



KIRKHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, MILL STREET, KIRKHAM

Attendees:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Chris Hopkinson | Councillor (Cllr.) and Chair |
| Neil Byers | Cllr. |
| James Cameron | Cllr. |
| Diane Ireland | Cllr. |
| Michelle Welch | Cllr. |
| Tony Wellings | Cllr. |
| Elizabeth Squires - Minutes | Town Clerk |

24/05/01 Apologies for Absence

To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Stewart Jones, Maggie Ledger, Shaun Patchett and Peter Sutcliffe.

24/05/02 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.

Cllr. Welch and the Town Clerk declared an interest for payments that were being discussed at Agenda Item 24/05/10 (i).

24/05/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To accept as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 April 2024.

Minutes were accepted as a true record. These were proposed by Cllr. Byers and seconded by Cllr. Cameron.

24/05/04 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.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

24/05/05 Policing

The police were unable to attend the meeting, apologies had been sent. The Chair updated the meeting about a discussion that he has had with the police in

respect of progress with the boxing incentive, results are proving positive in that anti-social behaviour is decreasing.

Cllr. Byers discussed an incident on 11 May 2024 that occurred outside the Community Centre.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to review the CCTV on Mill Street car park.

Cllr. Welch said that The Covenant was in need of repair, this was not confirmed as criminal damage. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Fylde Council were aware of the need to repair The Covenant.

24/05/06

Matters Arising

Matters arising from the 9 April 2024 meeting were addressed as part of the agenda, except for:

(i) Signage

The Town Clerk presented the quote for the signs on Mill Street car park, signs are also required for the EV Charger and The Close playground.

Cllr. Welch stated that the signage at Calder Park needs to be replaced as it has been vandalised.

ACTION: Town Clerk to obtain quotations for additional signage and present them for approval.

(ii) D Day 80 Beacons

Cllr. Byers informed the meeting that the press release is ready for placing in the Kirkham and Wesham Advertiser. Arrangements for the event were also discussed.

Cllrs. voted to place a half page advertisement promoting the D Day 80 Beacons event.

(iii) Information Board

The Chair stated that quotes are being obtained for a digital information board.

24/05/07

Mayors Announcements

(i) Events Attended

The Mayor has attended the workspace business on Freckleton Street as has Cllr. Jones.

(ii) Twinning

Cllr. Wellings has represented the Town Council at the '50 years of Twinning' event in Ancenis and he provided an update to the Cllrs. An oak tree has been donated to the town by Ancenis, the Cllrs. agreed that this will be planted in People's Park. A road in Ancenis has been named after Kirkham.

ACTION: Cllr. Wellings to discuss options for naming two areas within the town at the next Twinning meeting.

(iii) St. George's Park Pond

A longer-term solution to this problem is required. This will be addressed when the weather is more favourable. A local contractor has been contacted with a view to resolving the issue. Issues related to St. George's Park pond be discussed at the Flooding Group.



(iv) Disabled Facility Community Centre

The Town Clerk informed the Cllrs. that work on the disabled facility is underway.

(v) Grant – William Segar Hodgson

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the grant for the refurbishment William Segar Hodgson pavilion is to be discussed by Fylde Council.

(vi) CCTV

Cllr. Wellings is liaising with the CCTV contractor for installation at The Close Park.

(vii) Electric Vehicle Charger

The Cllrs. discussed the amount to be charged for use of the electric vehicle chargers on Mill Street car park. Length of stay at the chargers was also discussed.

The Cllrs. voted unanimously to agree the charge that had been discussed and the permissible length of stay.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to review the charging capabilities and report to the next Town Council meeting.

(viii) Community Centre Boiler

The Town Clerk informed the Cllrs. that the boiler had broken and a part has been ordered, however there are difficulties in obtaining parts.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to liaise with the supplier and report back to the next Town Council meeting.

(ix) PlayZone

Fylde Council have approached the Town Council about an incentive in liaison with the Football Foundation to develop sports areas across their area. Options are being considered and a consultation with residents is scheduled. The meeting will be updated as more information is known.

