**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs Ferriby, Lynch, Hodson, Armstrong, Stapley, Robbins Clark, & Huntington

**FC/1/2019 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – Cllrs Crouch and Williams

**FC/2/2019 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 10TH APRIL 2019**

Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/3/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

**GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None

**FC/4/2019 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Item 14 – WBJC Report

**FC/5/2019 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**5/2019/1**  - Mr Magnay asked members if they were aware of the dispute between his family

and the burial committee? Cllr Lynch explained to Mr Magnay that the council are kept

informed but this is not the place to discuss this issue.

Mr Waller asked the council what was happening at the cemetery with the Curator. Cllr Lynch

explained again that we cannot discuss any issues relating to staff.

Anne Jackson informed the council that she would like to become a councillor. The Clerk

explained that the vacancies would be advertised in due course.

**5/2019/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – None

**5/2019/3** To receive reports from the Police – Report previously circulated via email.

The Clerk to ask for response times to the emergency call on 12th April and where officers

had been deployed from. Also if there had been reports to police regarding vandalism to the

Ice Cream shop on King Street as a councillor had been informed that this would not be

reopening due to the amount of vandalism at the back of the shop.

**FC/6/2019 FINANCE MATTERS**

**6/2019/1** To receive and authorise payments for April 2019 previously circulated –

received and authorised

**6/2019/2** To receive the monthly financial statement for April 2019 previously circulated

– received and authorised

**FC/7/2019 CCTV**

3 quotes had been received for installation/monitoring of CCTV cameras.

Cllr Hodson recommended that we go with the police system as this would be monitored as

well as installed by them. Vote taken – Unanimous decision to go with Police System

**FC/8/2019 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL – TRAFFIC REVIEW**

Members happy with the new traffic review for Lowmoor Road – No comments

**FC/9/2019 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Town Meeting

**FC/10/2019 CLERKS REPORT**

The following was noted

* Resignation of 3 Councillors since we received our election results. We now have 5 vacancies which I will advertise and co-opt at the next meeting.
* Welcome to old and new councillors and look forward to working with you all and our new borough councillor Elaine
* Pinfold – Small unveiling on 13th May at 5.00pm Members invited
* Cumbria In Bloom Evening at Allerdale House on Tuesday 14th May – Members invited
* Barton Laws Project – Meeting tomorrow with Cumberland FA to secure funding

**FC/11/2019 SOLICITORS**

Members agreed to appoint Burnett’s Solicitors in Carlisle.

**FC/12/2019 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Planning Application – **FUL/2019/0112**

Consider and submit observations on planning application for Stoneswood Development –

Proposed residential housing development for 77 dwellings at Land to West of Nonsuch, Syke

Road, Wigton

Cllr Ferriby – We should support the archaeological report

Cllr Armstrong – Observations regarding potential noise issues with the businesses being

so close to the new estate. Need to look at a sound barrier/bank?

Cllr Hodson pointed out that we may need a better distribution of houses with regard to the

housing survey created in 2016 by ABC

**FC/13/2019 MEMBERS REPORTS**

Town Meeting – CS, DF, MH, MC and SH

**FC/14/2019 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/COMMITTEES**

None

**FC/15/2019 WBJC – CONFIDENTIAL**

**FC/16/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th June 2019

Meeting Closed 8.40pm

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 12TH JUNE 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs Ferriby, Lynch, Hodson, Armstrong, Stapley, Robbins, Williams, Crouch, Clark, & Huntington

**FC/17/2019 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – None

**FC/18/2019 CO-OPTION**

John Hamblin and Anne Jackson had both expressed an interest to join the Council. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. They were both co-opted on to the council. The Chair invited them to sit at the table.

**FC/19/2019 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR**

Cllr Lynch proposed John Crouch as Mayor, seconded by Cllr Clark.

No other nominations – Vote taken, unanimous. Cllr Crouch was duly elected as Mayor and read and signed the declaration of office.

**FC/20/2019 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

Cllr Clark proposed Cllr Ferriby, seconded by Cllr Huntington

Cllr Armstrong proposed Cllr Hodson, no seconder

Vote taken to elect Cllr Ferriby as Deputy Mayor. 8 – Yes / 2 - Abstentions

Cllr Ferriby was duly elected as Deputy Mayor and read and signed the declaration of office.

**FC/21/2019 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 8TH MAY 2019**

Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/22/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

**GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Lynch – Item 10 Planning applications as on the ABC planning committee

Cllr Crouch – Any items relating to ABC

**FC/23/2019 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Item 13 – WBJC Report

**FC/24/2019 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**24/2019/1** - Mr Magnay asked the council ‘Who had ordered the re turfing of their grave?’

He also asked why nobody had answered the 2 emails his sister had sent.

