

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH 2022 AT 7.00PM

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

In Attendance – Cllr Pitcher (ABC)

Before the meeting The Chair wanted to mention the situation in Ukraine and asked that the council send a letter of support to the Ambassador and a donation to the DEC

FC/148/2021 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

None

FC/149/2021 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

Town Council meeting held on 9th February 2022 – Approved and signed as a true record
Festivals committee held on 22nd February 2022 – Approved and signed as a true record
Finance committee held on 24th February 2022 – Approved and signed as a true record
Barton Laws Steering Group committee held on 2nd March 2022 – Approved and signed as a true record

FC/150/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

FC/151/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

FC/152/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

152/2021/1 To receive any representations from members of the public – Mrs Hayward was in attendance regarding Lowmoor Road – The Chair said she could speak at the agenda item.

152/2021/2 To receive reports from Borough and County Councillors in attendance – Cllr Crouch had attended the ABC FC meeting where they voted on the budget. They also proposed to move £30k from reserves to go towards an enforcement officer for the borough. Council tax set at a 0% increase for Allerdale.

Cllr Pitcher stated that ABC were leaving the finances in good order for the new unitary authority. Also a resident had expressed their concern regarding the speeding cars at South End, Cllr Pitcher to discuss with Cllr Ferriby and take it further with Cumbria CC. Councillor allowances have been put in a pot for various local causes, through this fund St Cuthbert's Church received money for a defibrillator. Also looking at Sellafeld Fund for money for car park works at Barton Laws.

Cllr Lynch reported the following:-

11/02 Climate change group with Andrew Seekings CEO
15/02 Development Panel
23/02 ABC Tourism conference (online) and ABC FC meeting
24/02 Standards Committee
25/02 Planting Jubilee Tree
01/03 Community Leadership task and finish group
03/03 Climate Change group – Citizen's jury and Audit committee training (online)

Also the Wigton ABC office will be opening to walk ins – no appointment necessary.

FC/153/2021 FINANCE MATTERS

To receive and authorise payments and financial statement for February 2022
The statement was received. Payments **AUTHORISED**

FC/154/2021 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE REPORT

The following report produced by Stephen Farish was noted.

Innovia: Work has continued on cutting the shrub beds and tidying them up but due to bad weather conditions through February we have not finished all of them yet.

Nelson Thomlinson/Wigton infants: Over half-term we were busy killing moss on tarmac areas, car parks and paths throughout the schools and doing a general tidying up.

St Mary's shed: The storms took its toll on the shed at the rear of St Mary's so it was decided to take the shed down. We were hoping to dismantle in sections but it was beyond repair and recycled.

Barton Laws/ Park pitches: We've been working on the pitches when possible after games as they're starting to look a bit battered now so will need a bit of work done on them at the end of the season. Unfortunately there are still one or two people letting their dogs do their business on the pitches and not picking it up. Myself and the staff have been checking them over the weekends before games and disposing of any faeces but hopefully when the fence is put up at the bottom of Barton Laws this will stop.

Town benches/ tubs: We have been painting and treating some of the tubs and benches up street as well as in the parks still a few to do.

Machinery: All the machinery has been serviced and is ready for the upcoming grass cutting season.

We are behind on jobs due to weather conditions and staff sickness but hopefully these jobs can be completed through March /April

FC/155/2021 LOWMOOR ROAD – PUBLIC FOOTPATH

The Clerk reported that there had been no movement from CCC with regard to a site visit.

The Clerk asked to look at S.106 / Cycle to School report. Also speak to Police, take photos of the area concerned and push again for a site visit.

FC/156/2021 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tree planting at Throstle Park – Superb occasion

23/4 Taste of Wigton Event Would like a stall for TC to raise the profile of the council.

Looking for Councillors to man the stall.

FC/157/2021 CLERKS REPORT

The report below was noted by members

Cumbria Wildlife Trust – 100 sites across Cumbria and WTC have been appointed as one of the sites as part of the pollinator corridors they are trying to develop across the country.

Replying to emails – The reason I ask to let me know if you're coming is so I know we will have a quorum. I do no task that you reply to all on the email, it is only me that needs to know you're coming. Thank You

FC/158/2021 MEMBERS REPORT

To receive reports from Councillors who have attended meetings or represented the Town Council. It's also an opportunity to bring matters of interest to the council for information or future discussion.

MA – Jubilee Tree planting, fence at Throstle Park and to discuss putting green at next meeting

SH, AJ, MS, CSt, EL, JH – Jubilee Tree planting

JH – Planted Acer tree in Phoenix Park from Environment Fund money, also planted 100 bluebells in contaminated area.

HR – Problems with sinking graves at the cemetery, discussing with contractor and looking at other options. Sending letters out regarding dog fouling on site.

CSc – Barton Laws official opening is set for July 2022.

NR – Planted tree with John at Phoenix Park. Fence with Mike at Throstle Park around pond and willow planting next week.

JC – Food bank going well and new weekly coffee morning every Wednesday from 9am to 12pm at St Cuthbert's

EL – Climate change – Wildlife for Wigton and TWIG doing excellent work and the council thank them for this.

SH – Can Allerdale Councillors look at bollards on Market Hill, can they be replaced with black/yellow ones.

MS – Double yellow lines on Station Hill – Need to check TRO

FC/159/2021 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 13th April 2022

Meeting closed at 8.25pm