

# MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Town Assembly held on Monday 8 April 2019 in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Maryport at 7.00pm.**

## Present

<b>Councillor S Ashworth</b>	<b>Councillor B Carter</b>
<b>Councillor G Hampson</b>	<b>Councillor Mrs A Kendall</b>
<b>Councillor P Kendall (Chairman)</b>	<b>Councillor P Mallyon</b>
<b>Councillor Mrs C McCarron Holmes</b>	<b>Councillor W Pegram</b>
<b>Councillor Mrs L Radcliffe</b>	

## In Attendance

**Mr P Bramley (Clerk)**  
**Mrs L Douglas (Clerk)**

### **1/19 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Hayhurst, M Messenger, Ms S Stamper & Ms C Tindall.

### **2/19 Minutes of Annual Town Assembly held on 9 April 2018**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Annual Town Assembly held on 9 April 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

### **3/19 Annual Report of the Town Council**

The Chairman, Councillor Mr P Kendall, reported that 2018/19 had been a year of some wonderful things taking place in Maryport and for Maryport: the Easter Egg hunt, the free summer Gala Day for local children, and so much more that the Clerks continue to arrange & go above and work outside of office hours to promote.

Council surgeries held had been a huge success, support to local organisations & groups continues, with offering funding for the Swimming Pool which recently closed & we hope that a local trust/community group can generate funding to re-open it as a community asset.

During 17/18 not giving out the Mayors & deputy Mayors allowance we have been able to put that money to good use in other areas.

Councillor P Kendall thanked the Clerks for their hard work, and fellow Councillors as it has been a pleasure.

### **4/19 Annual Report on the Council's Finances**

In the absence of Councillor Ms C Tindall, the Town Clerks reported that the Council continued to manage its services with a budget of some £194,460.

No Council Tax increase had been implemented for 2019/20 & the Council's Band D Council Tax level remained £73.19.

2018/2019 was the last year of Allerdale providing local council tax scheme reduction grant, after which the Town Council would need to meet all budget costs through the precept and income receipts. Judicious use of reserves had enabled the Council to meet its requirements during the year & fund improvements in service provision.

## **5/19 Observations of Allerdale Borough Councillors for each of the Town's Wards**

### **Report from Councillors Mrs A Kendall & W Pegram, Allerdale Borough Councillors for Netherhall Ward**

Councillor Mrs A Kendall reported on behalf of herself & Councillor W Pegram, & advised that Councillor P Kendall had gone over most things, she was present at the Beach clean that took place today and thought it was fantastic, lots & lots of people attended, old & young and it was a great site to see, she also thanked fellow members & clerks for support.

### **Report from Councillor P Kendall, Allerdale Borough Councillor for Flimby Ward**

Councillor P Kendall reported that the ward & village continued to support the flood group, and have given out funding to all who have applied. Flimby Carnival was again a huge success & is looking forwards to the upcoming one.

### **Report from Councillors Mrs J Wood & M Wood, Allerdale Borough Councillors for Ellenborough Ward**

No report received

### **Report from Councillor Mrs C McCarron Holmes, Allerdale Borough Councillor for Ewanrigg Ward**

The chronic shortage of housing nationally is of concern and I believe that sustainable funding should be allocated by Central Government, so that funding for each initiative does not have to be sought from Homes England.

Maryport still has a Town Centre Manager and in addition, the Town Centre Initiative supported by the Borough Council Executive is investing well over £2 million, with two dedicated officers to revitalise the town centre and the 'down-street' area. The Council will be working with its partner Housing Association to this end, as well as the private sector. Already, speculative investors have contacted the lead officer with ideas; it bodes well. I am working on a training scheme for local residents to become upskilled to maximise their job opportunities across all wards in Maryport and to not have to travel elsewhere if they wish to be trained for job opportunities.

My attendance at many meetings clashes with my attendance at Crosscanonby Parish Council, which is in my Cumbria County Council ward, so I have to juggle my time somewhat.

## **6/19 Observations of Cumbria County Councillors for each of the Town's Wards**

### **Report from Councillor K Little, Cumbria County Councillor for Maryport South**

As the elected member for Maryport South and Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport at Cumbria County Council I am kept extremely busy both in and out of the County representing not only my local division but often the wider County. I also represent Cumbria as a member on the Transport for the North Partnership Board and the Maryport Harbour Board.