Cllr Lynch stated again that this is being dealt with by Solicitors and please refer any questions

To us via them.

Kathryn Berwick asked if the Council could postpone these new housing developments. There

are a lot of empty houses up for sale in Wigton? The developers are also cramming them in.

Do you think this is reasonable to say?

Cllr Hodson responded by saying it is reasonable to say all of this but it’s not government

policy to stop housing and the above are not reasons to stop housing developments.

Kathryn Berwick went on to say they do not allow room for cars with the houses

Cllr Armstrong commented that we are mindful that ABC have set out 550 homes for Wigton

from 2011-29 and the 77 homes discussed takes us over this figure.

Cllr Jackson agreed with Kathryn Berwick and stated that schools, GP surgeries etc. would

struggle to cope.

The Clerk was asked to invite a planning officer to a TC meeting.

Lisa Hodgson asked if there could be more free parking in the town. Cllr Ferriby reported that

a small working group had been discussing options and that this would be sent to Cumbria CC

(On Street) and Allerdale (Car Parks) with recommendations for some limited free parking in

the town.

Clerk to write to Cumbria CC for extra patrols of the on street parking in the town.

Lisa Hodgson also commented on the rise in Council Tax and not getting anything for it. She

discussed the police part and asked if we have police presence at meetings? The Clerk informed

the council that the PCSO was off sick and unable to attend and no other officers were available.

Cllr Armstrong asked if we could invite the PCC to attend a meeting. The Clerk to also invite

the Community Sergeant.

Lisa Hodgson commented on the unkempt areas in the town, weeds etc. The park, bowling

green etc. look good but other areas are not. The Clerk explained that the Town Council look

after the park and blowing green but not the streets/estates or roadside verges.

Cllr Crouch has been talking with ABC about the state of some areas where grass had not been

cut at all as ABC having undertaken an audit of the town and certain areas are not theirs to do

even though they have cut them in the past. They are trying to resolve this by talking to the

landowners.

Cllr Williams stated that there are 3 councils and private contractors that cut grass and maintain

areas in the town and we are looking at making it easier by fewer contractors being involved

but this would result in monetary support.

Cllr Crouch informed everyone that the new leader of ABC Marion Fitzgerald has been told.

Cllr Clark had been asked by Mr Newcombe if he could have an update on progress on flooding

from the Environment Agency. The Clerk to follow up.

**24/2019/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance –

Cllr Crouch reported that there had been no meetings of the new council as yet, they had all

Been postponed.

Cllr Pitcher reported that a new administration was in place and no coalition had been formed.

The Full council meeting had been set for 27th July.

Cllr Lynch had attended induction training and was a member of the development panel and

licencing committee.

**24/2019/3** To receive reports from the Police – No report received to date.

The Clerk reported she had emailed for response times to the emergency call on 12th April and

where officers had been deployed from.

Also if there had been reports to police regarding vandalism to the Ice Cream shop on King

Street. The Clerk had received the following email –

*I have spoken to  my Sgt regarding the questions that councillors have asked and am afraid due to data protection I am unable to divulge the information to them, we only pass information to members of the public that would be within the public interest.*

*Kind Regards*

***Police Community Support Officer 5326***

Cllr Armstrong asked if we could obtain the Council Tax contribution for the whole of Wigton. The Clerk to follow up.

**FC/25/2019 FINANCE MATTERS**

**25/2019/1** To receive and authorise payments for May 2019 previously circulated –

received and authorised

**25/2019/2** To receive the monthly financial statement for May 2019 previously circulated

– received and authorised

**25/2019/3** To agree new bank signatories due to resignations – **AGREED** David Ferriby,

Heather Robbins and Pat Williams

**FC/26/2019 GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

**FC/26**/**2019/1** To receive and respond to the Internal Auditor’s Report for Year Ending 31st March 2019- Previously circulated. No outstanding points to be discussed. The Clerk was thanked for the good report received.

**FC/26/2019/2** To approve the Statement of Assurance (Section 1) and authorise the Chairman to sign the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2019 – Received and Approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.

**FC/26/2019/3** To receive and approve the accounting statements for year ended 31st March 2019 (Section 2) – Previously circulated. Received and Approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.

**FC/27/2019 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

In the absence of a Mayor, the Chair had attended and opened the Art Exhibition on Saturday 25th May. Fantastic turnout. The Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Brian Campbell.

