

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 2metres 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/4/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/5/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY 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 2metres 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, Huntington, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Robbins, Scott, Clark & Ferriby

FC/9/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies –Cllrs Stapley and Hamblin

FC/10/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 30th June 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record

FC/11/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/12/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/13/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

13/2020/1 - To receive reports from the public – None

13/2020/2 – To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr Pitcher reported that 80% of ABC staff were working at home. They are upgrading their IT system to accommodate this. Moving from a server to the cloud. Customer account running smoothly. Allerdale Focus Hub running weekly. ASB has increased during lockdown. They have been having Exec meetings twice per week.

Assistant Clerk Julia Webster asked when the front office is likely to be open as we are taking many calls/complaints that it is not open yet. Cllr Pitcher has been told that it will open as soon as safety measure have been put in place.

Cllr Armstrong asked if the Local Plan Part 2 is on the Allerdale FC agenda for 22nd July.

Cllr Lynch said it is.

Cllr Lynch has attended 3 virtual meetings – Devt Panel and Licencing. Also a meeting regarding the reopening of the town centre. Cllr Lynch had also mentioned to ABC the importance of having the Links Office open as soon as possible.

13/2020/3 – To receive report from the Police- None

FC/14/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

14/2020/1 - To receive and authorise payments for June 2020 – received and authorised

14/2020/2 - To receive the monthly financial statement for June 2020 – received and authorised

FC/15/2020 BAILEY BRIDGE

Cllr Hodson reported that due to lockdown the bridges for sale site had been closed. It is now back up and running and has a few bridges for sale but would require office staff help to put it on line. The Clerk offered to sort this out. Cllr Hodson to forward photos taken of the bridge in situ.

The Clerk reported there had been an expression of interest from Kirby Stephen Cricket Club.

FC/16/2020 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

VAR/2020/0009 – Variation of Condition 6 of application 2/2016/0249 to remove the reference to the mini roundabout at Land at Lowmoor Road

RESOLVED to refer to previous comment made by Town Council that we would prefer the option of a mini roundabout. Also a sensibly signed and prominent roundabout.

VAR/2019/0016 - Variation of Condition 2 - approved plans; submission of details for conditions 11 – Landscape, 12 – boundary treatment, 14 – play equipment, 15 – management of public open spaces, 16 management/maintenance of private roads/parking and 21 – travel plan. Amendment of condition 13 and 18 - split development into 2 phases. Removal of conditions 20 – school link and 25 – emergency vehicular access restrictions at the Former Auction Mart

RESOLVED to make the following comments

Condition 11 – To ask who is responsible for the repairs/maintenance of the wall in the long term.

Condition 12 – 172 metres of fencing along boundary. Could it be a sandstone wall or railings in keeping with the conservation area it sits in?

Condition 14 – Who will be responsible for the Play Park?

Condition 21 – Travel Plan – Concern regarding no dropped kerbs at the entrance for disabled access across the road. Also height of the road and the wall is a major concern.

Replacing of the box culvert with a French Drain – Agree with Highways letter.

FC/17/2020 PLAYGROUNDS

From 4th July, Children's play areas are permitted to reopen. Members to consider implications – Attached risk assessment and notice to consider with a view to reopening

RESOLVED to open all Town Council playgrounds on Monday 13th July 2020 using the risk assessment and guidelines.

FC/18/2020 CLERKS REPORT

Numerous complaints from residents regarding the Allerdale office not being open.

Health & Safety – We have completed a Covid 19 risk assessment for the depot and office.

Meeting with Architects next week regarding Barton Laws.

CCTV – Met with Telemachus and Police yesterday. Survey will be completed and we will need to agree the costs before cameras will be built. Approx. 6 weeks build time.

We are checking all contract sites with football pitches due to information received from FA regarding burning lines on pitches being an H & S issue.

FC/19/2020 MEMBERS REPORT

Cllr Lynch reported that WBJC had carried out an inspection of the Cemetery grounds and Buildings. Cllrs Huntington, Clark, Robbins and Williams also in attendance. They will be holding a virtual meeting at the end of the month. Judged Fancy Dress at Springfields Carnival. A great day had by all.

Cllr Crouch helping plant flowers at Cemetery. Helpers needed to continue the good work.

Cllr Williams reported that the house was nearly ready for the rental market.

FC/20/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th September 2020

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
TUESDAY 21ST JULY 2020 AT 7.00PM

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PRESENT

Cllrs Lynch, Jackson, Huntington, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Robbins and Crouch

FC/21/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies –Cllrs Stapley and Armstrong

FC/22/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 30th June 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record

FC/23/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/24/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/25/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

Cllr Crouch entered the meeting room.

25/2020/1 - To approve the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 – **APPROVED**

Cllr Ferriby commented that we had approx. £40k in bank at end of year.