Something which is of concern to many residents across Cumbria is the issue of Flooding. As you will be aware work has been ongoing across the County regarding flooding investigations, and work continues on our flood recovery programme. Further works are planned to stretch into 2020.

It gives me great pleasure to report that there have been a number of highways schemes completed locally over the past year. We had the opening of the Maryport Transport hub last year which was delivered by the County Council and funded by the Cumbria LEP. This has made it easier for both visitors and commuters to visit the town, which will help to ease some of the traffic congestion in the town. We also had local businesses undertaking the works on the project which again contributes to the local area.

The County Council has also responded to the local concerns on Mealpot Road and the newly extended footway linked to the transport hub. Extending the Double yellow lines in the area will improve the flow of traffic and address local concerns.

Aside from Highways there are other local issues which give me cause for concern and which I am actively involved in. Our current housing stock and the need for housing repairs through our social landlords is another piece of work which I am fully supportive of.

I would like to thank all Councillors for their time and support both on the Maryport Harbour Board and for all your efforts supporting the residents of this town.

### **Report from Councillor Mrs C McCarron Holmes, Cumbria County Councillor for Maryport North**

The Institute of Fiscal Studies is of the view that Local Government funding is broken and unsustainable with little being done to bridge the gap; consequently, more services provided by Cumbria County Council, (CCC), are teetering or have been seriously curtailed.

I am constantly being made aware of damaged road and potholes. Piecemeal filling of potholes is not the answer; whole stretches of road need replacement to give quality of place. In addition, a school in my division now shares a head teacher with another school. This is wrong; each school should have its own head teacher.

Through my membership of the Local Area Committee, I have secured funding for the Settlement to support the "Pantry"; food that is destined for landfill being made available once per month, free to needy families. This is proving successful.

A balanced budget was approved by CCC in March but the ever-growing need for foster parents causes concern. The answer is to provide more funding for this area but Central Government is blinkered on this great need.

The Transport Hub in Maryport has proved to be successful in the past year and offers sufficient parking for commuters.

### **Report from Councillor Ms S Stamper on the Citizens' Advice Bureau**

No report received.

### **Report from Councillor P Kendall on the Fawcett Johnson Charity**

Councillor Mr P Kendall reported that the Trust continued to support ex-naval personnel and their widows. He advised that whilst it was a small trust, recipients receive a bursary annually. The amount varied as it was dependent on the previous year's interest earned and was usually around the £70 mark. He advised that cheques were issued to recipients during the first week in December and were welcomed as a help towards Christmas costs.

### **Report from Councillor Ms C Tindall on Flimby Wind Farm Community Fund**

No report received.

### **Report from Councillors Mrs J Wood & M Wood on the John Collins Charity**

No report received.

### **Report from Councillor W Pegram, representative on Maryport Harbour Authority**

Councillor W Pegram advised that the director of Maryport Harbour & Marina would like to thank the Town Council for its continued support. The area is up & coming with the introduction of the new caravan park.

### **Report from Councillor Mrs L Radcliffe on the Senhouse Museum Trust**

In the past year the Museum has won the prestigious 'Cumbria Tourism Visitor Attraction of The Year' Award for 2018. The Museum also entered Cumbria in Bloom and won the Neighbourhood Award for their displays.

#### Schools' liaison

Undertook a project with Netherhall School (funded by 'Children in the Arts and Cultural Learning Network'). A whole year group (First year) of 150 children were involved. During 2018 Flimby and Cross-Cannonby schools also undertook an Arts Project of artwork and poetry culminating in the awards ceremony held at Netherhall School.

There have been special displays including 'Celebrating 100years of the beginning of votes for Women'; which included a Conference and Roman Women. This event brought many visitors to the Town was a sell-out event which saw many visitors using the accommodation of hotels and B&B's in Maryport.

There are plans to expand at the Museum which at present are in an early stage; and include ambitions to develop stronger links with the Community and Schools. Maryports' residents do not know enough or undertake visits to the Museum which is a shame because it has World Heritage Site status.

## **8/19 Resolutions for which Notice has been given**

None received.

**9/19 Questions from Parishioners**

None received.

**10/19 Members' 2018/19 Meeting Attendance Record**

Maryport Town Council members' attendance figures were noted.

The meeting finished at 7.45pm.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....