

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021 AT 6.30PM

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

FC/1/2021 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Stapley

FC/2/2021 ELECT A CHAIR

Nominations received –

Cllr Ferriby nominated Cllr Lynch, Seconded by Cllr Armstrong

Cllr Jackson nominated Cllr Hodson, seconded by Cllr Clark - *Cllr Hodson wishes for her nomination to be withdrawn*

Cllr Williams nominated Cllr Crouch, seconded by Cllr Hamblin

No other nominations were received.

A vote was taken on Cllr Lynch nomination – 7 votes for

A vote was taken on Cllr Crouch nomination – 6 votes for

Cllr Lynch was duly elected as Chair for 2021/22. Cllr Lynch read the declaration of acceptance of office and would come in to the office tomorrow to sign.

Cllr Lynch reported that she did not want to be Town Mayor for this year.

FC/3/2021 ELECT A TOWN MAYOR

Nominations received -

Cllr Lynch nominated Cllr Ferriby, seconded by Cllr Scott

Cllr Jackson nominated Cllr Hodson – *Cllr Hodson asked that this nomination be withdrawn*

No other nominations were received.

Cllr Ferriby was duly elected as Town Mayor for 2021/22. Cllr Ferriby read the declaration of acceptance of office and would come in to the office tomorrow to sign.

FC/4/2021 ELECT A DEPUTY MAYOR

Nominations received -

Cllr Clark nominated Cllr Scott, seconded by Cllr Jackson

Cllr Ferriby nominated Cllr Hodson, seconded by Cllr Lynch

A vote was taken on Cllr Scott nomination – 6 votes for

A vote was taken on Cllr Hodson nomination – 5 votes for

Cllr Hamblin abstained

Cllr Scott was duly elected as Deputy Mayor for 2021/22. Cllr Scott read the declaration of acceptance of office and would come in to the office tomorrow to sign.

FC/5/2021 ELECTION OF COMMITTEES

Policy, Development, H & S and Staffing Committee – Chairpersons of all Committees and Cllrs Williams and Robbins

Finance Committee – Cllrs Lynch, Armstrong, Robbins and Jackson

Footpaths, Parks and Allotments Committee – Cllrs Clark, Robson, Hamblin and Robbins

Festivals Committee – Cllrs Lynch and Crouch. This will be brought back to the next meeting as 4 members required.

Health & Safety and Emergency Committee - Cllrs Lynch, Robson, Armstrong and Jackson

Wigton Burial Joint Committee – Cllrs Williams, Clark, Huntington, Robbins and Lynch

The Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor are ex-officio on all Committees

FC/6/2021 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Wigton Youth Station – Cllr Crouch

Wigton Carnival Committee – Cllr Lynch and Crouch

Chrysalis – Councillor Ferriby

Barton Laws Users Group – Town Mayor, Cllrs Lynch and Jackson

Meeting closed at 7.10pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021

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

Cllr Alan Pitcher (Allerdale Borough Council)

FC/7/2021 TO RECIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Stapley

FC/8/2021 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

Town Council meeting held on 14th April 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record
Policy & Development Committee meeting held on 15th April 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

Footpaths and Parks Committee meeting held on 21st April 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

FC/9/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/10/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/11/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

11/2021/1 To receive reports from the Public –Cllr Hamblin had spoken to a resident at Kirkland regarding children sitting on the wall and looking directly in to his house, Cllr Hamblin agreed to remove the tree stump they were using to get up on the wall and we would keep an eye on the situation.

Cllr Jackson had representation from residents regarding the new junction and lack of disabled provision at Proctors Row. Also the volume and speed of traffic at Laurel Terrace.

Cllr Lynch had been approached by a resident to ask if Flags could be put up for St Georges Day next year. Council to discuss beginning of next year.

The Clerk had been asked by Mrs Reay to enquire if the council could clear out the ditch in the field next to Barton Laws. It was **AGREED** that the field did not belong to us and therefore we would not be able to do the work.

11/2021/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance –

Cllr Crouch reported his attendance at an Overview & Scrutiny Meeting.

Cllr Pitcher reported his attendance at an Executive meeting

Cllr Lynch reported her attendance at a 2 Climate Change meetings, Vehicle Charging and licencing committee.

FC/12/2021 FINANCE MATTERS

To receive and authorise payments and financial statement for April 2021-

The statement was received and payments were authorised.

FC/13/2021 BORDERLANDS PROJECT

Cllr Lynch reported there had been a town team meeting on 14th April. Tony Markley was elected Chair and herself as Vice Chair.

There are to be online workshops for the public/residents to attend and discuss what their vision is for Wigton. There will also be a survey to complete.

The list of 15 stakeholders include – Schools, Councils, business, large companies, they will be having one to one's with the consultants Thinking Place.

Cllr Robson was pleased to hear that the Schools/children were involved and that £3 million was a good portion of money to spend.

FC/14/2021 BENCH AUDIT

AGREED that Footpaths and Parks Committee to look at this.

Cllr Crouch informed the meeting that the 2 benches on King Street (Bus Stop) do not belong to Allerdale Borough Council.

FC/15/2021 WIGTON PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT

AGREED that Footpaths and Parks Committee be given the power to look at quotes and make the decision as to which piece of equipment to purchase.