25/2020/2 - Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 Part 3: To review and approve Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement) & Section 2 (Accounting Statements) of the AGAR for 2019/20 – **CERTIFIED AND APPROVED** Cllr Lynch to come to office on Wednesday 22nd July to sign the AGAR

25/2020/3 - To note/comment upon the year-end report by Internal Auditor – **AGREED** that the content of the year-end report be noted. No matters arising.

Cllr Williams commented that it was a very complimentary report from the Auditor.

Cllr Lynch commented that we have a very good record of financial record keeping.

FC/26/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th September 2020

Meeting closed at 7.35pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.00PM

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PRESENT

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

In Attendance – Cllr Pitcher and Gareth Cavanagh (Times & Star)

FC/27/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley

FC/28/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 21st July 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record
Footpaths & Parks meeting held on 26th August 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record

FC/29/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/30/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/31/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

31/2020/1 To receive reports from the Public – Letter received regarding various issues.
Dog Fouling on streets – Clerk to ask ABC to spray ‘No fouling’ signs on pavements

Himalayan Balsam – A discussion took place and a voluntary group have been set up to tackle this near to the Baths. It was agreed that this should wait until spring next year and the council would need to do a risk assessment.

The Clerk to respond to the resident.

31/2020/02 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance
Cllr Pitcher reported that ABC have received funds from Government to help residents who are having issues with paying Council tax. There are approx. 4,000 people entitled to this.

3 Questions were asked of Cllr Pitcher

What are ABC's thoughts on becoming a Unitary Authority? Answer - Any changes to be put before all councils. They think Cumbria would be split into 2. Allerdale, Carlisle and Copeland.

Opening of the Wigton Office with appointments only on a Wednesday, what happens the Rest of the week?

Answer – Front Office Staff have been told to use common sense on what they can deal with and what needs to be an appointment.

Councillors felt this was not acceptable for an employee to be left to make own decisions. Staff need leadership from Employer. Cllr Pitcher said he would pass on comments.

Why have ABC changed parking times at All Saints Car Park, Cockermouth from 1 hour free parking to 3 hours?

Answer – AP to forward response from ABC

Cllr Crouch – Nothing to report

Cllr Lynch – Had virtually attended 2 Devt panel meetings, Licencing Panel and ABC FC on 16th

FC/32/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

To receive and authorise payments for August 2020 – received and authorised

FC/33/2020 PUBLIC TOILETS

Clerk asked if members were happy to continue with the current opening of 1 toilet Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm and cleaned three times per day.

AGREED to continue with current opening but reduce cleaning to twice per day.

FC/34/2020 OFFICE WORKING HOURS

Cllr Williams to report – Would like to see a better service covering 5 days per week. Some Residents don't know what we do and where we are?

Proposal from PW – To discuss office opening hours with staff. Seconded by MC
Vote taken 6 For / 5 Against. Policy and Development Committee to meet and discuss options.

FC/35/2020 BAILEY BRIDGE

Cllr Hodson to report – Photos sent to office today. Waiting to hear if there would be a penalty from website if we withdrew the sale. SH also gauging if people wanted to keep the bridge.

Cllr Lynch stated that the decision had been made by FC to sell the bridge.

The Clerk to add bridge onto Bridges for sale website.

FC/36/2020 WIGTON TRAFFIC REVIEW ORDER

Cllr Ferriby to report – Disappointed that some of the areas that were questioned at the parking meeting had been ignored. Areas included King Street and the Junior School. An email had been sent to the Traffic Team West and we are waiting a response.

DF Proposed that the Council looked into adopting the strip of land in front of the Junior School. Clerk to contact ABC for clarification on ownership.

DF encouraged members to submit a response to the Pavement Parking Survey – closing date 22/11.

FC/37/2020 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR THE TOWN

Cllr Jackson to report – The Chair asked if Cllr Jackson wanted to combine this agenda item with the Emergency Response Group item? Cllr Jackson happy to do so.

FC/38/2020 WIGTON WHIPPET CLUB

Cllr Armstrong to report – A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. MA recommended that the strip of land to the left hand side of football pitches at Barton Laws be extended for the use of the Whippet Club as the area they were currently using on the right hand side behind the grandstand was not large enough. There would be the need to remove some of the posts to extend the area in question.

A discussion took place and it was **AGREED** that a meeting be held between the Club and Council members and staff to resolve this issue.

FC/39/2020 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT

Recommendation from the Festivals members that there be no Lights Switch On Event this year due to the situation with Covid 19 – Vote taken all **AGREED** to cancel Event

FC/40/2020 WIGTON EMERGENCY RESPONSE GROUP

Cllr Jackson is concerned that the TC do not have emergency procedures in place – there is nothing in the current town plan. She feels it's remiss of the Council and this should be addressed.

The Clerk reported that we had been approached by CCC to set up an Emergency Response Group which would cover all aspects of emergencies in the town. It would be a Council led

Group but would need to have volunteers from other organisations/groups involved.

All **AGREED** that the Policy and Development Committee look into this with the help of Cumbria CC.

