

WORKINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Oxford Street, Workington, Cumbria CA14 2RS
Telephone: 01900 702986
Email: workingtontowncouncil@allerdale.gov.uk
Website: www.workingtontowncouncil.com



Minutes of the meeting of Workington Town Council held at 6pm on Wednesday 15 October 2014 in the Trades Hall, Brow Top, Workington.

Mrs C Armstrong	Present	Mr G Humes	Present
Mr W Bacon	Present	Mrs E Johnsen	Absent
Mrs M Bainbridge	Present	Mr F Johnston	Absent
Mrs L Baldry	Present	Mrs M Jones	Present
Mrs A Bales	Present	Mr R Jones	Present
Mr P Bales	Present	Cllr A Lawson	Absent
Mr J Bechelli	Apologies	Mr B Miskelly	Present
Mr J Bracken	Present	Mr J Osborn	Present
Mrs B Cannon	Absent	Mrs M Rae	Present
Mr M Fryer	Absent	Mr W Reville	Present
Mr K Hansen	Present	Ms D Rollo	Apologies
Mr N Hardy	Absent	Mr M Rollo	Apologies
Mrs H Harrington	Absent	Mr N Schofield	Absent
Mr M Heaslip	Present	Mr S Stoddart	Apologies
Mr C Holding	Apologies	Mrs J Wright	Present

Mayor's Chaplain

Fr Paul Swarbrick led a short prayer.

Public Participation

There were no issues raised by the public.

Police Report

Sgt D McDonald reported on the most recent crime figures for the town.

There had been a spate of opportunist burglaries recently, and the public were urged to be vigilant. PCSOs would be doing school visits in the run up to Halloween and bonfire night. There would also be higher visibility patrols in known problem areas.

Three important drug arrests had been made since the last meeting and the safe winter driving campaign had begun. There had been an issue with anti-social behaviour in Salterbeck, but this was being dealt with. Councillors noted that tempers were being frayed by the continuing road closures due to road works.

Councillors were concerned about recent police statements on lost property and about parking on Mill Lane.

There was ongoing concern about needles around Frostoms and about noise.

14.47 Apologies

The council received and accepted apologies from Cllrs C Holding, D Rollo, M Rollo and S Stobbart.

14.48. Declarations of Interest

No further interests were declared.

14.49. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No items were excluded.

14.50. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 11 September 2014 were received and affirmed as a true record.

14.51. Mayoral Announcements

The mayor reported that she had attended several events including those organised by Cumbria in Bloom, Age UK, Hospice at Home and the Lions. She had also attended a production of Jesus Christ Superstar by Workington Amateur Operatic Society.

She read out a letter from Mind in West Cumbria thanking the council for its generous support. She went on to remind councillors about forthcoming Mayoral Charity events including the D-Day Darlings performance at the Royal British Legion on 1 November.

Resolved: To accept the Mayor's report.

14.52. Amendment to Standing Orders

The council considered a proposed amendment to the council's standing orders to make them compliant with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 (SI2014 No 20195). The amendment would remove the council's right to be asked prior to the recording, or filming, or distribution by any legal means of such resulting media. It was noted that the council should in due course develop guidance notes for observers, and perhaps develop its own technology to put meetings on the web.

Resolved: To remove Standing Order 3l) from the council's standing orders with immediate effect.

Reports from Committees

The chair of each committee will also take reasonable questions from the floor on their committee's activities.

14.53. Allotments Committee

The council received the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting on 14 August 2014.

Resolved: That the council notes the minutes.

14.54. Culture Committee

The Council received the minutes of the Culture Committee meeting on 22 September 2014. The chairman of the committee drew the council's attention to the expenditure on Christmas lights and that there would be a planting of symbolic snowdrops by school children around the cenotaph on 11 November.

A councillor observed that the Workington Rugby Union Football Club had not been specifically invited to march to the cenotaph. General invitations had gone out to many of the town's institutions, but everyone in the town was invited to take part if they wished.

It was queried why it was taking so long for the council to pay the money it had budgeted to the Helena Thompson Museum. It was explained that the committee was keen to satisfy itself that the council's money would be applied appropriately, and this was taking longer than first thought.

Resolved: That the council notes the minutes.

14.55 Environment Committee

The council did not receive the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 13 October 2014, because they were not yet prepared.

In the absence of the chair and vice chair, the clerk reported that Play Areas were being planned for Moorclose and other areas including Westfield. The chair of Workington in Bloom reported on the excellent results from the Cumbria in Bloom judges. The town was awarded a Silver Gilt, and there had been many plaudits for the floral displays. The Hanging Basket Competition had been judged and there would be some publicity around the award giving.

Resolved: That the council notes the reports.

14.56. Finance, Property and Employment Committee

a) The council received the minutes of the Finance, Property and Employment Committee meeting on 25 September 2014. It was observed that attendance at these meetings had been poor of late. It was suggested that this may be due to a perceived loss of status, which might be mitigated by merging the committee with Policy and Resources or some other solution, however no specific change was proposed at this stage.

Resolved: That the council notes the minutes.

b) The council considered a proposal from the Finance, Property and Employment Committee to employ the Senior Estate Worker on a permanent basis. It was observed that as the council was taking on more allotments and more play areas, the ongoing need for a member of staff was self-evident.

Resolved: To make the post of Senior Estate Worker permanent. The salary range details would be dealt with by the clerk in conjunction with the Finance, Property and Employment Committee.

14.57. Past Mayors' Group

The council received a report from the Past Mayor's Group, following the meeting on 26 August 2014, which included a recommendation that the council's list of Civic Events include Armed Forces Day. This would mean that councillors could join the parade in gowns if they so wished. The full list of civic events should be:

- Mayor Making ceremony
- Civic Sunday
- Remembrance Sunday
- Armed Forces Day
- The funeral of a Mayor who dies in office
- Events of national importance such as the death of a monarch, a Coronation, and other state affairs of significance for celebration or remembrance.

Resolved: To note the report and to adopt the recommendation.

14.58. Planning Committee

The council received the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings on 8 September and 6 October 2014.

Resolved: That the council notes the minutes.

14.58. Policy and Resources Committee

The council received the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meetings on 13 August and 3 September 2014.

Resolved: That the council notes the minutes.

The meeting closed at 7.17pm.