(x) Quotation Levels

The Cllrs. discussed the value of goods or services where a quotation is required. All agreed that in today's environment that current threshold of £1,000 was low and unanimously agreed to raise this to £3,000.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to amend Standing Orders to reflect this change.

(xi) Accountancy Services

The Town Clerk raised two options for the provision of the year-end accounts. The Cllrs. voted and agreed to move accountancy services to a Kirkham based business.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to review the options discussed and report back to the next Town Council meeting.

(xii) I Can't Wait

The Chair informed the meeting of an incentive whereby South Ribble Council have worked with local shops and businesses to allow members of the public to use their premises for toilet facilities. They also discussed the toilet facilities at the Market Square that are currently being renovated by Fylde Council.

(xiii) Blossoming Buds

There will be no Mayor Making this year at the request of the current Mayor. The Chair asked if Mayor Making expenditure could be donated to Blossoming Buds



who have approached him about a scheme to provide additional services to mums, babies and young children. The Chair said that information should be shared with the Cllrs. so that they can make an informed decision. This be discussed at the next Town Council meeting and the decision be ratified.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to add Blossoming Buds to the next Town Council agenda.

(xiv) Banking Facilities

The Chair has been in discussion with a building society to bring banking facilities to Kirkham. Information will be provided to the Cllrs. as more is known. Retail occupancy within the town is improving.

24/05/08 Leisure Parks and Open Spaces (LPAOS)

(i) Feedback LPAOS Issues

There has been no meeting since the 19 March 2024 Town Council meeting, therefore no update.

(ii) In Bloom

Cllr. Welch updated the meeting about work undertaken by the In Bloom volunteers. The allotment is now being worked. Lancashire County Council have liaised with the Town Clerk and Cllr. Welch about signage to support the mini orchard.

A grant has been received from Dobbies Garden Centre and plants have been purchased for the tractor on Remembrance Way.

Work is being undertaken by the scouts to build a bug-barn and Cllr. Welch asked if it could be sited on Remembrance Way. Cllrs. agreed to this.

The wooden barrels on Remembrance Way are past their best and require replacement. Options are being considered. This to be discussed at the LPAOS Committee.

ACTION: Cllr. Welch to raise this at the next LPAOS Committee.

Phoenix Rising are funding social prescribing sessions to plant at St. Michael's Vicarage. Cllr. Welch stated that she will add this to her declaration of interests.

ACTION: Cllr. Welch to add this work to her declaration of interests.

(iii) Flooding Update

There have been no episodes of flooding. Cllr. Wellings continues to work with the residents of Brookwood.

The Town Clerk has met with a contractor and Kirkham Grammar to discuss the issue of flooding on Bentley Drive, St. George's Park so that a solution can be found.

24/05/09 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

There four applications to note, not objections were made.

(ii) Decisions: Fylde Council

The two decisions (granted) were noted and a further decision 24/0224 (issued) was also noted.

24/05/10 Finances

(i) Payment of Invoices

Cllr. Byers presented the invoices pending approval. Two additional invoices, one to Black Box and one to ST Electrical for the installation of the CCTV.

Cllr. Welch declared an interest in the payment for In Bloom purchases. Cllrs. agreed to the payment of all invoices except the payment to GOS.

(ii) Presentation of Bank Balances as at 9 May 2024

The Cllrs. noted the bank balances as at 9 May 2024. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the VAT return will be submitted when the transactions have been reviewed.

The Town Clerk informed the Cllrs. that a bank transfer would be required until the Police Commissioner grant is received to cover the larger expenses.

24/05/11 Bookings

General Update

There have been additional bookings at the William Segar Hodgson Pavillion. The Chair asked if the new technology was being used by the room hirers, the Town Clerk stated that it was.

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.

There were no items discussed.

24/05/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 June 2024 @ 7.00 pm.



Signed



11 JUN 2024

Cllr. Hopkinson, Mayor and Chair



Elizabeth Squires, Town Clerk