FC/41/2020 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUCEMENTS

No engagements

FC/42/2020 CLERKS REPORT

Barton Laws – Confirmation of approval has arrived from the PWLB. Now waiting for Cumberland FA approval to start work, unfortunately Grant Manager is on leave until next week.

CCTV – Official Order has been sent to Telemachus for the build and installation of 3 CCTV cameras. Total cost £20,500 + VAT Ongoing yearly cost of £1,900 pa

Police – Will be deployed out of Community Offices (Wigton Market Hall) from October – Send letter of thanks to PCC

Website – We must be compliant before the end of September so our Website Designers are looking at this now. (Be able to access the website without using a mouse ie Keyboard or screen) All information needs formatting differently.

Wreaths – Brian Warren unable to order these for us. Do you want me to order them direct, if so how many? Not sure if there's to be a church service this year. – Order 3

Staff – National Salary awarded from April 2020 – 2.75% increase.

Play Areas – SF has reported vandalism in the main Wigton Park and Kirkland Park – Damage to litter bins, benches, fencing and graffiti

FC/43/2020 MEMBERS REPORTS

MA – Call from resident regarding flooding at Burnside. Asst Clerk contacted UU on behalf of residents. Clerk to follow up.

EL, MC, MH, HR & MC – Attended a virtual meeting of WBJC – Grounds Maintenance going well, positive comments on how the cemetery looks. Sunken graves to be looked at by Contractor. A tenant secured for the house, will be moving in the next week or so. ABC Contract with their legal dept and should be signed off next week. Meetings to take place every quarter. All going really well.

FC/44/2020 CO OPTION

Due to the eligibility criteria, further questions need to be answered. Defer to next meeting

FC/45/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th October 2020

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.00PM

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PRESENT

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

In Attendance – Cllr Liddle and Cllr Pitcher

FC/46/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley, Lynch and Huntington

FC/47/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 9th September 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record
Footpaths & Parks meeting held on 17th September 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record

Policy & Development meeting held on 28th September 2020 – Approved and signed as a true record

Finance meeting held on 7th October 2020 – Approved and signed as a true record

FC/48/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/49/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/50/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

50/2020/1 To receive reports from the Public –

2 residents from Kirkland Road wished to speak with regard to the anti social behaviour happening at the park. Emails received prior to the meeting.

Residents went on to say that there are gangs of youths throwing eggs, stones etc. at cars and houses and it's not acceptable. What can the Council do?

Cllr Hamblin would like to support the residents, there were lots of children in the park over the weekend.

Cllr Hodson Has suggested that residents keep a diary of issues and report it to the police via 101.

Cllr Crouch told residents that we have reported this to the police but were told that they had very little complaints from residents. Cllr Crouch urged residents to report.

Cllr Hamblin suggested Signage.

Resident asked if signs could be put up with opening and closing times.

Cllr Crouch thanked residents.

50/2020/02 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance

Cllr Pitcher reported that they had voted to go ahead for Workington Town to press on with the sports village. Unitary plans – members briefing.

Cllr Williams asked about the council offices opening times and still only appointments on a Wednesday – Not practicable.

Cllr Robbins thought at the last meeting it was said that ABC would be looking to increase this?

Cllr Pitcher informed members that this times/appointments would be staying as it is.

Cllr Liddle had 3 points to make –

1. Covid – Cumbria has above average children attending school (92%)

However the national position of the virus is very worrying.

2. Unitary Authority – Cumbria have been selected to put forward proposals on how local government can be improved. Powers of town and parish council will be extended and with that would have to come the funding.

3. Borderlands Project – Held up due to Covid but it is now looking likely to be signed off in February 2021. £3 million over 10 years for Wigton. Consultation will start soon.

Cllr Crouch – ABC Full Council Meeting on the 16th September 2020

FC/51/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

To receive and authorise payments for September 2020 – received and authorised

FC/52/2020 WIGTON WHIPPET CLUB

Report circulated by the Clerk from Cllr Armstrong earlier today.

Proposal – That for Organised National Club Events, Wigton Whippet Club could run on the football side of the fence during the football off season (June – August). Usually only one event per year.

Vote taken – Unanimous

FC/53/2020 FOOTPATHS, PARKS AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

A report was previously circulated to members via email.

Four tree planting projects are proposed for Wigton:

- Speet Gill
- Allotments Nature Reserve
- Barton Laws Cycle Path
- East End Play Park

Proposal No. 1 - To improve the Speet Gill site by planting around 200 trees during the forthcoming winter season, and developing a management plan for the woodland to make it an even more attractive and enjoyable nature park for all Wigton residents.

Vote Taken – Unanimous

Proposal No. 2 - To plant around 500 trees comprising a wide mix of natives, with some evergreen pockets to provide winter protection for wildlife. The aim is to plant trees that will encourage wildlife of all forms, and around the edges there should be pockets of trees which will provide nectar and year round interest (eg cherry for blossom in spring, red leafing trees for autumn, crab apple, dog wood, dog rose, hazel, Guelder rose). Space could be set aside for bee hives to be established in the coming years so there is a steady supply of pollinators to visit (and help out) in the neighbouring allotments.

