

WORKINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Workington Town Council held at 6pm on Tuesday 3 December 2013 in the Trades Hall, Workington

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

13.59 Apologies

In the absence of the Mayor, the meeting was chaired by Cllr M Bainbridge, deputy Mayor.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs C Armstrong, A Bales, B Cannon, D Coe, K Hansen, H Harrington, G Humes, E Johnsen, N Schofield and J Wright.

13.60 Declarations of Interest

There were no additional declarations.

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

No items.

13.62 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 16 October 2013 were received and affirmed as a true record.

13.63 Managing Radioactive Waste Safely

The council considered the recommendations from the joint Policy and Resources and Planning Committee for a council response to the government's consultation on the Siting Process for a Geological Disposal Facility.

Each response was considered in turn.

In considering the response to question 1, the council discussed whether the meaning of the phrase 'community' was sufficiently clear and whether this should include the widest area possible to reflect the importance of the issue. The counter argument to this was that the further a decision was taken from the likely site of any facility, the easier it would be for that community to not consider the true impact.

It was noted when considering the response to question 3 that the issue of parish capacity was badly explained in the consultation, and that it would be more positively construed if it had explained how a district council might work on behalf of a parish or community.

It was suggested that the answer for question 6 should be more robust, replacing conditional words like 'should' and 'ought', to the more emphatic 'is' and 'must'. The council agreed to make these changes and also to add comments under question 9, to emphasise that the council expected government to come forward, as a matter of urgency, with proposals to address the immediate problem of storage of nuclear material on the Sellafield site. It further added that government be urged to seek transnational solutions to the problem of managing existing and future nuclear waste.

Resolved: To submit the response to government appended to these minutes.

The meeting closed at 6.48pm