**FC/28/2019 CLERKS REPORT**

Nothing to report

**FC/29/2019 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**HOU/2019/0109** – Single Storey rear/side extension at 1 Grange Close for Mr and Mrs D

Jackson – **No comments**

**Carry out works to trees** – Removal of Rowan and Hawthorn Tree at Mardale, William St

for Mr D Stanton – Cllr Crouch asked if the trees needed to be replaced. Clerk to follow up

**VAR/2019/0016** - Variation of condition 2, approved plans on application 2/2017/0587 to

Former Auction Mart for Dryden Home Group – Cllr Armstrong discussed the plans now encroaching on to the baths path. Cllr Pitcher stated this was due to drainage works and that they had consulted with the baths and they were happy. **No comments**

Decision Notices – **HOU/2019/0072** and **ADV/2019/0005**

Tree Preservation Order **No. 7** of 2019 at Syke Road

**FC/30/2019 MEMBERS REPORTS**

Art Exhibition – SH, HR, JC and PW

Pinfold – DF, SH and MA

ABC Leader Walkabout – SH, MA, HR, JC, PW and MC

Finance Meeting – Draft minutes circulated prior to the meeting – Cllr Ferriby reported that

we had started the financial year with approx. £75k and ended the year with £39k hence the

increase in precept for this year.

Grants awarded to 3rd Wigton Sea Scouts - £500

Wigton and District Community Responders - £500

Wigton Cricket Club - £100

Wigton Youth Station – Not awarded a grant for their application but happy to consider a

further application regarding a heritage lottery project.

**FC/31/2019 ELECTION OF MEMBERS ON COMMITTEES**

Finance – Cllr Williams

Festivals – Cllr Lynch

Footpaths & Parks – Cllr Jackson and Cllr Hamblin

**FC/32/2019 WBJC – CONFIDENTIAL**

**FC/33/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th July 2019

Meeting Closed 8.55pm

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs Ferriby, Lynch, Jackson, Hodson, Armstrong, Stapley, Williams, Clark, & Huntington

**FC/34/2019 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – Cllrs Crouch, Robbins and Hamblin

**FC/35/2019 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12TH JUNE 2019**

Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/36/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

**GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Lynch – Any items relating to ABC

**FC/37/2019 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Item 13 – WBJC Report

**FC/38/2019 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**38/2019/1** - Trish Fallows (Fairtrade) asked the Council to support and approve the renewal

Of our Fairtrade Town Status. Council agreed to this. Trish asked if the council would support

new wooden signs stating we were a Fairtrade town. Again Council would support this. The

Clerk to as ABC if we would require planning permission to display signs under the Welcome

to Wigton Signs and the Clerk to give Trish a grant form to help with costs of the new signs.

Ms Berwick brought an envelope to the table and explained it was a petition/vote of no

confidence against 4 members of the Town Council. The envelope was given to Cllr Hodson

and she then proceeded to read out what and who the petition was about.

***This is a vote of no confidence against the following Councillors – Elaine Lynch, Mary Clark***

***and Pat Williams and they wish to propose the removal of these councillors from Wigton***

***Town Council and the Burial Board. She then went on to read out the name of the Clerk***

***Alison Dodd but no proposal was given.***

Ms Berwick then told the councillors she would like them to read all the comments/reasons for

the vote of no confidence before it was given to Allerdale BC.

Cllr Lynch stated that the public cannot have a vote of no confidence against councillors but

both Cllr Hodson and Ms Berwick said they could.

Cllr Hodson took control of the petition and said she would pass this on to Allerdale BC.

Ms Berwick then decided that she didn’t want the 4 named to have sight of the petition and

told Cllr Hodson not to let them see it.

A councillor asked if there was a closing date/time limit on the petition. Ms Berwick answered

yes obviously but how long is a piece of string? She stated that the petition had only been

going for a week.

Ms Mattinson read out a letter addressed to Wigton TC from Rachel Barwiss regarding Wigton

Cemetery. She then handed the letter to the Clerk.

**38/2019/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance –

The council were informed that Allerdale members found out about the cut in bin services at

the same time as the public.

Cllr Pitcher had attended a members briefing at Allerdale House last night and informed

members that he had been to an Allerdale briefing. The contract was negotiated 2 years ago,

FCC were the only contractor to quote. (FCC were the existing contractor). ABC purchased

20 vehicles (a cut of 5 to the previous contact)

The way forward – ABC have said it will last no longer than 2 months and they are working

with the contractor to sort this out.

Cllr Hodson asked who pays for the tax and insurance of the new refuse vehicles. Cllr Pitcher

would clarify this but everything had been done following council procedures.

Cllr Lynch said we need to give ABC/FCC time to sort this out.

Cllr Pitcher has already started the ball rolling with an investigation but agreed that they need

time to sort this out.

Cllr Lynch told members that it would be on the September Agenda for further discussion.

Cllr Pitcher reported that the Scrutiny committee has met and they have a work programme set.

This will include Waste Management/Housing. The next meeting is Friday 26th July.