Vote taken – Unanimous

Proposal No. 3 - To plant approximately 3000 trees on the site, comprising mainly native Trees (oak, birch, ash, elm, holly, hawthorn etc) across the higher part of the site (approx. 2/3 of the site) with appropriate trees for the lower, wetter section (including willow, alder, aspen etc). Willow from the Wiza Beck can be coppiced to provide the trees to be planted.

Counter Proposal - Cllr Hodson put forward a proposal to hold off on this decision until we have talked to the EA and ABC Planning department and heard the ideas from another project for the site. Seconded by Cllr Armstrong

Vote taken – 5 Yes and 5 No. Cllr Crouch casting vote – vote not carried.

No vote took place on the original proposal

Discussions took place on the other project. Cllr Armstrong stated he was looking at a Himalayas putting green.

Nick Robson suggested that we plant some trees at the bottom end of the field before Christmas and maybe a small group can get together to discuss what we can use the land for.

Proposal No. 4 - To plant about 200 mixed trees, including native trees (hawthorn, blackthorn, holly, hazel, beech etc) and some conifers (to provide year round cover), to provide adequate screening and deter children from climbing the fence. The trees would be planted two abreast, slightly staggered, which should provide adequate screening.

Vote taken - Unanimous

FC/54/2020 WIGTON PARK BOWLING CLUB

Report received via email previous to meeting.

Do nothing – continue to subsidise and budget for repairs/replacement of machinery and buildings

Approach the club with a view to an asset transfer

Identify another use for the site

Cllr Clark proposed Option 2 above – Approach the club with a view to an asset transfer.
Seconded by Cllrs Williams

Vote taken - Unanimous

The Clerk to write to the club.

FC/55/2020 MACHINERY GRANT

Report received via email previous to meeting.

Recommendation – That Council approve the purchase of new machinery, subject to the Confirmation of 75% of the cost being met by the Football Foundation, and that the Parks Supervisor decide between Quote 1 & 2 for the Tractor and equipment.

Vote taken - Unanimous

FC/56/2020 KICKSTART SCHEME

An email was previously circulated to members.

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to employers to create new 6-month job placements for young people who are currently on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment.

This is part of the government's Plan for Jobs and aims to create hundreds and thousands of new, fully funded jobs across England, Scotland and Wales.

It was **AGREED** to ask for 2 placements (One admin and One Groundsman)

FC/57/2020 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chrysalis AGM on Zoom

FC/58/2020 CLERKS REPORT

Barton Laws – Still waiting confirmation from Cumberland FA.

Play Areas – SF has reported vandalism in the main Wigton park again

Flags will be erected week commencing 2nd November

Damage to the public toilet door over the weekend – reported to the police

New storage – Old Chapel at Cemetery

ABC – Not opening the other face to face contact centres

WCF Allotments – Trying to establish water supply

Allotments - Willow tree to be removed, dangerous

Dog fouling stencils have been done around various sites, also dog fouling signs for posts etc. in office if members wish to collect.

Emergency Response Group have met. It will be separate from the council

FC/59/2020 MEMBERS REPORTS

DF – Chrysalis AGM on Zoom. Remembrance Sunday – 8th November at 11am. Small

group from Church will go up to Cemetery. Roger Liddle is looking into the legal side of the Goose Market. Clerk to email traffic team again regarding parking and traffic issues.

SH – Poppies will be put round the Fountain again. Clerk to email ABC regarding missing railings.

MA – Whippet Club – Send thank you for help with removal of posts.

FC/60/2020 CO OPTION

Mr Nicholas Robson was co-opted onto the Council. The Chair welcomed Nick

FC/61/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th November 2020

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.00PM

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PRESENT

Cllrs Lynch, Robson, Huntington, Jackson, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Robbins and Crouch

In Attendance – Cllr Pitcher

FC/62/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley and Hamblin

FC/63/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 14th October 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record

FC/64/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/65/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Item 12

FC/66/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

66/2020/1 To receive reports from the Public – None

66/2020/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance

Cllr Pitcher reported that ABC will be having a FC meeting next week to discuss ideas for a Unitary Authority. ABC Lottery launched this week.

Cllr Lynch had attended training via zoom on local govt. Finances and an Allerdale Devt and Licencing Panel.

FC/67/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

To receive and authorise payments for October 2020 – received and authorised

To receive and authorise Bank Statement for October 2020 – received and authorised

FC/68/2020 WIGTON TRO

Cllr Ferriby reported that we have asked Cumbria CC for costs relating to a SIDS machine to be placed on the approach to South End but at this time we have had no response.

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk contact Kirkbride and Kirkbampton who both have a device fitted and see what process they had to follow.

FC/69/2020 WIGTON PARK BOWLING CLUB

Letter received from the Club emailed to members prior to the meeting. After a discussion it was **AGREED** that a working group be set up to look at options available to us.

