

# Workington Town Council

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25 June 2020

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to a meeting of Workington Town Council on Thursday 2 July 2020 at 6.30pm on the Zoom platform. Joining details for the Zoom meeting will be distributed under a separate cover. The meeting takes place under the authorisation scheme outlined in the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Yours faithfully

Chris Bagshaw  
Town Clerk

## AGENDA

### Chaplain

The Mayor's Chaplain may lead a moment of prayer.

### Police Report

Inspector Rachel Gale from Cumbria Police will make a brief report.

### 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 allowed to do so by the chairman. Please follow the specific guidelines for Zoom meetings distributed separately.

### 1. Apologies

To receive and accept any apologies. If accepted, apologies will be considered to be for reasons approved by the Council under the terms of Local Government Act, 1972, s85.

### 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. Minutes of the previous meeting**

To receive the minutes from the meeting on 5 February 2020 and affirm them as a true record.

### **5. Mayoral Announcements**

To receive a report from the mayor on her civic activities.

### **Mayor's calendar of events since Full Council Meeting on 5 February 2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
Sunday 2 February 2020	Licensing of the Very Revd. Dr. Francis Ward as priest in charge of St John's & St Michael's	6.00 pm St John's then on to St Michael's
Sunday 9 February 2020	Presentation to Our Lady & St Michael's from the Scouts re: - monies raised towards Stella Maris Project Group, through distribution of Mayor's Christmas cards.	10.20 for 10.30 am
Wednesday 12 February 2020	Visit to Moorclose Youth Club.  WAOS Juniors' production of Oliver, Carnegie Theatre	5.00 pm  7.00 for 7.15 pm
Thursday 27 February 2020	Jobs Fair (Rotary event), St John's Church, Community Rooms.	Event 10.00 am – 3.00 pm
Thursday 7 May 2020	Flag Raising to commemorate VE Day, Town Hall, Workington	3pm
Thursday 25 June 2020	Flag raising to celebrate Armed Forces Day, Town Hall, Workington	3pm

### **Reports from Committees**

#### **6. Finance and General Purposes Committee**

a) To receive the draft minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 21 June 2020.

b) To accept the Risk Assessment recommended by the Committee at its meeting on 21 June 2020.

- c) To accept the Internal Auditor's Report for 2018-19 (AGAR p3).
- d) To complete and accept the Annual Governance Statement (AGAR p4)
- e) To accept the Annual Accounting Statements for 2019-20 (AGAR p5).

#### **7. Planning Committee**

To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 2 March 2020.

#### **8. Culture Committee**

To receive the draft minutes of the Culture Committee meeting on 10 March 2020.

#### **9. Environment Committee**

To receive the draft minutes of the Environment Committee meetings on 12 June, 2020.

#### **10. Annual Meeting of the Council**

To confirm a date for the Annual Meeting of the Council.

### **Background**

The Council agreed a date for its annual meeting at its meeting on 5 February 2020. The date of 27 May 2020 was a recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee, with a Mayor Making Ceremony to follow on 29 May 2020. The Coronavirus restrictions, which were imposed by the government through the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 on 26 March 2020, prohibited any public gathering of more than two people, and so physical council meetings and the Mayor Making Ceremony had to be cancelled. The Government issued further regulations to allow the business of councils to continue through virtual meeting apps such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, allowed councils to make arrangements and hold their meetings remotely, or for members to attend remotely. It also made provision for any annual meeting which would otherwise be required to take place in a specific period of time, to be held over by the Council until a subsequent time to be determined by the Council, or until the following annual meeting, if that meeting's date had already been fixed in 2021.

It is still very unclear when physical council meetings will be able to resume. It is even less clear when larger indoor events like Mayor Making may take place.

Under the Regulations, any office holders elected at the previous Annual Meeting, may stay in place until the next Annual Meeting. The 'Municipal Year' continues between the two meetings, so minute numbering and the like will stay with the prefix '19' until the next annual meeting, whenever that is.

### **Decision Required**

The Council should decide when it would like to hold its annual meeting. If it decides to hold it within the next month following this meeting, it is unlikely that such an meeting will be anything other than virtual, and it is further very unlikely that a public Mayor Making ceremony would be allowed to take place, other than through a virtual platform.

If the Council decides it should take place sometime between now and Christmas 2020, there is no certainty that any future date in this medium term will be any less able to support physical events.