Cllr Lynch had attended 2 development panel meetings regarding the new water pipe from

Thirlmere to Cockermouth. Expected to be completed by early 2021. She also attended a

licencing panel meeting.

**38/2019/3** To receive reports from the Police – No report received to date.

**FC/39/2019 BARTON LAWS**

To consider and the FA’s recommendation as per report – **Council are asked:**

1. To decide whether to go ahead with a 4 changing room build, or reduce to 2.
2. Agree that Day Cummings proceed with the amendments to the design.

Our architects have quoted for this work - £1575.00

Before a vote was taken Councillor Armstrong raised concerns regarding the FRA. The clerk was asked to pass this on to the architects to check before proceeding.

Proposal made by DF and seconded by PW to accept the recommendations above. A vote was taken – Unanimous.

**FC/40/2019 WCF ALLOTMENTS**

To consider footpaths and parks recommendation that we proceed with the acquisition of the

Site – Cllr Clark reported to members WCF approached the council 18 months ago and wanted

to donate the allotments (near to ATS) to us. They would require a demarcation fence put up

between allotments and the store. We asked for the allotments to be cleared of rubbish and

scrap before we would enter into the sale. They have now more or less been cleared. We

would have to have a legal contract drawn up at our expense.

Recommendation to go ahead with the acquisition. A vote was taken – Unanimous.

**FC/41/2019 FINANCE MATTERS**

**41/2019/1** To receive and authorise payments for June 2019 previously circulated –

received and authorised

**41/2019/2** To receive the monthly financial statement for June 2019 previously circulated

– received and authorised

**FC/42/2019 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**FC/43/2019 CLERKS REPORT**

* New employee has started work with us on Monday 8th July
* Speet Gill – some work carried out over the weekend and will remove rest of trees week commencing 22nd July
* Circus was here 4th to 7th July – a great success
* Lorraine Murphy – September meeting (No response from PCC) Questions beforehand please
* Cumbria In Bloom – 2nd July Visited park, barton laws, phoenix park and St Marys. They were very impressed.
* Emailed EA – Report is due but no response as yet
* Planning Officer – Do members want him to come to the October meeting - Yes

**FC/44/2019 MEMBERS REPORTS**

SH, AJ, EL – Carnival (Cllr Lynch asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Wigton Carnival for

a fantastic show this year)

DF – Chrysalis AGM

Footpaths & Parks – Cllr Clark reported allotment judging will take place 31/7/2019. Speet

Gill requires a replanting schedule before 2022. The committee have identified some park

equipment that needs repaired/replaced.

Barton Laws User Group – Cllr Lynch reported on the annual meeting. She updated users on

the barton laws project. Feedback from the users was regarding the poor quality of the pitches.

FA are coming to look at pitches and any work required will be part of the project.

Finance Meeting – Budget monitoring for the first 3 months going according to plan.

Donations granted to the following – Wigton Whippet Club, John Peel Theatre and Cumbria

Speaks Oral Archive.

**FC/45/2019 GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

To receive and note the updated Risk Register and to consider any mitigating measures – Received and noted by members

**FC/46/2019 WBJC – CONFIDENTIAL**

**FC/47/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th September 2019

Meeting Closed 8.55pm

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs Ferriby, Lynch, Jackson, Hodson, Armstrong, Williams, Hamblin, Robbins, Clark, & Huntington

**FC/48/2019 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – Cllrs Crouch and Stapley

**FC/49/2019 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 10TH JULY 2019**

Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/50/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

**GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Lynch – Item 7 Planning Application and any items relating to ABC

**FC/51/2019 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Item 13 – Staff

**FC/52/2019 ALLOTMENT WINNERS PRESENTATION**

Cllr Ferriby present a certificate and vouchers to Allotment Winners –

Lucy Gardham – Best Kept Allotment (£100 voucher for Saundersons)

William Benson – Most Improved Allotment (£50 voucher for Saundersons)

Well done to both and keep up the good work!

**FC/53/2019 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**53/2019/1** – Ms Berwick brought some copies of the ‘vote of no confidence’ petition to the

table as she wanted members to see them. She asked that members took the petition seriously.

The Chair stated that the Council had not seen the petition as at the last meeting members were

not allowed to see it. Ms Berwick went on to say that there was also an online petition.

Mrs Smallwood asked the council – Where did the ‘packing boxes’ come from that are in the

Memorial Garden. Did they come from Innovia? She would also like to put something round

her grave to stop people and Councillors walking over it to get to the memorial garden. Again

Cllr Lynch reminded the public that the Town Council could not make decisions on behalf of

the burial committee but if Mrs Smallwood would like to call in to the town council office she

could have a copy of the rules and regulations relating to grave spaces. If Mrs Smallwood

would like to write a letter to the burial committee it would be dealt with at their next meeting.