Cllrs Ferriby, Robson, Jackson and Armstrong to report back to Footpaths and Parks Committee and to FC at the February meeting. Clerk to inform the Bowling Club.

FC/70/2020 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Crouch attended a Remembrance Service outside St. Mary's Church

FC/71/2020 CLERKS REPORT

Barton Laws – Work started on Monday 9th November.

WCF Allotments – Trying to establish water supply.

Complaint received regarding disabled toilet not in use with radar key. To be an agenda item once we are out of the second national lockdown.

Big thanks to Cllr Armstrong for erecting new sign at Kirkland Park.

FC/72/2020 MEMBERS REPORTS

EL – PCC Media Event with local Police Officers who are now deployed from Wigton, Remembrance Service and Emergency Response Group.

DF – Remembrance Service

JC – Emergency Response Group

CS – Emergency Response Group

FC/73/2020 – CONFIDENTIAL

FC/74/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To discuss a new date for the December Council meeting due to the absence of the Chair and Mayor who will be attending an Allerdale FC meeting on 9th December. **AGREED** that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th December 2020

Meeting closed at 8.00pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER 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 2metres 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, Robson, Huntington, Jackson, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Hamblin, Robbins and Crouch

In Attendance – Cllrs Pitcher & Liddle

FC/75/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley

FC/76/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 11th November, 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record
Finance Committee meeting held on 5th November, 2020

FC/77/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Armstrong, Agenda Item 6

FC/78/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/79/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

79/2020/1 To receive reports from the Public – None

79/2020/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance

Cllr Liddle began by briefing councillors on the proposals likely to go forward to consultation following the Government's initiative in inviting proposals for change. The Government will

choose what finally goes out to public consultation. Cllr Liddle recommended that once public consultation opens, the Town Council consider possible implications with regard to local control, the possibility of extra powers and the surrounding area.

Cllr Liddle then updated members on the Borderlands scheme, which remains to be finally signed off by the government. The fund will be for mainly Capital Projects, focused on the centre of town, and the Town Council along with other public and private partners will have a key role as to how the funding is spent. It was suggested that the Town Council revisit previous plans, and investigate the setting up of stakeholder working group

Cllr Crouch is to arrange a meeting in January with Toni Magean (Business Engagement Manager) of Allerdale Borough Council to progress a Business Forum for Wigton following Funding from Allerdale Borough Council. Cllrs suggested a personal approach to businesses as the feel it is likely to generate more interest.

Cllr Pitcher reported he will be working closely as a representative for Wigton on the Borderland Scheme once work begins. With regard to the proposals for a Unitary Authority, Cllr Pitcher explained Allerdale's preferred option is a two-unitary model for Cumbria with Allerdale, Carlisle and Copeland for this part of the County. Cllr Pitcher believes this option is a big opportunity for the area.

Cllr Pitcher then updated members on the 1st Allerdale Lottery draw, due tomorrow, to which 60 local charities have joined, and finally the Budget consultation is also due to come out tomorrow which he encourages everyone to read and respond to.

Cllr Pitcher then left the meeting at 19.40pm

Cllr Lynch reported she was to attend a Budget Task and Finish group meeting tomorrow, and also sits on the Pandemic Task & Finish group focusing on child poverty etc.

In addition Cllr Lynch reported car charging points for Wigton are being investigated

FC/80/2020 FINANCE MATTERS – TO RECEIVE AND AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR NOVEMBER 2020

The statement was received and payments were authorised

FC/81/020 PUBLIC TOILETS – TO DISCUSS AND AGREE IF ANY CHANGES TO BE MADE

Members discussed the current situation whereby some of the public toilets remain closed. It was agreed that for now, there was no need to change the arrangements, and the Clerk will price for additional cleaning should in the future all toilets are re-opened.

FC/82/2020 NEW PROJECT FOR LAND AT WEST ROAD

Cllr Armstrong outlined the project idea of a Himalayan Putting Green for which an outline Paper had been previously circulated. Cllr Armstrong explained that there is support in the community for this project, and that it could be a focus for 20/21. One possible restriction, which could also affect tree planting at the lower end of the field, is the restrictive covenants.

Cllrs discussed the proposal with negative and positive observations made. It was agreed that Cllrs Armstrong & Robson report back with further details at the next meeting. Cllr Robson Suggested that this is the opportune time to review all of the recreational facilities in the town

FC/83/2020 TOWN MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Crouch reported the visit by the High Sheriff had been put off until January.
Town Council paperwork is being stored at the Cemetery. In addition reported on the Fare Share Project that started today, and councillors are asked to spread the word.

