

# MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 28 July 2014 in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Maryport at 7.00pm.**

## **Present**

<b>Councillor S Ashworth</b>	<b>Councillor B Campbell</b>
<b>Councillor B Carter</b>	<b>Councillor Ms G Elliot</b>
<b>Councillor Mrs A Kendall</b>	<b>Councillor P Kendall (Chairman)</b>
<b>Councillor D King</b>	<b>Councillor Mrs C McCarron-Holmes</b>
<b>Councillor A Moore</b>	<b>Councillor G Mitchell</b>
<b>Councillor Mrs L Radcliffe</b>	<b>Councillor L Williamson</b>
<b>Councillor Mrs J Wood</b>	

## **In Attendance**

**Mrs L Douglas (Clerk)**  
**Mr P Bramley (Clerk)**  
**Mrs V Patterson (Press)**

### **15/14 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms D Charlton, W Pegram, Ms C Tindall & M Wood.

### **16/14 Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were received from Councillors Mrs A Kendall & P Kendall, Item 6(2), Personal.

**Resolved** that the declarations be noted.

### **17/14 Requests for Dispensations**

None received.

### **18/14 Minutes of Meeting held on 2 June 2014**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 2 June 2014 be confirmed as a correct record & signed by the Chairman.

### **19/14 Police Report**

Sergeant Chrissie Armstrong reported on crime figures for the area & told Council Members that overall crimes were down on last year's figures.

During the previous 30 days, the amount of crime in Maryport was as follows:

Violent crime reports, 15 instances, resulting in 10 arrests.

Drug offences, 5 instances, leading to 3 arrests for possession.

Only one burglary was reported, which also led to an arrest.

Anti-social behaviour received 45 reports, resulting in 4 banning notices and 5 warnings.

There were 9 thefts & 6 reports of criminal damage.

During the Blues Festival, only two arrests were made; overall it was a successful event from a crime incident viewpoint and considering the number of people who visited the area, plus the locals, it was not unmanageable for the police force.

Sergeant Armstrong responded to a number of questions from members:

- Sergeant Armstrong agreed to investigate whether the Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner was aware of any recent research which supported the merits of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, as research in the late 1990's had indicated its merits were of some doubt.
- Sergeant Armstrong agreed to provide a comparison of crime figures between 2012 & 2014, since 2013 was perceived in some quarters to be an anomaly.
- It was noted that vehicles continued to overtake in Flimby on the opposite side of the road around traffic islands near bus stops. Sergeant Armstrong agreed to investigate.

**Resolved** that the report be noted & that thanks be given to Cumbria Police for their support during the Blues Festival.

### **20/14 Correspondence**

**Resolved** that the schedule of correspondence be received & noted, & the following matters determined:

- 1) That Maryport Army Cadets be awarded a £250 grant towards First Aid Equipment & Lap Tops to support Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme preparation.
- 2) That Maryport Sea Cadets be awarded a £250 grant towards Oars used for training & competitions.
- 3) That Cumbria in Bloom representatives be invited to discuss arrangements for Maryport's potential future presentations in the Cumbria in Bloom awards.
- 4) That Ms Demi Markham be awarded a £250 grant towards her fund raising scheme for Cancer Research UK & Cumbrian MacMillan Nurses.
- 5) That Maryport AFC be awarded a £250 grant towards the purchase of new equipment.

### **21/14 Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved** that accounts for payment, in accordance with the schedule, totalling £43,335.24, be agreed.

## **22/14 Finance Report**

**Resolved** that the Finance Report for the period 1 April to 30 June 2014 be agreed.

## **23/14 Maryport Cottage Hospital Meal Service**

Council representatives had met with Mr Stephen Prince, Estate Facilities & Capital Investment Manager, Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, & Tracey Porter, Matron of Cockermouth & Maryport Cottage Hospitals, following concerns expressed by the Council at proposals the Trust had made concerning the provision of the meals service at Maryport Cottage Hospital, (Minute 11/14 refers). Mr Prince had advised that the basis of the proposals to change the meal arrangements at the hospital was to make financial savings, although he was unable to provide any supporting figures. He had agreed to look at proposals put forward by Council representatives.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) Mr Prince & Ms Porter be thanked for meeting Council representatives.
- 2) The Council continue to support the current service arrangements.
- 3) The Council request figures from the Trust supporting the estimated level of savings & demonstrating how the figures had been arrived at, given its concerns that the proposed service was of a much lower standard than that currently provided & that the change was considered likely to provide minimal financial benefits.
- 4) The Council note the concerns of the Maryport Victoria Cottage Hospital League of Friends & their support for the hospital over many years.
- 5) The Council contact Sir Tony Cunningham, MP, advising him of the Trust's proposals & seeking his support.
- 6) The Council refer the matter to the Cumbria County Council Health Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

## **24/14 Allerdale Borough Council £10,000 Funding Allocation**

**Resolved** that:

- 1) It be noted that Allerdale Borough Council had advised the Town Council that it had made available £10,000 to the Town Council to support the town, & had requested that the Town Council put forward ideas for the potential use of those monies, although without providing any criteria which potential items should meet.
- 2) Council members contact the Clerks with proposals to be given further consideration at the next meeting.

## **25/14 Bus Shelter opposite Bounty Inn, A594**

**Resolved** that it be noted that Allerdale Borough Council had advised that, after contacting the Land Registry, the land on which the former bus shelter opposite the Bounty Inn had stood had no registered owner, & that, taking into account that a shelter had previously stood on the site, the Council seek costings for a replacement shelter.

**26/14 Best Kept Garden Competition 2014**

**Resolved** that the Best Kept Garden & Container Competition 2014 be supported, with prizes of £100 offered for the best small, medium & large gardens, & the best containers, that the judges consist of Councillors Ms C Tindall, W Pegram, L Radcliffe, Mrs J Wood & M Wood, & that Council members contribute by encouraging participation & nominating gardens from around their ward areas & the areas in which they live, providing details to the Clerks by 22 August.

**27/14 Seating in the Bus Shelter on Ewanrigg Road outside the Health Centre**

**Resolved** that, in recognition of requests received for seating to be provided in the Bus Shelter on Ewanrigg Road outside the Health Centre, the Council contact the Surgery & Cottage Hospital on Ewanrigg Road, seeking views on the proposal, recognising that whilst it would be of benefit to users of those facilities, it may also lead to problems of anti-social behaviour.

**28/14 Middle East**

**Resolved** that the Council, whilst recognising its responsibilities as a Town Council to the residents of the area, note the current ongoing problems in the Middle East & the adverse effect of images in the media on people in the area, & contact the Prime Minister, expressing its concerns at the situation from a humanitarian viewpoint, which was an affront to human values, requesting that he meet with appropriate Heads of State to bring about an end to the atrocities & agree to a 'No Arms Sales' policy for the countries involved.

**29/14 Items for Next Agenda**

None received.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, a meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee commenced.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....