

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

THURSDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2021

PRESENT – Cllrs Lynch, Ferriby, Robbins, Robson, Stapley, Hamblin, Crouch, Huntington and Williams

FC/105/2021 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Armstrong, Hodson, Jackson, Speksnyder, Clark and Scott

FC/106/2021 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

Town Council meeting held on 10th November – Approved and signed as a true record
Footpaths, Parks and Allotments Committee on the 16th November 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record. Recommendation to change name to Parks, Open Spaces and Allotments Committee. All members **AGREED**
Festivals Committee held on 22nd November 2021 – Approved and signed as a true record

FC/107/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/108/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Agenda Item 7 – Health 7 Safety/Staff Issues

FC/109/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

109/2021/1 To receive any representations from members of the public – The Clerk reported a comment made via Facebook page regarding the disruption of the recent roadworks in the town. The resident asking for the council to complain to Cumbria CC. The Clerk informed the council that the works on Station Road and Water Street were both emergency works carried out by utility companies. The Council agreed the works were disruptive but nevertheless essential and would not be complaining to County Council.

109/2021/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance
Cllr Crouch reported that there could be a couple of funding pots that may be useful to groups in the town. Climate Change Fund and CCC Under 19's fund which has helped Workington look into a feasibility study on a BMX track. Taste of Wigton had been a huge success with over 2,000 people attending the one day event.

Cllr Lynch reported that Keswick Pool has closed. GDF – a motion was defeated for ABC to not sit at the table.

Agreed that we would be consulted with regard to any gambling licences sought for the town and we could make representation if we wished.

Also attended Licencing Panel, Development Panel and Full Council

FC/110/2021 FINANCE MATTERS

To receive and authorise payments and financial statement for November 2021

The statement was received. The Clerk reported that the town council would be receiving both our payments for approval along with the burial committees in future as after speaking with our Auditor this is something that should be happening. Payments had been approved prior to this meeting via the burial committee. This is to ensure transparency and accountability.

Cllr Williams reported that she was not happy with this arrangement and did not think our Auditor had dealt with joint committees before and therefore the committee was seeking advice from Democratic Services, CALC and NALC on the matter.

Cllr Crouch asked if the 'approval of cemetery invoices' was in effect a rubber stamping exercise. The Clerk replied yes, it shows the council is accountable for all invoices that are paid through their bank accounts. The Council have to approve the Accounts at the end of the year which will show the cemetery accounts.

A vote was taken to approve all accounts. 7 Yes and 2 Abstains from Cllr Williams and Hamblin. Accounts **APPROVED**

FC/97/2021 HEALTH AND SAFETY / STAFF ISSUES CONFIDENTIAL Supervisors Report

LEAF PICKING - all through November we have been cleaning leaves and debris off all sites there's not a lot left to pick up just mostly debris and branches after the Storm to pick up now and some leaves in the schools and St Mary's

SPEET GILL - there has been a bit of storm damage with fallen trees and in the park also, Charlie miles is going to cut the fallen trees up, also part of the bank and path had washed away but we have fixed this.

WINTER BEDDING - have all been planted now

BARTON LAWS PITCHES - the pitches are being inspected every weekend for dog mess by the Council staff, the temporary barrier we've placed up at the bottom of Barton laws plus signs seems to be working as there is not as much mess on the pitches but something more permanent needs to be erected. The condition of the pitches is looking well and have been praised by the football teams.

WIGTON PARK BUILDINGS -The Dalton shelter is in a very poor condition and needs looked at after the vandalism that was caused through the summer and the roof also, the bowling bower roof has been completed and looks very good also the toilet roof slates have been fixed just the interior ceiling that needs fixed now after water damage. The paths around the Bowling Green need some repair as there as some trip hazards, a contractor will be needed for this job.

RAT BAITING ALLOTMENTS - regular rat baiting of the allotments has been going on and seems to be have been a success.

Safe contractor approved compliance, we have been doing toolbox talks with the staff and a new fire safety cabinet has been erected in the depot for the fuel Cans also Luke O'Connell has completed and passed his football Foundation level one and John Vickers has passed his PA1 and PA6 spraying course

Covid regulations we are regularly doing a forehead thermometer test every morning with lateral flows being done at home, the vans have been cleaned at the end of the day or after use with the staff wearing masks when sharing vehicles.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the Council staff

The Chair asked the Clerk to pass on thanks to the staff and wish them a Happy Christmas

Clerks Report

HSE contacted us and asked covid related questions. They also asked if we had a risk assessment/policy regarding work related stress. We currently do not have this. Recommend this is deferred to the policy, development and staffing committee in the New Year.