FC/84/2020 CLERKS REPORT

Barton Laws – asbestos has been removed and demolition will begin on 4th January
Town Council paperwork is being stored at the Cemetery and volunteers are requested to go through it (for data retention purposes)
Website compatibility – have heard nothing back from our website developers
Bailey Bridge –still heard nothing despite several follow ups

FC/85/2020 MEMBERS REPORTS

EL/JC – Emergency Response Group
MC – WBJC, looking to plant tree in memorial garden for those who have died because of the epidemic
JC – Emergency Response Group
CS – Emergency Response Group
AJ – Fare Share Project. Would Council Sanction a banner? AD and CS to look where they can be made. MA suggested All Signs

FC/86/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is 13th January 2021 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2021 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 2metres 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, Robson, Huntington, Jackson, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Robbins and Crouch

In Attendance – Cllr Liddle

FC/87/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley and Hamblin. Cllr Pitcher ABC

FC/88/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 16th December 2020 - Approved and signed as a true record
Finance Committee meeting held on 10th December 2020 – Approved and signed as a true record

FC/89/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/90/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/91/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

91/2020/1 To receive reports from the Public – None

91/2020/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr Crouch reported there is interest in setting up a business group and a meeting is being set up for the end of the month.

Cllr Lynch had attended a virtual task and Finish Group meeting about the budget, Development Panel meeting, electric charge points and climate change looking at tree planting.

Cllr Liddle – CCC budget still in discussion but likely very close to a 2% increase. Govt saying they can increase the social care budget by 3% but members are still debating this. Borderlands Project – Meeting has taken place to discuss Stakeholders, Consultants to lead on this. Cllr Lynch thanked Cllr Liddle for all his hard work in getting Wigton on to the project.

FC/92/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

92/2020/1 To receive and authorise payments and financial statement for December 2020 – The statement was received and payments were authorised

92/2020/2 To receive the recommended budget and precept from Finance Committee for 2021/22 – Members received the budget and £30k increase to the precept. Cllr Hodson stated she would have preferred a lower increase to the precept and that she couldn't vote for the 30K rise. Cllr Lynch asked if she wanted to put an amended proposal forward? Cllr Hodson proposed £20k increase in the precept, seconded by Cllr Armstrong.

A short discussion took place.

Amended Proposal of £20k Precept Increase and Finance Committee recommended budget – Vote taken 3 Yes / 9 No Motion not carried

Proposal of £30k Precept Increase and Finance Committee recommended budget – Vote taken 9 Yes / 3 No Motion carried

FC/93/020 PUBLIC TOILETS – TO DISCUSS AND AGREE IF ANY CHANGES TO BE MADE

The Clerk reported we are still waiting for costings for opening all toilets. Members discussed the current situation whereby some of the public toilets remain closed. It was agreed that for now, there was no need to change the arrangements.

FC/94/2020 WIGTON PARK BOWLING CLUB – WORKING GROUP

87/2020/1 To discuss new equipment for bowling green – A discussion took place regarding the Mower and Scarifier –

Scarifier – Could be fixed at a cost of £400

Mower – A refurbished Mower (Exactly the same make/model we have) could be purchased for £2,500 The working group clarified that we need a mower for the start of the season (Mid March). Cllr Armstrong was thanked for the work he had done to find a mower. However Too many questions were raised on the mower for members to make an informed decision and therefore, no vote was taken. It was **AGREED** that a further meeting take place on Monday 18th January at 7.00pm for further discussions and clarification of queries/concerns

raised by members.

87/2020/2 To discuss The Friends of Wigton Park Account – It was **AGREED** if the account was wound up money was to be ring fenced for the Park as per the constitution.

FC/95/2020 TREE PLANTING

Cllr Robson updated on the following

Speet Gill – Ongoing and trees had been planted at the entrance. Thanks to Grounds staff for their help.

Allotments – 400 trees were planted and are looking into the possibility of having bee hives.

Barton Laws (Cycle track) – Cllr Robson asked members on their thoughts on what to do with the lower section of the field that is nothing better than marsh land. Do we leave it or do we? do something with it? We could speak to Hopes and look at amending the agreement? Members happy for Cllr Robson to discuss amending the agreement with Hopes.

East End Park – Do members still have concerns about planting in the park? It was agreed to wait for the response from the police survey carried out before Christmas with the residents and discuss again at a future meeting.

Cllr Robson reported that the group are looking for more sites?

Cllr Robson was thanked for all the work he and the group had done.

FC/96/2020 TOWN MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Crouch reported the doorstep visits to the Care Homes in Wigton just before Christmas and Wigton Hospital for the roll out of the Covid vaccinations.

FC/97/2020 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported the following

- Barton Laws – Building has been demolished. Toilets will be demolished at the end of the project.
- Burnfoot Allotments – Identified taps, members have been asked to go and look at 2 empty allotments. Meeting next week to discuss next steps.
- Borderlands Project – I've asked Cumbria CC for powerpoint to email out to all councillors so you have a better understanding of the project.
- I've completed a survey regarding playing fields/sports pitches

FC/98/2020 MEMBERS REPORTS

EL – Emergency Response Group and Borderlands Project Meeting

JC – Emergency Response Group

CS – Emergency Response Group
DF – Wigton hospital Vaccination rollout

FC/99/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is 10th February 2021 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
MONDAY 18th JANUARY 2021 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 2metres 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, Robson, Huntington, Jackson, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Robbins and Crouch

FC/100/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley and Huntington

FC/101/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/102/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/103/2020 WIGTON PARK BOWLING CLUB – TO DISCUSS NEW EQUIPMENT

The following email was sent to members on the 14th January after questions had been raised the previous evening.

