

MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 27 October 2014 in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Maryport at 7.00pm.

Present

Councillor S Ashworth	Councillor B Carter
Councillor Mrs A Kendall	Councillor P Kendall (Chairman)
Councillor A Moore	Councillor W Pegram
Councillor Mrs L Radcliffe	Councillor L Williamson
Councillor Mrs J Wood	Councillor M Wood

In Attendance

Mr P Bramley (Clerk)
Mrs V Patterson (Press)

55/14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D King, G McAlpine, G Mitchell & Ms C Tindall.

56/14 Declarations of Interest

A declaration of interest was received from Councillor A Moore, Item 6(5), Personal, as a Governor of Netherhall School.

Resolved that the declaration be noted.

57/14 Requests for Dispensations

None received.

58/14 Minutes of Meeting held on 1 September 2014

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 1 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record & signed by the Chairman.

59/14 Minutes of Meeting held on 22 October 2014

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 22 October 2014 be confirmed as a correct record & signed by the Chairman.

60/14 Police Report

Sergeant J Stamper reported that there had been a small increase in burglaries from dwellings & sheds recently, mainly 'sneak-in' burglaries, where properties had been left insecure. Following the recent theft from St Mary's Church, where lead was again stolen from the roof, & damage had been done to the World War 1 Commemorative Window, Cumbria Police had been working with church representatives & a security provider to establish arrangements to detect criminals.

PCSO's had been operating in schools recently, advising on Halloween & Bonfire Night activities, & the need for extra care.

Following a number of incidents at one of the town's public houses, meetings had been held involving the Police, Allerdale Borough Council Enforcement officer, pub staff & the Brewery Area Manager, after which the tenants had decided to vacate the premises.

Police had been reviewing club premises certificates recently, & had identified a number of businesses which were not adhering to club signing-in conditions.

Businesses had been encouraged to ensure that they operated in accordance with their licenses.

Cumbria Police were currently consulting on potential savings in the police budget, seeking views on how savings of £17 million could be achieved by 2016, following savings of £14 million being achieved since 2010. The public could contribute either through completion of a paper form or through the Cumbria Police website.

Sergeant Stamper responded to a number of questions from members:

- ☐ Properties subject to recent break-ins had not been fitted with burglar alarms.
- ☐ There had been a small increase in car thefts as nights had got darker over recent weeks.
- ☐ Police could, should they wish, apply a 'Late Night Levy' or an 'Early Morning Restriction Order' to recover costs associated with additional policing of late night public house opening.

Resolved that the report be noted.

61/14 Maryport Cottage Hospital Meals Service

Resolved that, following the recent meeting of Councillors Mrs A Kendall & P Kendall with Sir Tony Cunningham MP, in furtherance of Minute 35/14(5), Council members submit information & comments to the Clerks to enable a letter to be drafted providing Sir Tony with details on which he could support his discussion with the Cumbria Partnership NHS Trust on the matter of concerns with proposals for the introduction of externally supplied meals.

62/14 Remembrance Poppy

Resolved that the Council acquire a poppy style decoration item identified by the Chairman which may be displayed over the Remembrance Day period.

63/14 Acknowledgement of Grant Awards

Resolved that organisations in receipt of grants from the Town Council be asked to make suitable acknowledgement of the grant funding, including on their websites, & the Council investigate means by which letters of acknowledgement of receipt of grants from the Council received may be displayed.

64/14 Council Strategy Workshop

Resolved that it be noted that a workshop had been arranged for Monday 3 November at 7pm to enable members to consider & contribute to the status & development of the Council Strategy document, & it was important that members attend to ensure their views were taken into account.

