a 20mph speed limit is not supported as it would rely too heavily on enforcement to achieve.

Cumbria County Council has explored additional traffic calming measures however the number of private accesses, junctions and cul-de-sacs create issues for larger vehicles. It was felt that the installation of speed cushions or humps would not be beneficial as they increased noise and pollution levels and reduced parking.

Councillor Hanson's report concluded that further community action would be the most effective way to reduce speed.

Councillor Hanson was urged to argue the case further.

Agreed – That the contents of the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm