

Workington Town Council

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13 July 2017

To Members of Environment Committee

D Rollo (chair)	P McHarry
B Dixon	B Miskelly
B Cannon	J Osborn (vice chair)
A Lawson	B Reville
A McGuckin	T Wardley

(Copy for information only to other members of Workington Town Council)

You are summoned to a meeting of Workington Town Council Environment Committee on Tuesday 20 July 2017 at 6.00pm in the Mayor's Reception Rooms, Town Hall, Workington.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A B' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Chris Bagshaw
Town Clerk

AGENDA

Public Participation

To discuss any items of interest to the council brought forward by members of the public. This session will last no longer than 20 minutes. The council cannot take any decisions in this session, except to bring items to a future meeting. The public are not permitted to speak in other parts of the meeting unless invited to do so by the chairman.

1. Apologies

To receive and accept any apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest relating to matters which appear on this agenda, but which have not been previously declared on members' declarations of pecuniary interest and other interests.

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

To consider whether there are any agenda items during consideration of which the press and public should be excluded.

4. Workington Nature Partnership

To receive a report from the Workington Nature Partnership Officer.

5. Harrington Reservoir

To receive an update on the developments at Harrington Reservoir.

6. Apprentice Programme

To receive an update on the progress towards employing an Apprentice Craft Gardener.

7. Allotment Development

To receive an update on the development of allotment provision in the town, including the provision of a Handbook for Plotholders and the management of the Local Food Project gardens. To make any necessary decisions relating to allotment development.

8. Back Lanes

To make recommendations on the future use of the back lanes budget.

Background

The Back Lanes budget is the product of many years of saving by the council. The project on Frostoms Road has cost the council in excess of £66,000. The fund has around £50,000 remaining in it and the council decided not to add to this pot in this financial year. There are a number of small projects, which could be funded to exhaust this amount, but it would not support another large set-piece project like Frostoms Road. Delivering smaller projects may require greater involvement with the property holders, as it is likely that their ongoing support would be required to ensure a projects success. Projects might include 'tidying up' alleyways such as the rear of Murray Road or Oxford Street, maintenance on Gray Street, Glenfield Terrace or Yeowartville, or surface dressing/treatment on a number of Back Lanes in St John's/St Joseph's wards. There are also a number of unresolved issues in St Michael's which could benefit from funding.

Decision required

The committee should instruct officers how it would like them to concentrate the remaining fund.

9. Play Areas and Open Spaces

To receive a brief verbal report on the progress made towards delivering Play Areas across the town, including the 'Youth Zone' in Moss Bay and the transfer of Vulcan Park, Harrington Marina PA and land at Newlands Lane PA. To make any necessary decisions relating to these.

10. Workington in Bloom

To receive a brief update on the delivery of Workington in Bloom and the funding given for 2017.

11. Bus Shelters

To consider a brief report on the maintenance of the Derwent Howe bus shelters.

Background

The council entered into an agreement with Cumbria County Council in October 2016 to care for two bus shelters newly installed on Derwent Howe, near Morrison's. Councillors were concerned about the cost of ongoing maintenance, and requested a probationary period to assess costs. After nine months of ongoing care we are able to estimate that the site will require at most around 30-40 mins per month, which the Estate team believe could easily be incorporated into their maintenance schedule.

Decision required

The committee should decide whether to continue to maintain the bus shelters on this basis, or to give notice to Cumbria County Council that they no longer wish to maintain them. Cumbria County Council has indicated in the past that the bus shelters would be withdrawn if no town council support was forthcoming

12. Budget Allocations

a) To review and confirm other budget allocations for the current year.
(See appendix A)

b) To consider how seating requests might best be funded.

Background

There is an opportunity here to consider whether, or how, the council might help fund the placing of seats in several parts of the town. There are currently requests from residents groups in Salterbeck, Moorclose and Harrington for seats which do not easily fit in the councils seating policy.

13. Community Emergency Planning and Resilience

To consider whether the Town Council could benefit from working alongside ACT to develop a Community Emergency Plan.

Background

Cumbria CVS, in partnership with Action with Communities (ACT) and Cumbria Action for Sustainability, are working on a three year BIG Lottery funded project to build resilience of people, communities and organisations to help them be prepared for similar emergencies as experienced in the December 2015 floods. ACT is supporting communities with Community Emergency Planning and Resilience activities, providing guidance and support to create a Community Emergency Plan.

14. Other Environment Concerns

To consider any other items of concern for the committee to address at future meetings.

Appendix A

Environment Committee Budget and Expenditure 2017-18 to date

		Budget figure 2017 / 2018	Total	Monies spent to 30.04.17	Total spent to date	Balance remaining 2017/2018	Total remaining 2017/2018	Income rec'd for this budget 2017- 2018	Proposed carried over committed 01.04.17
Workington in Bloom - Displays		15000		80.00		14920.00		250.00	
W/ton in Bloom Development Grants		3500		750.00		2750.00			
Play Area Development		30000				30000.00		14414.00	28177.13
Workington Nature Partnership		21000				21000.00			
Nature Areas		10000				10000.00			30317.84
Allotments Running		8000		1780.86		6219.14			
Allotments Development		7500		1806.99		5693.01			71056.30
Back Lane Environmental Improvement		0				0.00			116035.64
Flood resilience		5000				5000.00			7500.00
Vulcan Park Development		20000		1599.25		18400.75			19507.95
Harrington Marina Development		0				0.00			10000.00
Additional improvements		5000				5000.00			
Play area repairs and renewals		8000		42.00		7958.00			
			133000		6059.10		126940.90		

Spending commitments from previous years as yet unactioned from 'Nature Areas'

Harbour benches	1000
Eco surveys Moss Bay	1500
Eco surveys Mountain View	1500
Eco survey town wide	4000
Incredible edible	2000
Signage	3500
Mountain View fencing	3000
Bankfield	1000
Contingency	2147

- Harrington Harbour benches are being negotiated.
- Following consultation with surveyors, 'eco surveys' requires more focus, as they were uncertain that they could deliver a useful project within the broad budget parameters.
- An 'incredible edible' initiative was not forthcoming.
- Signage is still to be agreed with partners at the Borough Council.
- Mountain View fencing is no longer required
- Bankfield is to support the Nature Partnership's initiative in Bankfield, and this is yet to be drawn on.