

Minutes of a Meeting of Cockermouth Town Council held in the Town Hall,
Cockermouth on Wednesday 17 November 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillor A Smith (Mayor)
Councillor G Bennion
Councillor S Barnes
Councillor I Burns
Councillor A Kennon
Councillor D Malloy
Councillor S Nicholson
Councillor C Smith
Councillor A Tyson
Councillor R Watson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Laidlow and Semple

Also Present: Three members of the public and one member of the press were present.

108 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 20 October 2021.

109 Minutes

Resolved – That the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the last special planning meeting held on 4 November 2021.

110 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Tyson declared an interest in item 7 due to being a member of the Development Panel.

Councillors Kennon & A Smith declared an interest in item 7 due to being substitute members of the Development Panel.

111 Mayor's Announcements

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

- A special Covid Service in All Saints
- Unveiling of a bench in memory of Kevin Twigg
- Remembrance Commemorations
- Unveiling of a chatty bench outside the URC

112 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

113a Planning Applications

FUL/2021/0171 (as amended)

Amended Construction Environmental Management Plan & amended Flood Risk Assessment to change use of former bank into restaurant and two self-contained flats.

Former HSBC Bank, 1 Main Street

Recommended – Approval

VAR/2021/0171 (as amended)

Non-compliance with condition 1 on planning application VAR/2019/0025 for changes to boundary treatments, external works, hard surfaces, SUDS pond design, position of plot 1 and removal of condition 23

Land off Strawberry How Road

Recommended - Approval

113b Tree Works

Recommended – That the removal of a cluster of sycamores, 14 Crown Street be agreed.

114a Schedule of Payments

Resolved – That payments in the sum of £9,787.25 be approved.

114b Internal Audit

Resolved – That the content of the interim half year report be noted.

114c Investment Strategy 2021/22

Resolved – That the draft Investment Strategy be adopted.

115 Correspondence

115a Electric Charging Points

Councillor Watson proposed that Cockermouth Town Council investigate working with Allerdale to install a standard CCS2 EV charging point in Fairfield Car Park, perhaps next to Goodfellows.

Councillor Burns suggested that the Coroners Office would be a better location.

Councillor Tyson stated that visitors to the Lakes should be encouraged to use public transport. He further stated that the Town Council did not own any land suitable for an EV charging point and that we would have to work collaboratively. Better infrastructure was required.

Resolved – That Cockermouth Town Council investigate working with either Cumbria County Council or Allerdale Borough Council to install an EV Charging point in Cockermouth.

115b Recycling Facilities

An elector expressed their concern about the lack of suitable staffed recycling facilities in the town.

Resolved – a) That Allerdale Borough Council be requested to empty and maintain the site in a better manner to prevent fly tipping.

b) That the crunch service be re-instated as soon as practicable.

115c Tree Works, Memorial Gardens

Councillor Malloy had been contacted by the occupiers of 23 Derwentside Gardens regarding the crown reduction of one of our trees in the Memorial Gardens adjacent to their property.

Our arboriculturist had inspected the tree and recommended that no action be taken.

Councillor Malloy requested that the tree be re-inspected.

Councillors refused this request as it was likely that the same conclusion would be drawn.

Resolved – That the Town Clerk write to the occupiers of 23 Derwentside Gardens and inform them that if they applied to Allerdale for the tree works and consent was granted, Cockermouth Town Council (as landowner) would allow the occupiers to crown reduce the tree by no more than 30%.

116 Clerk's Report

A private donation of £150 had been received towards the poppy cascade.

Resolved – a) That the content of the report be noted.

b) That S Hine be given £75 of the donation to cover the cost of the cargo net

c) That Cockermouth W.I. be given £75 of the donation to cover the cost of materials for the poppy cascade.

117 Welcome Back Fund

Further to minute number 100a, The Town Clerk submitted costs for advertising banners, information about the cost of a new stage and various designs for new planters for our Main Street.

Resolved – a) That the Town Clerk be authorised to sign the Service Level Agreement dated 18 November 2021 with Allerdale Borough Council.

b) That the New Activity Sheet be completed by the Town Clerk and returned to Allerdale Borough Council.

c) That a new stage be not pursued as the cost prohibitive.

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm