

**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**

**PRESENT** – Cllrs Lynch, Ferriby, Crouch, Robbins, Williams, Hamblin, Scott, Robson, Jackson, Armstrong, Hodson, Clark and Huntington

Cllr Alan Pitcher (Allerdale BC)

Apologies from Cllr Roger Liddle (Cumbria CC)

**FC/21/2021 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies – Cllr Stapley

Cllr Crouch asked for clarification on the absence of a councillor for 6 months still applies. The Clerk asked if this was in connection with Cllr Stapley as he had been attending informal meetings of the footpaths and parks committee.

Cllr Lynch put a motion forward to extend Cllr Stapleys leave of absence for a further 6 months. Vote taken - Unanimous

It was RESOLVED to extend Cllr Stapleys leave of absence for a further 6 months.

**FC/22/2021 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES**

AGM held on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Cllr Crouch asked if these minutes should be signed at the next AGM in 2022? The Clerk informed the Council that the AGM was a meeting of the full council and minutes were to be signed off at its next meeting (ie this meeting) Cllr Crouch asked the Clerk to check out this information. – Minutes approved and signed as a true record  
Town Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record  
Finance Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record  
Footpaths and Parks Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

AGM held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – To rectify an oversight of non-signing of the minutes - Approved and signed as a true record

**FC/23/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Armstrong – Item 7 Payments

**FC/24/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None

**FC/25/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**25/2021/1** To receive reports from the Public – The Clerk reported that Slaters Fun Fair have asked if they can hold a fair at Barton Laws after the restrictions are lifted hopefully on 21<sup>st</sup> June. It was RESOLVED that until the build was finished there would be no events taking place at Barton Laws due to health and safety concerns but to offer Wigton Park as an alternative or to speak with ABC about Water Street Car Park.

Cllr Hodson asked members if the cottages on Church Street were listed as one is looking run down. The Clerk asked to find out.

Cllr Clark asked if staff would be cleaning the fountain as it is covered in moss and there are weeds along the edge. The Clerk informed Council this would be done when the planters are put in place later this week/early next.

Cllr Lynch discussed letters she had received from the Infant School regarding litter. They are organising a litter pick on Phoenix Park for Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July in the afternoon. Councillors are welcome to go along. Cllr Robson thought it a good idea to maybe run a poster competition?

**25/2021/2** To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr Crouch had attended the Allerdale AGM on 19/5/21. Wigton Business District Group have designed leaflets and will be printed and handed out in the town. They have also created a facebook page.

Cllr Pitcher discussed the leisure industry in Allerdale and that the Borough Council need to provide more. Keswick Spa and Cockermouth Pool are very run down and towns have suffered. A Consultation will be coming out shortly.

Had One to One with Thinking Place Consultants. Allerdale Lottery has helped 70 good causes with £45k.

Allerdale House will not be fully utilised but hot desks will be available for staff.

Cllr Lynch had attended a Full Council meeting, 2 planning group meetings on zoom and 1 development panel meeting.

#### **FC/26/2021 VACANCY**

To consider applications for co-option. The Clerk reported Monique Speksnyder was the only candidate. Monique was invited to speak to the council and members were invited to ask questions. A vote was taken and Monique was invited to sit at the table and join the Council. The Chair welcomed her.

#### **FC/27/2021 FINANCE MATTERS**

To receive and authorise payments and financial statement for May 2021 - The statement was received and payments were authorised.

#### **FC/28/2021 ELECTION OF COMMITTEES**

Cllrs Scott and Speksnyder joined the Festivals Committee.

#### **FC/29/2021 BORDERLANDS PROJECT**

The Chair reported that Thinking Place had been in discussions with various group (One to One) and Workshops had taken place and the survey had ended. They will now be gathering evidence and we have a town team meeting next week. Cllr Robson apologised for not attending the Workshop and he felt that the survey was not easy to complete and he felt the questions were too generic.

### **FC/30/2021 BOWLING CLUB WORKING GROUP REPORT**

Cllr Ferriby asked members to consider postponing the start date of the new contract until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 due to covid and the club not having a full season to generate funds. It was RESOLVED to accept the recommendations from the working group that Council accepts the report with the amended start date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022. Vote taken – 13 For 0 Against 2 Abstains. Motion carried.

### **FC/31/2021 PUTTING GREEN WORKING GROUP**

Members had received the report in advance of the meeting. Cllr Armstrong briefly went through the report and asked members to accept the recommendations – Aim to have a test event (Risk Assessment in place) and for the group to engage with sponsors to purchase all items required to function. A vote was taken – Unanimous

### **FC/32/2021 GOOSEMARKET – SAFETY CONCERNS**

Cllr Ferriby reported that for some time we have been looking at safety concerns in the town especially outside the Junior School. We have been discussing options with Cumbria CC but as yet nothing has happened. Cllr Ferriby asked members if they would support him in investigating the legal side of the Goosemarket as we did with the Cornmarket some years ago. Members AGREED

### **FC/33/2021 MEMORIAL BENCH AT CUDDY LONNING**

Cllr Clark asked that a memorial bench be put on Cuddy Lonning as it's a well walked route in town. The Clerk informed council that there was no money in the budget this year. It was AGREED that the Finance Committee look at this at their next meeting.

### **FC/34/2021 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had attended the commemoration of 100 years of the Royal British Legion at Wigton Cemetery along with the Deputy Mayor.

### **FC/35/2021 CLERKS REPORT**

Barton Laws – Site meeting 20/5/2021 All going well.

Report of an incident with a pedestrian and our van. Reported on High Street on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Resident reported he was hit on the arm with the wing mirror of our van on the narrow stretch (Lion and Lamb Lane). Spoke with staff and driver unaware of the incident. Supervisor has discussed safety with staff. I've spoken to the resident and he was satisfied with the call.

Kickstart Placement – Email received placement request has been passed on to DWP. It should take around 31 working days for a decision.

Bus Shelter South End – Waiting for further quotes

Vandalism – Public Toilets

### **FC/36/2021 MEMBERS REPORT**

Cllr Lynch – Finance Meeting. Recommendations to FC Toilets open from Monday to Sunday 8-5pm and the £3,000 from the sale of the Bailey Bridge goes towards the costs of resurfacing Barton Laws Car Park. Vote taken – Unanimous

SH – Wigton and District Business Group meeting  
DF – Heritage Trail Leaflet and plaques with MA  
EL – Staff Interviews and Town Team

**FC/37/2021 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Meeting closed at 9.00pm