Cllr Armstrong asked if there were regulations about walking over graves? The Chair stated

that there were no regulations and many sections in Wigton Cemetery do not have paths and

therefore you have no choice other than to walk on the grass.

Ms Berwick suggested a sign could be erected to ask people to be respectful of walking on

graves. The Chair said the burial committee could discuss this.

Ms Mattinson stated that the agenda had not been advertised on the website at the correct time

and that she had asked the Chair specifically at the last meeting that she be told when the

meeting was. The Clerk informed the Chair that the agenda and papers had been published on

the noticeboard but could not confirm if they had been published on the website as the Assistant

Clerk did this but was sure it was published at the correct time. The Clerk was asked to check.

The Clerk confirmed that the meetings were held on the second Wednesday of every month

except August where no meeting took place and that agendas had to be published 3 clear

working days before a meeting.

Ms Berwick went on to ask the Chair if she thought it acceptable that her husband upset a

business owner of the town. The Chair told Ms Berwick that had nothing to do with the Town

Council. Ms Berwick continued and was then asked by Cllr Ferriby to stop as this did not

relate to the Town Council and if the business owner wished to complain then she should do

so via the office.

**53/2019/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr Lynch

had attended a Development Panel and Licencing meeting at Allerdale House and a briefing

regarding the waste collection service. An agreement has been made between FCC and ABC

to resolve current issues and collections started again on Monday 9th September. They are now

looking at long term solutions.

**53/2019/3** To receive reports from the Police – Inspector Rachel Gale was in attendance.

Cllr Lynch asked the Inspector about the major incident that happened in the town and what

the procedure was for going on lockdown as some shops/businesses etc. did not know about

this?

Inspector Gale stated that as this was an ongoing live incident, the safety of the public is

their first priority. She would go back and find out if there is a procedure and what it is and

liaise with the Clerk.

The following questions were submitted in advance of the meeting to Inspector Gale by Cllrs

Armstrong and Hodson

Cllr Armstrong firstly thanked the Inspector for the work the Officers and PCSO’s do for

Wigton.

We have had three very serious situations arise in Wigton that involved Knives they all happened within 10 months of one another, and therefore it appears to be a new very worrying pattern.

With this in mind, is it time to have a permanent police presence in Wigton? ***RG*** - ***The police look at demand not at population. Not sure having a permanent police presence in the town would have stopped this incident from happening.***

Cllr Hodson stated that it took 20 minutes on blue lights for officer to come from Whitehaven and Penrith. This is not acceptable. ***RG – 20 minutes is the response time for rural areas and there were officers from other areas that arrived and it’s good we can call upon officers from outside our area. We have been told we will have an increase in Officers.***

During the summer months the population in and around Wigton increases through all the various holiday accommodation, also Wigton has been designated (through Allerdale B.C) a Service Centre and through that is experiencing a rapid rise in housing development / population). Is there a population fresh-hold that would need to be reached to have a permanent police presence in the town? ***RG - Again we look at demand not population. We do look at how we divide our resources.***

Antisocial behaviour in Wigton, is a subject that is brought up by members of our community, does the Inspector agree that having a police permanent presence in the middle of the town would act as a deterrent against such behaviour? ***Referred to above.***

Why is it taking over 45minutes to answer calls on number 101?

I know this from personal experience as I have called this number with issues in the past one call was just a fortnight ago. Can you confirm the target time for a response for a 101 Call?

***RG -Totally understand this is not acceptable but victims do get to speak to a Police Officer on the other end of the phone and it’s difficult to put a time limit on a call or for an Officer to rush a call to take another.***

Is there any practical way Wigton Town Council can help the police in getting a permanent police presence here in Wigton? ***RG – Again we have to look at our resources and utilise them in the best places.***

Cllr Hamblin asked if parking on corners, zig zags etc was an offence and also youths riding bikes around the town. It’s an accident waiting to happen. ***RG – Yes it is an offence to illegally park. We visit the town several times of day depending on demand and we do have a patrol plan.***

Cllr Hodson stated that we can’t get the Crime Commissioner to come to a meeting. Can you try? ***RG said she could send an email in to the PCC office but does not have any control over his diary.***

Inspector Gale was thanked for time. Inspector Gale left the meeting.

**FC/54/2019 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Consider and submit observations on the following planning applications

**HOU/2019/0191** – Side extension and front porch at Clynda, Tenters, Wigton for Mr S

Harrison – ***No comments***

**HOU/2019/0171** – Demolition of conservatory, single story sunroom extension and first floor

extension at 70 Springfields for Mr Miller – ***No Comments***

To note the following tree preservation order – TPO No. 7 of 2019 – Land adjacent to Nonsuch,

Syke Road, Wigton for 4 Oak Trees, 1 Sycamore and 1 Birch Tree – ***Noted***

Cllr Hodson asked why the planning application for Tiffenthwaite/Syke Road wasn’t on the list for consideration. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had not received that planning application and would check the Allerdale website.