65/14 Correspondence

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

- 1) That the member of the public interested in the 'Senhouse Bed' be directed to Mr Scott-Plummer, as representative of the Manor.
- 2) That the Council support Parcs Scheme sessions in 2015 to the same level as the current year.
- 3) That a grant of £250 be awarded to Maryport Model Club to support the Annual Club Exhibition.
- 4) That a grant of £250 be awarded to Netherhall School Angling Group to help provide an angling course to Netherhall students.
- 5) That it be noted that the Internal Audit report for the period from April to August 2014 had advised that the Council was fully compliant with all aspects of the Accounts & Audit Regulations, & that the Clerks be thanked for their continued success in the management of the Council's finance & governance arrangements.
- 6) That it be noted that it was important that members submitted their views concerning the National Grid proposals for the North West coast connections project to provide a connection to the proposed new nuclear power station at Sellafield to the project administrators, & that members attended one of the consultation events being held on the matter.

66/14 Accounts for Payment

Resolved that accounts for payment, in accordance with the schedule, totalling £24,973.41, be agreed.

67/14 Finance Report

Resolved that:

- 1) The Finance Report for the period 1 April to 30 September 2014 be agreed.
- 2) A virement of £1,400 from the Youth Council budget to the Council Strategy budget be agreed to support the cost of additional public forums.
- 3) It be noted that notification had been received from solicitors acting for company whom the Council was in the process of obtaining a bus shelter from advising that the company had gone into voluntary liquidation, & that a claim had been submitted for £1,992, the sum which the Council had been required to pay in advance of the bus shelter's receipt.
- 4) Arrangements be made to investigate the possibility of transferring the unused bus shelter at Grasmere Terrace to another site.

68/14 Seating in the Bus Shelter on Ewanrigg Road outside the Surgery

Resolved that the Council acquire a bus shelter seat identified by the Chairman for the Bus Shelter on Ewanrigg Road outside the Surgery, in powder coated mild steel, to be painted to match the colour of the shelter at an appropriate time.

69/14 Commissioning of Commemorative Quilts by Town Council

Resolved that the item be deferred.

70/14 Maryport Town Hall Maintenance & Future Locational Arrangements for Town Council Operations

Resolved that it be noted that Allerdale Borough Council appeared to be reluctant to carry out required maintenance to Maryport Town Hall, & that no action be taken at this stage concerning the future location of Town Council operations.

71/14 Maryport Attributes

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council note suggestions put forward as possible contributions to the project.
- 2) The Council contact the Love Maryport Group to ascertain what it was developing in terms of signage improvements.
- 3) A Working Party, consisting of Councillors S Ashworth, P Kendall, Mrs C McCarron Holmes, Mrs L Radcliffe & M Wood, be established to consider & recommend to the Committee options for the project, taking into account information received from the Love Maryport group.

72/14 Handling Complaints Policy

Resolved that the Council adopt the procedures & arrangements for the administration of complaints as set out in the report.

73/14 Cumbria in Bloom

Resolved that the item be deferred.

74/14 Members of the Public wanting to engage in works in the Town

Resolved that members of the public be encouraged to liaise with the Town Council, or other appropriate organisation, when proposing to carry out certain works in the town, to assist them in ensuring that they are working safely & appropriately.

75/14 Allerdale Borough Council Funding Allocation

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council, in recognition of the level of available funding, having received guidance from Allerdale Borough Council Town Centre Manager for Maryport that all the projects proposed by the Town Council were suitable, but that the cost would be likely to exceed the available funding, support the following schemes:
 - a) The installation of a handrail next to the pavement on the north side of Shipping Brow.
 - b) Funding of the costs of a joint road closure licence for Maryport events in 2014 & 2015.
 - c) Match funding for the refurbishment of cast iron lamps in Fleming Square & replacement of iron benches, subject to the Fleming Square Residents' Association obtaining FLAG or other funding to meet part of the costs.
- 2) The Council notify & seek guidance on the costs of these proposals from Allerdale Borough Council Town Centre Manager for Maryport.

76/14 Inset Wood for Seats on Maryport Promenade

Resolved that a grant of £250 be made to the Solway Trust for the acquisition of suitable timber to enable the completion of repairs to Maryport Promenade seats.

77/14 Items for Next Agenda

None received.

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

Signed

Chairman

Date