

WORKINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the annual meeting of Workington Town Council held at 6pm on Wednesday 4 June 2014 in the St John's Church Community Rooms, Workington.

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

Mayor's Chaplain

Fr Paul Harrison led a short prayer.

Public Participation

Cllr G Humes spoke on the issue of the recent High Court hearing concerning the County Council electoral petition from 2013.

Police Report

Inspector Hunter reported on the most recent crime figures for the town. A councillor raised the issue of threats and violence against councillors who were trying to serve the community, following a recent incident in which a councillor had had his windows broken. Inspector Hunter urged councillors to report all incidents to the police.

Parking during 'school run' hours, particularly at Ashfield schools continued to be a problem. PCSOs are visiting the schools but the situation wasn't getting easier.

14.8 Apologies

The council received and accepted apologies from Cllrs J Bechelli, J Bracken, K Hansen, N Hardy, C Holding, E Johnsen, F Johnston, B Miskelly, D Rollo and N Schofield.

14.9. Declarations of Interest

No further interests were declared.

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

No items were excluded.

14.11 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meetings on 9 April and 7 May 2014 were received and affirmed as a true record.

14.12. Mayoral Announcements

The Mayor reported that she had been quite busy in her first month. She had video-conferenced with the Mayor of Val de Reuille, been to Lakes College, taken flowers to Workington Community Hospital and attended the Mayor of Allerdale's parade commemorating the outbreak of World War One. She also attended a service at St John's to celebrate the anniversary of the Carnegie Theatre, been to an art exhibition in Wigton and Mayor Making in Maryport.

Resolved: To accept the Mayor's report.

14.13 Allotments Committee.

To council received the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting on 24 April 2014.

Resolved: That the council note the minutes.

7. Culture Committee

The council received the minutes of the Culture Committee meeting on 19 May 2014.

Resolved: That the council note the minutes.

14.14. Environment Committee

a) The council received the minutes of the Environment Committee meetings on 27 May 2014.

Resolved: That the council note the minutes.

b) The council received the notes from the Workington in Bloom sub-committee on 8th April and 29 April.

Resolved: That the council note the notes.

14.15. Finance, Property and Employment Committee

a) The council received the minutes of the Finance, Property and Employment Committee meeting on 29 May 2014.

Resolved: That the council note the minutes.

b) The council reviewed the Annual Return, recommended by the committee at its meeting on 29 May.

Resolved: That the council approve the Annual Return.

14.16. Planning Committee

The council received the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 7 April and 6 May 2014.

Resolved: That the council note the minutes.

14.17. Policy and Resources Committee

a) The council received the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meetings on 28 May 2014.

Resolved: That the council note the minutes.

14.18. Breach of the Code of Conduct by Cllr Stephen Stoddart

a) The council received a report on the actions to be taken in response to the breaches of the Code of Conduct by Cllr S Stoddart. The clerk had consulted with the Monitoring Officer, the previous Mayor and with CALC and others. He recommended that Cllr Stoddart be suspended from all non-statutory council activities for the current municipal year. This included wearing council robes, and standing alongside the councillors in public events. A notice would be placed in the local paper and on the council's website to this effect.

Resolved: The council was unanimous in its adoption of the actions recommended.

14.19. Property matters

The council considered making Community Asset Transfer bids to Cumbria County Council for two parcels of land at Moss Bay. The land to the east of Solway Road comprised around 6,000 square metres of grazing, which it was suggested could be transformed into over 70

allotment garden plots. The land to the west of Solway Road was currently around 8,600 sq m of scrubland but was the last remaining area of undeveloped land in Moss Bay, being between the steelworks, the Persimmon Forgehill development and Kerry Park trading estate. Councillors were supportive of the proposals, which would now require a business case to be drawn up to go to Local Area Committee, who would then propose the transfer to the county council's cabinet.

Resolved To continue the pursue Community Asset Transfer process for both plots of land.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm

It was observed that the acoustics in the Church Hall were not sufficiently clear to allow the venue to be re-used.