**FC/55/2019 FINANCE MATTERS**

**55/2019/1** To receive and authorise payments for July/August 2019 – received and authorised

**55/2019/2** To receive the monthly financial statement for July/August 2019 – received and

Authorised

Cllr Armstrong asked if the payments and statement could be sent out prior to the meeting for

consideration. The Clerk apologised and would make sure in future they would be sent out

with the agenda and other associated papers.

**FC/56/2019 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None – Mayor not in attendance

**FC/57/2019 CLERKS REPORT**

* Cumbria In Bloom – Silver Award for Pride in Your Community
* A big thanks to Mike for repairing the lamp. Great Job well done. ***Clerk asked to write letter of thanks to all that helped.***
* Planning Officer attending October meeting from 6.00pm to 7.00pm
* Thank you from Running Club for the use of Barton Laws facilities for the 10k run – Great Success looking at before Carnival next year
* Barton Laws – Progressing really well. Have a lot of work to do for the Football Foundation which we will be working on next week.
* CCTV – Grant forms submitted and looks very favourable we will receive grant money, however costs have increased in the time it’s taken to sort.

**FC/58/2019 MEMBERS REPORTS**

None

Footpaths & Parks – Changing dates for inspections. Will have a new award for the allotments

– Chairman’s Choice. Will be looking into replanting at Speet Gill. Cllr Lynch had a contact

regarding native trees. Eastend Park – A few issues so committee looking into preventative

measures. WCF Allotments – Ongoing

Festivals – Date set for Christmas Lights Switch on Sunday 1st December. Committee waiting

for confirmation regarding stage and acts.

**FC/59/2019 EXTERNAL CONTRACTS**

The Clerk reported that due to a number of staffing issues over the last couple of years we are

finding it increasingly difficult to keep up the work. We have 3 contracts outside of Wigton.

One at Bolton Low Houses School, one at Oulton Village hall and Dalston. Dalston Contract

doesn’t finish until 2021. The other two are small contracts and would be better if staff could

concentrate on work in Wigton rather than travelling out of town.

A motion was put forward to cease these contracts at the end of March 2020. A vote was taken

– Unanimous.

Cllr Armstrong then asked the Chair to postpone this item until next month’s meeting so he

had time to consider this. The Chair agreed to postpone and asked the Clerk to put it on the

October agenda for discussion.

**FC/60/2019 STAFFING – CONFIDENTIAL**

**FC/61/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th October 2019

Meeting Closed 8.30pm

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs Lynch, Jackson, Hodson, Armstrong, Williams, Stapley, Robbins, Crouch, Clark, & Huntington

**FC/62/2019 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – Cllrs Ferriby and Hamblin

**FC/63/2019 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019**

Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/64/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

**GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Lynch – Item 7 Planning Application and any items relating to ABC

Cllr Crouch – Any items relating to ABC

**FC/65/2019 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None

**FC/66/2019 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**66/2019/1** – None

**66/2019/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr

Crouch has spoken to Anna Chippendale at ABC regarding support for our Christmas Market.

Also celebrating open spaces.

Cllr Pitcher reported that Scrutiny were meeting with ABC Exec fortnightly. They are looking

at Waste Services coming in house. There will be a task and finish group set up to look at what

went wrong with the Waste Services contract.

Cllr Lynch had attended Licencing Panel and Development Panel.

**66/2019/3** To receive reports from the Police – Report emailed to members prior to meeting.

Apologies received from PCSO’s. Members felt that the report now given is not detailed

enough. They would like to prioritise ASB, ASD and New Crimes.

Clerk to ask police if they have procedures when flooding occurs in the town (ie. Priorities for

closing roads)

**FC/67/2019 ABC DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2030**

Councillors to consider and submit questions on Allerdales draft plan – Members discussed

each question and commented accordingly. Clerk to input this on to the online survey.

**FC/68/2019 FINANCE MATTERS**

**68/2019/1** To receive and authorise payments for September 2019 – received and authorised

**68/2019/2** To receive the monthly financial statement for September 2019 – received and

authorised

**FC/69/2019 ADMIN AND GOVERNANCE**

**69/2019/1** To receive the completed audit AGAR report from PKF Littlejohn – Members received the completed AGAR report and thanked the Clerk.

**69/2019/2** To receive updated Financial Regulations – AGREE, ADOPT and sign off – Members received, agreed, adopted and signed off the Financial Regulations.

**FC/70/2019 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had been to Chrysalis Sensory Garden Opening which had been very enjoyable.