FC/16/2021 SCARIFIER

Further to Cllrs Crouch and Williams asking why this was back on the agenda after a decision had been made at a previous meeting, the Clerk reported that our Supervisor had hired one in locally but it was not fit for purpose. The machine had been hired on two separate occasions and was unable to scarify the areas required. He asked that we get our old one repaired?

Cllr Armstrong reported that ours is an industrial one rather than a normal garden one. Cllrs Williams and Hamblin asked if we could hire an industrial one. The Clerk reported not locally but had not looked further afield.

Cllrs Scott and Hodson both commented that we had already paid out for hire and surely good practice would be to repair the one we've got.

Cllr Armstrong pointed out that we must equip our staff with the right tools for the job.

Cllr Lynch put the following motion forward – To repair our Scarifier at a cost of £400,
Seconded by Cllr Armstrong.

Cllr Williams put forward an amendment to wait and find out if we would get a guarantee with the repairs. The Clerk informed her that this was not an amendment but a motion. Cllr Williams withdrew the motion.

A vote was taken – 10 for, 2 against and 1 Abstain. Motion carried to repair the Scarifier

FC/17/2021 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

FC/18/2021 CLERKS REPORT

Councillor Vacancy – Received email from Democratic Services to advertise the post – Sent today

Staff Vacancy – Over 30 applications received. 5 to interview (2 qualified and 3 local)

CCTV – problem with camera above Barbers. Waiting for Police to come back regarding a new location.

CALC – Various emails sent

Barton Laws – Site meeting 22/4/2021 all going well photos sent

Planning Applications – HOU/2021/0103 Scholars Green – No objections

Decision notices – Planning Granted for FUL/2020/0507 Tiffenthwaite Farm and Ambulance Station

Bus Shelter South End – Getting quotes

Vandalism – Speet Gill and Kirkland Park

Kirkland Park – Complaint from residents regarding children sitting on the wall overlooking his house. (Email sent to members regarding anti vandal paint). Cllr Hamblin removed a tree stump. Signage was also mentioned regarding the road, Email from Highways – Even though there have been no recorded collisions they have assessed the area and they intend to install a road marking within the carriageway on both approaches to the play area to warn drivers to potential children crossing. This should provide a visual impact and help to increase awareness of the park. Cllr Hamblin asked for signage regarding the tree planting.

Toilets – Report of a flood on 16th April. Ladies and Disabled now open as of Monday 3rd May - Monday to Saturday as per last month's meeting.

Wigton & District Business Group – Meeting on 14th May Email sent

Cllr Lynch wanted to thank Cllr Hodson for her hard work on securing the sale of the Bailey bridge. Cllr Williams and Crouch also thanked Sandra. The Clerk reported that Cllr Hodson would be reporting in Members Reports about the bridge.

Cllr Crouch pointed out that we didn't pass the last minutes of the AGM in 2019 and asked how that affects us as a Council. The Clerk was asked to find out what we need to do to rectify this.

FC/19/2021 MEMBERS REPORT

SH – Sale secured for the Bailey bridge and the bridge has now gone from Barton Laws car park. Price received £3600. She had also attended a business forum meeting.

JH - thanked Cllr Hodson and asked where the money was going to be allocated to as he had heard a rumour it was going to Barton Laws. The Clerk reported that the finance committee had not as yet allocated the money to a budget head.

DF – Traffic Issues at Junior School, Bowling Club Working Group will report at the June meeting. Wigton Trail Leaflet ready for publishing along with new plaques created by Cllr Armstrong. ABC to pay for printing of leaflets. Cllr Lynch thanks Cllrs Ferriby and Armstrong for their hard work.

FC/20/2021 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 9th June 2021

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9TH 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 5th 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 5th May 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

Finance Committee held on 5th May 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

Footpaths and Parks Committee meeting held on 20th May 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

AGM held on 8th 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 21st 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 1st 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 1st 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 1st 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 28th 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 14th July 2021

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 23RD JUNE 2021

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

FC/38/2021 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies – Cllr Speksnyder

FC/39/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/40/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/41/2021 ASSET REGISTER 2020/21

Members were asked to approve the Asset Register for year ending 31st March 2021 Total value of assets = £586,438 this figure is on the AGAR

RESOLVED that the Asset Register for the year ending 31st March 2021 be approved

FC/42/2021 INTERNAL AUDIT

FC/42/1/2021 Members received the Council's Internal Auditors Report for 2020/21

Cllrs Lynch and Ferriby wished to put on record their thanks to the Office staff for their work in receiving such a positive report.

FC/42/2/2021 Members noted that the Finance Committee have reviewed the effectiveness of Internal Audit and concluded it has operated effectively for 2020-21 and have re-appointed Mrs Jean Airey as Internal Auditor for 2021-22

FC/43/2021 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2020-21: ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

FC/43/1/2021 Members **APPROVED** the accounts for year ended 31st March 2021

FC/43/2/2021 Members were asked to review and approve Section 1 and Section 2 of the AGAR 2020/21 and authorise the chairman and Clerk to sign it on behalf of the Council.

RESOLVED The Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 be approved and Members authorised the Chair and The Clerk to sign it on behalf of the Council.

Meeting closed at 6.20pm

