



KIRKHAM TOWN COUNCIL

The Community Centre
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 19 MARCH 2024, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, MILL STREET, KIRKHAM

Attendees:

Chris Hopkinson	Councillor (Cllr.) and Chair
Neil Byers	Cllr.
James Cameron	Cllr.
Maggie Ledger	Cllr.
Shaun Patchett	Cllr.
Peter Sutcliffe	Cllr.
Michelle Welch	Cllr.
Elizabeth Squires - Minutes	Town Clerk

24/03/01 Apologies for Absence

To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Diane Ireland, Stewart Jones and Tony Wellings.

24/03/02 Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest in an Agenda item. Members are reminded that in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act, 1972, and the Council's Standing Orders, any direct or pecuniary or other interest should be declared.

The Town Clerk declared an interest in the decision about an electric vehicle charging unit (agenda item 24/03/08 (i)). This was not a pecuniary.

24/03/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To accept as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 February 2024.

Minutes were accepted as a true record. These were proposed and seconded.

24/03/04 Public Participation

Matters brought to the Town Council by residents. The Chair may limit a member of the public to 3 minutes of speaking in order to ensure the smooth running of the meeting. Overall, this section will typically be limited to 20 minutes, although the Chair may, at their discretion, extend this.

No members of the public were in attendance.

24/03/05 Policing

The police were unable to attend the meeting due to operational commitments.

24/03/06

Matters Arising

Matters arising from the February 2024 meeting were addressed as part of the agenda, except for:

(i) Bowling Green

There are no updates from Fylde Council in respect of the bowling green.

(ii) Signage

The Cllrs. agreed that the car parks need to be clearly sign posted.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to arrange for a sign to be made for the bottom of Moor Street.

(iii) Mayor's Christmas Luncheon

A discussion about the Town Council hosting an event for senior citizens. HMP Kirkham Prison have offered to make the food and a resident has offered help to support his event.

The proposed date was Friday 13 December 2024. Cllrs. agreed to this date.

(iv) D Day 80 Beacons

Cllr. Byers outlined the work he had done to facilitate a beacon in commemoration of D Day. The Cllrs. discussed the options and the siting of such. They agreed the use of People's Park.

ACTION: Cllr. Byers to report back to the next Town Council meeting.

(v) Civility and Respect Pledge

Deferred until the April 2024 meeting.

24/03/07

Mayors Announcements

(i) Events Attended

The Mayor has not attended any events since the last Town Council meeting. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the Deputy Mayor (Cllr. Jones) had attended an event at Kirkham Grammar.

(ii) Kirkham Town Centre Board

The Chair outlined the discussion held with Fylde Council. The contract for the former TSB has been awarded. Options in respect of the use of The Hillside had also been discussed at the Kirkham Town Centre Board.

(iii) Information Board for the Market Square

Fylde Council have asked the Chair about an information board for the Market Square. Cllrs. discussed options and the preferred option would be for a digital board and how this would be linked to the new Town Council website.

(iv) Twinning

The Cllrs. discussed the visit by Cllr. Wellings to Ancenis in May 2024.

(v) The Close Park

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the work on the Close Park was due to commence and that letters informing residents were being posted to Turnberry Close and Wentworth Court.

(vi) Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Chair asked if a Neighbourhood Development Plan was needed for Kirkham. Cllr. Ledger stated that this would require a bespoke member of staff and the cost for this would not be the best use of funds as there is no green space in Kirkham that can be developed. All the Cllrs. supported her view. This was proposed, seconded and voted against.

(vii) HAZ Cultural Programme

Cllr. Byers updated the meeting about a meeting with HAZ. A proposal has been put forward by HAZ about how this work could move forward over the next three years. Cllrs. agreed that this was not a viable option and more information would be required before a decision could be made.

Events on the Market Square will be arranged by the Town Council through the Finance and Events Committee.

24/03/08

Leisure Parks and Open Spaces (LPAOS)

(i) Feedback LPAOS Committee meeting 7 March 2024

Due to the absence of Cllr. Wellings, the Town Clerk provided an update.

Quotes have been received for EV chargers. Cllr. Wellings advice was to propose the less expensive option. In his absence the Chair proposed this option, this was seconded and Cllrs voted to accept the proposal. The EV charger would be managed by the Town Council.

Options in respect of disabled parking on Mill Street Car Park were discussed.

The Town Clerk discussed the Memorial Park plaque quotation. A mounting for this is also needed. Cllrs. agreed that more information is required before a decision to procure the plaque is taken.

ACTION: This to be discussed when a mounting is identified and all costs are available.

24/03/09

Planning

Planning details were added to the Kirkham Town Council meeting agenda. These continue to be forwarded to the Cllrs. when they are received by the Town Clerk.

(i) Applications: Fylde Council

Applications were noted, not objections were made.

(ii) Decisions: Fylde Council

Decisions were noted.

24/03/10

Finances

(i) Payment of Invoices

The Town Clerk presented the invoices pending approval, four additional invoices were also noted. All payments were agreed with the exception of the invoice for the replacement fire doors in the Community Centre. This to be paid when remedial work has been completed.

(ii) Presentation of Bank Balances as at 14 March 2024

The Cllrs. noted the bank balances as at 14 March 2024. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the VAT return will be made after the year end, and notice from Fylde Council has been provided in respect of the payment of the

precept for 2024/25. The Town Clerk informed the Cllrs. that the Police Commissioner grant payment to the Town Council was due.

(iii) Feedback Finance and Events Committee 20 February 2024

Cllr. Byers provided an update from the Finance and Events Committee meeting. As the work on the Market Square has not been completed this will delay future events, the use of other areas was discussed.

A working group is required for the Kirkham Pride Event so that funding can be obtained. A request for members of a working group has been made through the Facebook site.

24/03/11 Bookings

General Update

The Town Clerk informed the Town Council that facilities continue to be hired and there are potential new hire opportunities at William Segar Hodgson Pavillion.

Regular users of the Community Centre have been contacted to inform them of the forthcoming work on the disabled facility.

Part 2 Exclusion of Press and Public – Confidential Items Discussion (In Committee)

The proposal is for:

Exclusion of Press and Public Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and defined in Paragraph 1, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public are excluded from the forthcoming items of business.

Councillors are asked to agree this action and this will be minuted.

Councillors agreed exclusion of the members of the public (no attendees), and no press were present.

No update and no discussion.

24/03/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 April 2024 @ 7.00 pm.

Signed



Cllr. Hopkinson, Mayor and Chair

9 APRIL 2024



Elizabeth Squires, Town Clerk

9 APRIL 2024