Members AGREED that this be discussed at a Policy, Development and Staffing committee meeting in the New Year.

Christmas Working – A member of the parks staff will be working between Christmas and New Year (Wed-Fri). I can if needed be in contact with them. Office staff – Last working day is Tuesday 21st December, back in Tuesday 4th Jan 2022.

FC/98/2021 ENVIRONMENT FUND

Cllr Robson reported to the members 3 quotes received for work in creating a pond.

Quote 1 - £12,800

Quote 2 - £13,800

Quote 3 - £15,000

Also quote for £20 per metre for a path around the perimeter.

Cllr Robson also reported that tree planting will be carried out on 11/12, 15/12 and 18/12 from 10.00am if any councillors wished to come along and help.

Cllr Robson proposed that members agreed to accept Quote 1 for the construction of the pond and the quote for the path round the perimeter. Seconded by Cllr Stapley

Vote taken on the above proposal – Unanimous

The clerk to ask staff to replace the gate in the field with fencing.

Showfields 2 – Progress made with EA who will be putting a fence up near the entrance and trees to stop cattle entering the beck.

Speet Gill – Planting trees and supplying fence to fence off near Rugby Club

The Chair thanked Nick for all the hard work he has done and especially with the EA.

FC/99/2021 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE EVENT 2022

To discuss the letter circulated prior to the meeting regarding planting a tree – Cllrs happy to plant a mature Maple tree either in Phoenix Park or Barton Laws 2

FC/100/2021 BARTON LAWS

To discuss the situation with regard to clean up of pitches on a weekend – The Clerk reported that this had been a temporary measure and asked what Council wanted to do in the future.

The Clerk to ask staff to continue checking pitches until the end of January and look in to a permanent fence. The Clerk to cost up a permanent fence and look at staff erecting it asap.

FC/101/2021 BORDERLANDS PROJECT

An update on the Wigton Place Plan document – The Chair reported there had been a further meeting on Tuesday where further discussion took place as there were still gaps in the plan.

The Clerk reported that all comments made by members had been sent and some had been put in the plan. Further documentation had also been sent.

The Clerk was asked to send both documents to members. (Our amended plan and the plan amended by CCC)

FC/101/2021 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to Clerk for managing to get the lights sorted out and switched on.

Carol Service on Sunday 12th at St Mary's Church – All Councillors welcome.

FC/102/2021 CLERKS REPORT

Barton Laws –

CCTV is now up and operational.

Few problems with heating and doors but getting sorted.

Key boxes installed – Clubs told code etc. as and when required.

2 trees down – Speet Gill and Park due to Storm Arwen – Charlie Miles asked to cut down.

1 tree down - Barton Laws due to Storm Barra – Into the beck, SF trying to contact Charlie Miles

Care Homes – Door step deliveries only this year for the Mayor. Thursday 23rd December 10am-12pm

Chrysalis, Loveday House, Inglewood, Redmayne and Rydal Mount

Permission for Cllr Hodson to speak at Development Panel to reiterate the council's comments (as per Page 3 of report) Wigton TC consider the best option for access to the estate is via the mini roundabout as detailed in the previous plans and that appropriate signage is erected.

New covid restrictions – From 13th December you should work from home if you can

Further info from CALC to follow in the New Year regarding face to face meetings. **Cllr**

Robson declared an Interest. Councillors happy for office staff to decide the best way to work under the new guidance.

FC/103/2021 MEMBERS REPORT

C St – Cemetery on 11/11 and Xmas Lights switch on

DF – Cemetery on 11/11 and Xmas Lights switch on, traffic issues

EL – Cemetery on 11/11 and Xmas Lights switch on and Borderlands meeting

MH - WBJC

PW – WBJC – Resigned as Chair and also resigning from the Council with immediate effect due to moving away in January 2022. Pat has enjoyed her 7-8 years on the Council. Cllr Lynch stated that she would be a big miss and has worked really hard on many committees.

JH - WBJC

HR – WBJC Going really well other than problems with dogs in the cemetery but we are dealing with it.

JC – Borderlands and Cemetery on 11/11

FC/104/2021 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 12th January 2022

Meeting closed at 8.50pm