

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 13th OCTOBER 2021

PRESENT – Cllrs Lynch, Ferriby, Robbins, Scott, Robson, Jackson, Armstrong, Hodson, Clark, Stapley, Hamblin, Crouch and Huntington
2 members of the public

FC/72/2021 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies accepted for Cllrs Speksnyder, Williams and Borough Councillor

Cllr Lynch suspended the meeting while members took the opportunity to present Julia with gift and flowers as she retires at the end of the month. Councillors expressed their appreciation for her work for the council.

FC/73/2021 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

Town Council meeting held on 8th September – Approved and signed as a true record
Festivals Committee held on 7th September 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record
Footpaths and Parks Committee held on 22nd September 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

FC/74/ 2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/75/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Item 17 – Agreed to move to end of meeting.

FC/76/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

76/2021/2 To receive any representations from members of the public

A member of the public commented on how beautiful the flower displays had been around town this year. In addition, the plants on the area in front of Lidl have died, and could the Town Council help improve this area? Cllr Robson and the Clerk will liaise with Lidl to see what can be done. The Clerk was requested to thank the Grounds Maintenance Team for their efforts this year, in particular for the flower displays.

A member of the public spoke on the plans for the housing development opposite Scholars Green which is at Reserved Matters Stage. Particular attention was paid to the removal of the hedgerow and suggested that individual councillors could attend the development panel meetings. It was pointed out that the Town Council appeared not to have commented on the removal of the hedgerow. The Clerk will look at the application and comments submitted as it was recalled that these matters were discussed by Councillors

The members of the public left the meeting.

77/2021/3 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance

Cllr Crouch – Bill in parliament regarding the requirement of photo id to be able to vote. Work is underway in Allerdale to improve the lives of Travellers. Decision on the closure of Keswick pool is being looked at. Universal Credit cut – representation to MP

Cllr Lynch – Attendance of Development Panel Meeting on 28th Sept– backlog of applications had resulted in an extremely long meeting – more frequent meetings would be preferred. 2 Climate Change meetings on 11th & 13th October – possibility of group in Wigton. Licensing meeting yesterday

Cllr Pitcher – submission of a written report – Preparations for Local Government Reform ongoing despite request for a judicial review from County. Geological Disposal Facility – no decision made as to the siting of the facility, and has not yet been discussed by ABC – Cllr Pitcher urges everyone to view the upcoming presentation. Leisure Survey is out, all encouraged to take part

FC/78/2021 FINANCE MATTERS

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

FC/79/2021 INTIMIDATION POLICY

To receive and adopt a reviewed Intimidation policy – Received and adopted. Cllr Robson and Stapley to act as the nominated officers. Cllr Scott asked that this policy be briefed to the Grounds Maintenance Team

FC/80/2021 HEALTH AND SAFETY / STAFF ISSUES

Cllr Scott reported he and the Clerk had inspected the Depot – all clean and tidy. A solvent cupboard is to be purchased. Cllr Scott felt the depot is not really big enough for the equipment and fleet.

Supervisors Report - Firstly it's been a hard summer with sickness and staff shortages but we are starting to catch up on outstanding jobs and sites are getting there last cut hopefully with the help of Rhys Stabler who in my opinion was a great help and one for the future if we can employ him as an apprentice also thanks to Trevor Richardson for doing the weeding upstreet and in wigton park .

Pitches , it was commented by Wigton Harriers manager Dan that the Barton laws pitch is the best it has ever been so all the pre-season work has paid off .

Allotment waterline , recently there's been a burst pipe up at Longthwaite Road allotments this is an old out of date waterline and needs renewed with a new 22 mm pipe a contractor will be required to put this line in .

Carousel in the main car park , this in my opinion needs replaced with a ground display as the baskets need renewed as the old ones are a danger to the public and are above the car park pay machines .

Shed at St Mary's , this in my opinion needs took down and sold on on as there's nothing stored in the shed anymore .

As we are an approved safe contractor now or depot is kept clean and all machinery is serviced or repaired by Rickerby's WM Plant or Lloyds .

Dalton shelter Wigton Park this is in desperate need of repair by a specialist as this is an historic building in Wigton

All the summer bed in this year has looked fantastic and we have had a lot of compliments the winter bedding has been ordered

Chris Irving has passed his tree surveying course and also no his trailer test, Luke O'Connell has passed is PA1 and PA6 spraying course .

Removed fence at Burnfoot – now made safe.

FC/81/2021 WELCOME BACK FUND

A list that may be suitable for funding had been compiled. Repairs to the Dalton Shelter was to be removed as it is felt heritage funding may be available. The Clerk was requested to forward that to ABC and request a site meeting to discuss/prioritise. Councillors are aware of the short time frame in which the funds can be spent.

FC/82/2021 BOWLING GREEN UPDATE

Cllr Ferriby went through the report, previously circulated to councillors. The Bowling Club are holding their AGM, and the assumption is that they will accept the proposals, in which case a formal contract will need to be drawn up by the Clerk.

Cllr Ferriby also requested that in light of urgent repairs being needed to the Bower Roof, and a cost of £4k (materials obtained free of charge) that Council authorise the works –

AGREED.

Another quote for tarmac is being sought. Signage to be addressed by the Footpaths and Parks Committee at their next meeting. Quotes are being obtained to remove the Pylons. Councillors asked that thought be given by the Parks Staff to planting sustainable beds rather than being grassed over.

Cllr Hodson is seeking a qualified opinion for repairs to the Dalton Shelter

FC/83/2021 ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

A working group is required to oversee delivery of the project and the associated funding of 30K – It was agreed that the members would be: Cllrs Robson, Scott, Armstrong, Lynch & Jackson

FC/84/2021 CCTV QUOTES

2 quotes had been received which included the companies recommendations of 4 or 5mp cameras. Cllr Armstrong requested that requotes be obtained for 8mp cameras, and that another quote be obtained from PWS Systems – The Clerk is to arrange and bring back to the next meeting

FC/85/2021 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)

Councillors received the AGAR report from the External auditor which was noted was in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters were to be drawn to the attention of the council. Cllr Lynch asked that the Clerk be thanked for the work involved.

FC/86/2021 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Ferriby reported he had attended the Thomlinson Junior School Harvest Festival held in the Methodist Church, and would be attending Chrysalis tomorrow morning.

Cllr Scott reported he had attended the Cockermouth Civic Service

FC/87/2021 CLERKS REPORT

Annemarie Robson will start work as Assistant Town Clerk on Monday 1st November. Julias last working day will be Thursday 28th October.

New play equipment has been installed at Wigton Park – handover pack has been passed to the Supervisor

Bus Shelter now installed at Fairview Court

Barton Laws Steering Group to meet – members are Cllrs Scott, Armstong, Jackson & Lynch

FC/88/2021 MEMBERS REPORT

SH – Town Meeting, Poppies to be put up Sunday 31st October

MA – Town Meeting

DF – Bus Shelter installation

C St – Town Meeting

EL WBJC & Town Meeting

JH Town Meeting

HR – Town Meeting & WBJC

JC – Town Meeting

CS -Town Meeting

MC – Town Meeting and WBJC

FC/89/2021 PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

FC/90/2021 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10th November 2021

Meeting closed at 8.50pm