**FC/71/2019 CLERKS REPORT**

Barton Laws – Lot of work to do for the Football Foundation.

New member of staff started on 30th September. Now gone on to winter hours

Damage to men’s public toilet external door. SF to do a temporary repair but need to look at new doors for both

**FC/72/2019 MEMBERS REPORTS**

None

**FC/73/2019 EXTERNAL CONTRACTS**

**Bolton Low Houses School**

Contract per annum £1,463.82 based on 14 cuts per year (Includes VAT)

Last year we spent 65.5 hours plus travelling approx. 14 hours = £15.30 per hour

Approx. 5.5 hours per visit

**Oulton Village Hall**

Contract price per annum = £387.32 based on 14 cuts (Includes VAT)

We have spent so far 27 hours plus travelling 7 hours = £11.39 per hour

We only took on this work due to having Kirkbride School contract but that has now ended. It is no longer cost effective.

When we tendered for this work it was done on the same basis as others in that we base on 14 cuts per year but due to the length of the grass each time we go this would need to be cut at least an extra ¾ times in the growing season year therefore increasing the charge and also the hourly rate.

In order to continue with this contract we would have to charge £18.00 per hour for 16 or 17 cuts per year. (Approx. £864.00 per year)

As I said at the last meeting Park staff are struggling with the work load they have due to staffing issues in the summer and not undertaking work outside of Wigton would help. Those extra hours would be used for work in the town that they are not getting done now. (Rose Garden at Churchyard, Phoenix Park and other areas in the centre of town)

Recommendation – To terminate these contracts as of March 2020

Cllr Williams proposed the council accept the recommendation by the Clerk

Yes – 9

Abstention – 1

**FC/74/2019 BAILEY BRIDGE**

Report sent to Councillors prior to the meeting was discussed

In 2010, land off West Road was purchased from Hopes Auction Company by Allerdale Borough Council on behalf of Wigton Town Council.

The intention at the time was to use the land as additional sports pitches. A restrictive covenant is in place which prohibits any buildings to be placed on the land.

In 2012 a bridge was donated to the Town Council, and the intention was to link Barton Laws to planned new pitches across the River Wiza

In February 2013 the Clerk was asked to contact Innovia to obtain relevant drawings to assist in any planning application. The subsequent plans provided were inadequate for planning purposes, and further plans were commissioned by the Town Council.

In 2014, plans were submitted to Allerdale Planning Authority. The Environment Agency raised flood risk concerns. In addition, the height of the bridge would mean the ramps would take up a lot of the car park, and also traverse the public footpath, which would need addressed at some expense.

In October 2014 the Playing Field Strategy was published for the whole of Allerdale. This report states there is no demand for additional playing fields in the town. Following our ongoing discussions with the FA, from their perspective, the situation remains the same. The Environment Agency also indicated that they would object to any raising of the land where the pitches would be. As a result it would prove difficult to find partner funders to develop the land.

In Early 2016, at the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the planning application was withdrawn to enable efforts to be concentrated on the Pavilion and Pitch Improvements.

**Options**

1. **Do Nothing** – Leaving the bridge in situ does take up some space and doing nothing will result in the bridge deteriorating further. Councillors should note that we have had a few comments about it being an eyesore.
2. **Progress the installation** – It will be difficult at this time, and for the foreseeable future, to make a business case for the installation of the bridge due to the lack of demand of additional pitches, and to overcome the Environment Agencies concerns. If installed the ramps will take up a significant amount of the car parking space. Plan attached.
3. **Sell it –** The council have been asked if it can be sold for a donation. As a comparison, we have obtained an estimate for its Scrap Value which is £100 per tonne (which would include dismantling and removing it from site). Its estimated weight is 6 tonne.

Cllr Armstrong commented that the bridge was a versatile and valuable structure. It is an asset and we still need to explore the access to the potential usage of the other field.

The Chair tasked Cllr Armstrong with exploring costs to dismantle and keep the bridge in storage.

**FC/75/2019 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Consider and submit observations on the following~

**LBC/2019/0025** Mr P Evans, Listed building consent for the creation of a new door between

18 & 20 High St on first floor and alterations to provide toilet and office access at The Limes

– **Fully Support**

**HOU/2019/0211** Ms S Jones, Single storey extension to replace conservatory and bathroom at

1 Grange Cottages, Cross Lane – **No comments**

**FC/76/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th November 2019

Meeting Closed 8.20pm

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs Lynch, Jackson, Williams, Hamblin, Ferriby, Hodson, Armstrong, Williams, Robbins, Crouch, Clark & Huntington

**FC/77/2019 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – Cllr Stapley, due to ill health and ongoing treatment he is not sure when he will be back at Full Council. Councillors wished Chris a speedy and full recovery

**FC/78/2019 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 8TH OCTOBER 2019**

Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/79/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

**GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Lynch – Item 12 planning and any items relating to ABC

Cllr Crouch – Any items relating to ABC

**FC/80/2019 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None

**FC/81/2019 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**81/2019/1** – K Berwick asked what was happening with CCTV. The Clerk explained that the

funding bids had gone to the PCC for consideration and hopefully we would have a decision

before the December meeting.