SF confirmed we used West Road BC's back up mower last season. He doesn't want to ask to use it again in case we break/damage it and then they are left with no back up mower. They also have a mower that volunteers of the club use during the season. This machine is a ransome mower and only cuts the grass. Pre season and End of season they hire in a company from Keswick. They verti cut/fertilize/weed spray/top dress etc. but do not cut green.(Apparently expensive according to SF)

The Mower we had and are looking to purchase is a multi use machine. This machine cuts the grass and also has cartridges that you slot in to verti cut which is used once per month in season (weather dependant) Cartridges are not supplied with refurb machine but we have ours from the old machine. We also have a brush cartridge which was purchased by

Innovia some years ago (this brushes the green to remove debris but we used it once when purchased and haven't used it since but it's there if we need it)

I've established that our multi use mower is 100% used only for the park bowling green.

Scarifier - This machine is used pre-season and back end of season (not during as this is when the verti cutter is used) The scarifier is also used at St Marys Churchyard. Mary C has been in touch with Ian Rumney who has said not worth buying/repairing one as not used often enough, he hires his from Wigton Tool Hire. To hire from Wigton Tool Hire it's £35.00 per day or £75.00 per week

Spiker - We have borrowed one from West Road BC previously and this is used once per month though the winter (weather dependant) but SF has said that they don't always have the time to do this work so assuming it is not a necessity.

Mike - He has asked that if the seller of the refurb could do a virtual tour (recording) of the machine so he can see that all the parts are there and maybe he could start it up and show the blades? He is a little concerned that we have little comeback if parts are missing as he had noticed and mentioned to you that a front comb was missing (he said that this shouldn't be missing off the machine).

Members discussed the Scarifier first - Cllr Lynch thought the best idea would be to hire this for the coming year. Cllr Armstrong did not think it was cost effective to hire. After a short discussion Cllr Crouch proposed we hire the scarifier for the coming season, seconded by Cllr Clark. Vote taken – Unanimous It was **AGREED** to hire a scarifier this year from Wigton Tool Hire.

Mower – Recommendation from the Working Group is to purchase a refurbished mower for £2,300

Cllr Lynch proposed we buy the refurbished mower as long as Stephen Farish is happy with the machine. Seconded by Cllr Hodson. Vote taken Yes 9 / No 2 Motion carried.

FC/104/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is 10th February 2021 7pm.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2021 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 2metres 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, Robson, Huntington, Jackson, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Hamblin, Robbins and Crouch

FC/105/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley

FC/106/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/107/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Part 2 of Agenda Item 4 – Report from Working Group.

FC/108/2020 WIGTON PARK BOWLING CLUB

Part 1 – New equipment. Cllr Armstrong briefed members about the mower which at the last meeting was agreed to purchase as long as Stephen was happy with it. It came to light that the machine was 26 years old and it was deemed not to be a good buy. A quote for an ex-demo machine from Lloyds had been emailed to members prior to the meeting and was discussed.

Cllr Lynch reiterated that it was a good investment for the council and could be used at other areas and felt that it was not a risky expense. Lloyds have said they would buy the machine back at the rateable value if we chose to sell.

Some councillors had concerns about the viability of the bowling club and the fact that the mower was solely for the use of the green.

Cllr Hodson pointed out that we were discussing maintaining the green nothing to do with the club.

It was agreed to move on to the report as members felt this needed to be discussed before the purchase of the mower.

Part 2 - Members had received the report from the working group prior to the meeting.

Cllr Ferriby discussed the idea of the group was to look at the bowling club but it quickly changed to looking at the Bowling Club, Green and The Park as a whole. It became apparent that this is not an easy nor short term fix. Members need to be aware that this is an asset and money will need to be spent in the next few years.

Recommendation (a) Negotiations between the Town Council and the Club

Some members felt that they could not support subsidising the club in the future due to the small number of members at present.

Cllr Robson asked that we should set out what we would expect from the club and give them a chance.

Cllr Ferriby proposed that the council give the working group the green light to meet with the bowling club to discuss an arrangement. Seconded by Cllr Jackson
Vote taken – 7 For / 5 Against / 1 Abstention. Vote carried.

Recommendation (c) Conduct a review of the whole of Wigton Park – Vote taken 13 For – Unanimous

Recommendation (b) TC to deal with urgent issues at Wigton Park with buildings etc.
Agreed that these be looked into asap.

Part 1 Continued - Purchase of Ex-Demo Mower

Cllr Ferriby Proposed the Town Council purchase the mower. Seconded by Cllr Armstrong.
Vote taken – 9 For / 4 Against. Vote carried.

