



KIRKHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 9 JANUARY 2024, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, MILL STREET, KIRKHAM

Attendees:

Chris Hopkinson (CH)	Councillor (Cllr.) and Chair
Neil Byers (NB)	Cllr.
James Cameron (JCa)	Cllr.
Diane Ireland (DI)	Cllr.
Stewart Jones (SJ)	Cllr.
Shaun Patchett (SP)	Cllr.
Tony Wellings (TW)	Cllr.
Elizabeth Squires - Minutes (EAS)	Town Clerk

24/01/01 Apologies for Absence

To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Jenny Conway, Maggie Ledger and Peter Sutcliffe.

24/01/02 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.

No declarations were made.

24/01/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To accept as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2023.

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

24/01/04 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.

Cllr. Peter Collins (Newton with Clifton and Fylde Council (for Newton with Clifton) queried what was being reported at Part 2 of the meeting in respect of Kirkham Baths. The Chair explained that the public and press are excluded from Part 2 discussion as the meeting is then In Committee, however on this occasion there was nothing to discuss.

Cllr. Peter Collins asked about signing the petition in respect of Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms. The Chair explained that the Town Council were going to use one of the empty premises to collect signatures, and that Cllr. Damian Buckley's (Fylde Council) post to obtain signatures had been posted on the Town Council's Facebook page.

24/01/05 Policing

The police were in attendance to provide a report. PSCO Jake Giddings provided an update of issues in and around Kirkham.

There has been a 50% decrease in anti-social behaviour and the boxing scheme is working well.

The Town Clerk asked about an incident on Mill Street Car Park. Individuals have been identified and appropriate action has been taken.

The Town Clerk spoke about providing access for the police to the Town Council's CCTV system.

24/01/06 Matters Arising

Matters arising from the December 2023 meeting were addressed as part of the agenda, except for:

- (i) Willows Church – Waste Bin

This item remains outstanding.

ACTION: Town Clerk to liaise with Father Andrew at the Willows Church to ask if a second waste bin is required.

24/01/07 Mayors Announcements

- (i) Events Attended

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

- (ii) Bowling Green

Estates at Fylde Council are in communication with the lease holders of the bowling green. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the building is being used by adults when the club is closed.

ACTION: Town Clerk to inform the Chair of the Bowling Green that there are intruders on the premises.

(iii) Website

A meeting has been arranged to look at the new website. Cllr. Byers is leading on this along with the Town Clerk and the Facilities Administrator.

(iv) Neighbourhood Plan

Fylde Council are wanting to develop Neighbourhood Plans. A representative from Fylde Council will attend the pre-meet to the next Town Council meeting.

(v) Signs

Signage across the town is looking tired. Promotion of free car parking spaces is not always evident.

ACTION: Town Clerk to review signage and identify those that need replacing.

(vi) Capital Schemes

The Precept for 2024/25 is due to be set. This needs to include a provision for larger items of expenditure (e.g. The Close Park, CCTV replacement), taking into consideration reserves held and rising costs (e.g. utilities). The Precept to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.

Cllrs. discussed issues that require attention early 2024/25 (e.g. CCTV on the ginnel near the United Reform Church).

Additional lighting is required in the ginnel near the United Reform Church. Cllr. Patchett proposed a budget of £1,000 for lighting and this was seconded by Cllr. Jones. Cllrs. voted to grant £1,000 for lighting.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to provide a listing of non-routine expenditure in 2023/24 and proposals for 2024/25.

The Town Council to liaise with the United Reform Church.

24/01/08 Leisure Parks and Open Spaces (LPAOS)

(i) South View – Update

The Town Clerk provided an update on the work at South View. The contractor has replaced the main drainage pipe. Another drainage pipe has collapsed. A meeting has been arranged with the contractor to discuss the way forward on this matter. Progress has been delayed as a result of the heavy rain during December 2023. The fencing on the end house on South View will be replaced and the pathway will be repaired.

(ii) Flooding Issues

Lancashire County Council have been contacted about gully cleaning and also the edging on Gilley Lane.

(iii) Love Clean Streets - Update

Reports have been raised through Love Clean Streets about the lighting in the ginnel near the United Reform Church and near the bus stop on Poulton Street.

(iv) Lighting on Car Park

Lighting on the car park is in hand, a survey is being undertaken to assess the situation.

(v) Twinning Update

Cllr. Wellings attended the Epiphany event at St. Michael's Church.

Cllr. Wellings stated that he would be happy to represent the Town Council at the Twinning Association celebrations in Ancenis in the summer to celebrate the 50th anniversary.

(vi) The Close Park

Cllrs. discussed the renewal of The Close Park. This to be added to the February 2024 agenda.

ACTION: Town Clerk to add The Close Park, decision to appoint a contractor, to the February 2024 agenda. The Chair of LPAOS to recommend appropriate action to the Town Council.

(vii) Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms

Options to facilitate an event for residents to sign the petition against the proposed Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms were discussed. This event to go ahead once a suitable venue is found.

24/01/09 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, no objections were made.

(ii) Applications: Lancashire County Council.

Applications were noted no objections were made.

24/01/10 Finances

(i) Payment of Invoices

Cllr. Byers presented the invoices pending approval. The Council approved payment of all invoices noted at Appendix B (i). Three additional invoices were presented, these were also approved. Presentation of Bank Balances as at 4 January 2024.

(ii) Presentation of Bank Balances as at 4 January 2024

The Cllrs. noted the bank balances as at 4 January 2024. The Town Clerk reminded the Cllrs. that a recent transfer between accounts, after 4 January 2024, was not reflected within that reported.

24/01/11 Bookings

General Update

The Town Clerk informed the Town Council there was a 24-hour booking for a birthday party. A deposit of £100 will be payable to secure the booking.

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, and no press were present.

No update and no discussion.

24/01/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 February 2024 @ 7.00 pm

Signed

Cllr. Hopkinson, Mayor and Chair

Elizabeth Squires, Town Clerk