The Chair asked what had happened to the petition that was handed to Cllr Hodson at our July

Meeting? Was it handed to Allerdale BC as promised to K Berwick?

Cllr Hodson said that the petition was ongoing and had not been passed on to ABC.

Ms Berwick said it is ongoing until the Council agree to discuss it with the public. The Chair

confirmed that the petition had not come to Council and therefore could not be discussed. Cllr

Armstrong asked that if it did come to council would the three named councillors be excluded

from discussions? The Chair explained that this would be a decision made by the whole

council. Cllr Hodson told members that she would discuss it with ABC’s Monitoring Officer.

**81/2019/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr

Crouch was attending a Scrutiny meeting on Friday.

Cllr Lynch had attended a Devt Panel meeting, training, 2 task and finish groups regarding a

climate change motion and a Licencing committee meeting.

**81/2019/3** To receive reports from the Police – Report emailed to members prior to meeting.

Apologies received from PCSO’s.

The Clerk was asked to resend the email regarding the Emergency Flood Procedure by Cumbria

CC.

With regard to the report it was noted that it appeared there would be fewer hours of PCSO’s

in Wigton due to 1 officer being utilised in another town. Clerk to ask the Inspector if this

Officer will be replaced?

The Clerk to set up a meeting to discuss the Emergency Lock down procedure – Cllrs Ferriby,

Hamblin, Jackson and Hodson to represent TC.

**FC/82/2019 FINANCE MATTERS**

**82/2019/1** To receive and authorise payments for October 2019 – received and authorised

**82/2019/2** To receive the monthly financial statement for October 2019 – received and

authorised

**FC/83/2019 TOWN PLAN**

To review and ADOPT the Town Plan updated by the Policy and Development Committee –

Reviewed and **ADOPTED**

**FC/84/2019 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Afternoon Tea for ABC Mayor and Remembrance Service

**FC/85/2019 CLERKS REPORT**

* WCF Allotments – Everyone happy with the agreement? Sign off? ***Yes with an agreement that the area will be cleared and the skip removed.***
* T Mattinson has not left the house as per the agreement on 11th November. Legal proceeding have begun and a claim has been made to the Carlisle County Court – Cllr Hodson asked who had made this decision? The Chair confirmed it was the Council. Cllr Williams was not happy with the comments made by Cllr Hodson on Social Media regarding Mr Mattinson and asked her to consider her position on the Council. Cllr Hodson replied that she did not agree that she could not voice her opinions on the matter. The Clerk reminded Cllr Hodson that those decisions had been made in a closed, private and confidential part of a meeting and should not have been discussed outside of that meeting. Cllr Hamblin and Ferriby both pointed out that when any decisions are made by the council it has to be accepted by all members whether you agree or not.
* H & S As part of the safe contractor accreditation we have been reviewing our health and safety documentation. Cllr Hamblin has kindly offered to help with this.
* Peter McCall will be attending the March meeting. I will need questions in advance please.

**FC/86/2019 MEMBERS REPORTS**

MA – Remembrance Service

SH – Remembrance Service

DF – Remembrance Service, Governor meeting at Junior School Mini Police are concerned

about the traffic in Wigton especially outside Junior School. DF to invite them to December

meeting.

MC – Remembrance Service

MH – Remembrance Service

HR – Remembrance Service

EL – Remembrance Service, 2 CALC Meetings – Discussions re footway lighting. ABC

continuing to pay for lighting costs for 20/21 but are looking to parishes/towns to pay from

21/22. Costs are £30 per light per year. No maintenance costs involved.

WBJC met with reps from ABC to discuss way forward with the management of the Cemetery.

**FC/87/2019 BAILEY BRIDGE**

Report received from Cllr Armstrong prior to the meeting. Agreed to discuss further at January

meeting. Cllr Armstrong was thanked for the detailed report submitted.

**FC/88/2019 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Consider and submit observations on the following~

**CAT/2019/032** Mr D Ormerod A1 Arborist, Carry out works to trees in Conservation Area –

T1 Beech. To reduce the end weight of the unbalanced overlong laterals growing over the

footpath at the Old Reform Church, Water St – **No objections**

**FC/89/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th December 2019

Cllr Ferriby will chair the December meeting due to Cllrs Lynch and Crouch attending the

Allerdale meeting earlier at 5.00pm

Meeting Closed 8.10pm