

A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL WAS HELD ON

THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT –

Councillor Chris Scott (Mayor and Chair)
Councillor Sandra Hodson (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Mary Clark
Councillor Mary Huntington
Councillor Chris Stapley
Councillor John Crouch
Councillor Anne Jackson
Councillor Shane McCarthy
Councillor Claire Meszaros

Clerk: Emma Ireton

FC/86/2023 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Councillor David Ferriby
Councillor John Hamblin
Councillor Mark Newton
Councillor Patricia Newton

FC/87/2023 MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2023

The following minutes were agreed as accurate and signed by the Chairman:

Full Council held on 13th September 2023 - **AGREED**

It was agreed that only full council minutes would be attached to this agenda item moving forward as committee minutes will be agreed at the committee meeting. Once agreed, a copy will be sent to all councillors to review.

FC/88/2023 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, MEMBERS AND OFFICERS TO GIVE NOTICE OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

NONE

FC/89/2023 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

NONE

FC/90/2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive any representations from members of the public – Members of the public are invited to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes each. The maximum total time for public participation will be 10 minutes. At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council Members unless invited to do so by the Chairman.

5.1 Public Participation

NONE

5.2 Cumberland Authority Report

NONE

FC/91/2023 Finance Matters

6.1 To receive and authorise Payments and Bank Reconciliation for September 2023

Payment lists for the town council and WBJC has some amendments as further invoices had been received after sending the documents to councillors. A record of the extra payments were read out with a new payment list provided on the evening.

Extra payments included:

V340	Blade	£33.50
V318	Generator	£254.40
V320	Fuel	£523.34
V323	Hire	£109.20
V319	Fuel	£314.70
V335	Toilets	£715
V334	Room hire	£50
V327	Flowers	£35
V329	Sand	£104.95
V333	GroGreen	£151.20
V332	Depot rent	£1950
V336	Machine Maintenance.	£1834
V324	Back up	£10.80
V338	Depot running costs	£54.27
V314	New Machine	£1230
V331	Rent MH	£728.76
V330	Travis Perkins	£101.76

All payments agreed and authorised.

FC/92/2023 TOWN CCTV

The town CCTV is managed and monitored by Cumbria Constabulary and maintained by Bedroq. There is an annual maintenance cost for the CCTV payable to Bedroq which is £6863.18. A vote was taken to pay the annual maintenance costs of £6863.18 and the decision was **UNANIMOUS** to make the payment.

FC/93/2023 EQUALITY ACT

Councillor Hamblin requested this agenda item to be discussed while he was on leave. It was highlighted that there is no provision for staff, councillors or members of the public who are hard of hearing or are deaf. Councillor Hamblin pointed out that he alone finds it almost impossible to participate in meetings that are held in the Market Hall as there is no hearing loop and no other facilities. It was discussed what could be done to assist those that are hard of hearing, options included looking at technology that could help such as portable hearing loops. It was decided the first step would be to ask the owner of the meeting rooms to see if they can provide any assistance before the town council bought resources. **ACTION** – Clerk to speak to Sandra Keaveney the CEO of Solway Plain Futures and report back to full council at the next meeting.

FC/94/2023 ELECT A MEMBER FOR THE WBJC

Due to a resignation on the WBJC there was a committee space to be filled. Councillor Scott proposed himself and this was seconded by Councillor Stapley, after a **UNANIMOUS** vote, Councillor Scott was welcomed onto the WBJC committee.

No other members were proposed.

FC/95/2023 TREE WORK

Residents of Procter's Row have reported the trees in St Mary's on several occasions as they are overgrown and are touching some of the houses. Three quotes were sought to undergo the tree work. Two out of the three returned a quote of:

Company A) £660

Company B) £2040

Both companies had the relevant insurance and qualifications to be able to carry out the work.

A vote was taken, and the result was **UNANIMOUS** for company A to proceed with cutting back the trees.

FC/96/2023 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Members were advised that a meeting had been held at the Nelson Thomlinson School to look at reviewing the grass cutting contract to include an extra cut to reduce or remove the grass cuttings. This will be priced by the RFO and submitted to the school. This extra work will not have a significant impact on the team as they are already in attendance.

FC/97/2023 Mayor's Report – See Attached

Thanked Councillor Robbins for her service to the council and wished her well for the future.

An update was given regarding the car that crashed into the barber shop in Wigton. There were concerns that it was not safe but the building has been inspected and it is structurally safe although the window needed to be fixed as soon as possible.

FC/98/2023 Clerk's report

Members were informed that the clerk was undertaking the CiLCA qualification and requested that the registration fee of £480 be paid to complete the qualification.

Members voted with a **UNANIMOUS** result to pay the fee.

FC/99/2023 Member's Reports

Councillor Hodson – Macmillan Coffee morning, Solway and Fells Community Group

Councillor McCarthy – Solway and Fells Community Group

Councillor Huntington – attended the WBJC meeting.

Councillor Clark – Announced she was sorry Councillor Robbins resigned and informed members she had now become chair of the WBJC. It was explained that the budget was being looked at and this would be shared at future meetings.

Explained that the summer ground maintenance contract was finished and now the winter would be starting. Once again mentioned the issues with graves sinking and how the committee were trying to combat these issues. Highlighted that there had been 11 funerals this last month.

Meeting closed 20:19

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th November