FC/109/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is 10th February 2021 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2021 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 2metres 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, Robson, Huntington, Jackson, Williams, Hodson, Armstrong, Scott, Clark, Ferriby, Robbins, Hamblin and Crouch

Cllr Pitcher in attendance

FC/103/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley

FC/104/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Town Council meeting held on 13th January 2021 - Approved and signed as a true record
Town Council meeting held on 18th January 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record
Town Council meeting held on 3rd February 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record
Finance Committee meeting held on 11th January 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record
Footpaths and Parks Committee meeting held on 8th February 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

Cllr Clark spoke on behalf of the Footpaths and Parks committee – Members had discussed the Burnfoot Allotments and **AGREED** that any financial decisions need to be dealt with by the full council.

FC/105/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/106/2020 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Agenda Item 15

FC/107/2020 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

107/2020/1 To receive reports from the Public – None

107/2020/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr Crouch had attended an Overview and Scrutiny meeting, ABC FC and there was to be the first business group meeting on Friday 12th Feb at 2pm. Cllr Crouch to send details out to members.

Cllr Pitcher – O & S had met with the exec. Looking at other areas in the town for flood sack distribution. Not ABC related but he has set a run challenge for 2021 5k/10k/1/2 or full marathon raising money for the baths.

Cllr Lynch had attended a development panel, climate change and licencing committee looking at new fees which will go to the ABC FC meeting.

FC/108/2020 FINANCE MATTERS

108/2020/1 To receive and authorise payments and financial statement for January 2021- Cllr Crouch asked for clarification of a payment to Saundersons for the bowling green, the Clerk will send out the information. The statement was received and payments were authorised

FC/109/2020 PUBLIC TOILETS – TO DISCUSS AND AGREE IF ANY CHANGES TO BE MADE

It was **AGREED** No changes to be made to the existing arrangements.

FC/110/2020 BAILEY BRIDGE

To discuss 2 offers for the bailey bridge – attached

Quote 1 - £500 offered

Quote 2 – No money offered but part of the bridge would be recycled just outside of Wigton

Cllr Hodson suggested that we needed to pursue selling the bridge.

It was **AGREED** to try selling the bridge on ebay with a time limit. Cllr Armstrong happy to set this up. 28 day ebay page / explore other scrap options/go back to both original offers to let them know. Also set a limit on the ebay page but also set to open to offers.

Put on the April agenda for an update.

FC/111/2020 TREE PLANTING AT EASTEND PARK

It was **AGREED** to allow TWIG to plant approx. 30-40 trees along the fence and TWIG happy to maintain them.

FC/112/2020 INSURANCE RENEWAL

To discuss 2 quotes received for the council's insurance renewal and appoint one.

Unfortunately, both quotes had not arrived in time for the meeting. The Clerk was asked to

email both quotes out to members as soon as they arrive and it was **AGREED** they would email back which insurer they wanted to appoint.

FC/113/2020 SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WBJC AND ABC

Recommendation from WBJC for Council to sign and agree a service agreement with ABC for the curating services at Wigton Cemetery. The cemetery will still be run by the 3 councils this is just for curating services, which ABC have been doing for over 2 years.

Members **AGREED** to the service agreement.

FC/114/2020 TOWN MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Crouch asked the clerk to send a letter of thanks to the High Sherriff for spotlighting Wigton on her facebook page. There is to be a proposed Zoom meeting with her in March.

FC/115/2020 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported the following

- Website Accessibility Regulations – We are now fully compliant.
- Speet Gill – Stephen sent photos of the erosion of the bank. He will be doing some willow work there this week and next.
- Kissing Gate – We have asked Hopes for the owner details of the field. – To follow up
- Barton Laws Update –
100% works complete – Changing rooms demolished, drainage removed, topsoil and subsoil stripped and drainage systems checked. Gas connection, electric connection and cabinet supplied.
75% works complete - Trenches dug
Unfortunately, extra money has been spent due to weather conditions (out of contingency) – Foundation delays due to flooding, this required a trench to be dug to the left of the new build to take away the water into the beck. Pumps were required as trenches filling up constantly. Blockwork started last week.
Cllrs Lynch and Armstrong had a meeting with the architect last week – discussed colours for shutters etc. Going with white and various shades of grey (all costs within tender price) Think we need to start with publicity for this. Keep the public updated.
- Virtual Meetings – Date either 1st or 4th March 6.00pm DF, EL, JC, MC, PW and CS
Agreed Monday 1st March at 6.00pm
- F & P Meeting – New date/time MC, AJ, HR, CS and JH
Agreed Monday 22nd February at 2.00pm

FC/116/2020 MEMBERS REPORTS

MA – Barton Laws and Putting Green Working Group

JC – Emergency Response Group

CS – Emergency Response Group

EL – Emergency Response Group and Barton Laws

FC/117/2020 - CONFIDENTIAL

FC/118/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is 10th March 2021 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.50pm