**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**TUESDAY 30TH JUNE 2020 AT 7.00PM**

**For future public record, this Town Council meeting was held using the Zoom video conferencing facility. In March 2020 following a pandemic outbreak of Coronavirus, (Covid 19), on the 23rd March, the UK government announced a national lockdown on UK citizens. One restriction was to ban public meetings of more than 2 people and those participants must maintain a social distancing of 2 metres between them. The government in early April brought in legislation which permitted Local Authorities, including Town and Parish Councils, to meet using a video conferencing facility. This system will continue in use until such time as the government allows the return of public gatherings and meetings in community buildings.**

**PRESENT**

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

**FC/1/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies –Cllrs Stapley and Huntington

**FC/2/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Town Council meeting held on 11th March 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/3/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO**

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

None

**FC/4/2020EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None

**FC/5/2020 PUBLIC PARTCIPATION**

**5/2020/1** - To receive reports from the public – None

**FC/6/2020 STANDING ORDERS – ADDITIONAL**

The Clerk had circulated by email prior to the meeting a copy of the amendment that required

adding to cover how video meetings would be conducted. Councillors resolved to accept the

amendment and its insertion into the Town Council’s standing orders.

**Resolved** – To accept the amendment and add to the Town Council Standing Orders

**FC/7/2020 BARTON LAWS**

The Clerk had circulated by email prior to the meeting all information in relation to the

Barton laws Project to date. This included the 5 tenders received by Day Cummins for the

works.

The Tenders were as follows –

Postlethwaites - £485,636.81

Roland Hill - £520,557.00

Cubby - £533,932.72

Thos Armstrong - £539,016.00

Stobbarts - £555,189.00

The Chair asked if any members had any questions regarding the tenders and prices.

Assistant Clerk Julia Webster let members know that within the tender price there was a £40k

contingency fund (on the lowest tender). Support from main funders has been secured, and

smaller pots of funding will be looked at in the next few weeks.

An application to the Public Loan Board for the balance is required for the project to move

Forward.

Cllr Armstrong asked if the contingency fund could be taken off and therefore less money

would have to be loaned. The Clerk explained that we require approval for the loan and we

would need to ask for the maximum amount and hopefully we could reduce it as time goes on

and after we speak with the contractor.

It was also explained that the Football Foundation are unable to formally approve their

Contribution until the Council demonstrates that the project is fully funded.

The Chair asked if there were any motions to take forward.

Cllr Williams moved we accept the lowest priced Contractor. Cllr Clark seconded the

motion.

Cllr Hodson suggested the decision could be deferred until September. The Chair asked for

the reasoning behind this. Cllr Hodson explained she was concerned with the current situation

regarding Covid and the ability of the council to afford loan payments.

**A Vote was taken – 10 votes for and 1 abstain. Postlethwaites to be awarded the Contract.**

The Chair asked the Clerk which loan would be the best to take out. Either Annuity or EIP. It

was explained that this was a decision for the council to make. The Chair asked if there were

any comments on this.

Cllr Crouch asked if the Finance Committee should make the decision. The Clerk explained

this was for full council to decide

Cllr Armstrong asked if we had time to discuss costs with the contractors before applying to

The PLB. The Clerk explained that we would need the approval of a loan from the Secretary

of State (as it will take a number of weeks) but we could enter into discussions with the

contractor as soon as possible.

Cllr Jackson – Surely we should accept the payment method that costs the least.

The Chair asked if there were any motions to put forward.

Cllr Williams moved to agree an Annuity loan of £163,500 over 25 years, Cllr Clark

seconded the motion.

**It was RESOLVED to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing,**

**Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of £163,500 over the**

**borrowing term of 25 years for the purpose of demolishing existing changing rooms and**

**standalone public toilets and construction of new facilities at our sports field Barton**

**Laws, Wigton. The annual loan repayments will come to around £8,800 per annum**

**A vote was taken – 10 votes for and 1 abstain.**

**FC/8/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next virtual meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th July 2020

Meeting Closed 8.05pm