

MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Resumed Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26 May 2026
in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Maryport at 7.00pm.**

Present

Councillor S Ashworth	Councillor J Newton (Chairman)
Councillor B Copeland	Councillor C McCarron Holmes
Councillor J Hastewell	Councillor L Radcliffe
Councillor W Pegram	

In Attendance

P Bramley (Clerk)
Mrs L Douglas (Clerk)

3/26 Election of Mayor 2026/27

Resolved that Councillor J Newton be elected Mayor of the Council for the Council Year 2026/27.

4/26 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Resolved that the mayor's signature to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office be noted.

5/26 Election of Deputy Mayor 2026/27

Resolved that Councillor B Copeland be elected to the role of Deputy Mayor of the Council for the Council Year 2026/27.

6/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors I Greaney, P Hetherington, C Slater, V Cuthbert, G Kemp, D Peggs, C Bell, S Merrin, G Mitchell & J Cuthell.

Councillors C Bell, S Merrin, G Mitchell & J Cuthell reported that they were unable to support any further decisions made at the re-arranged meeting this evening.

7/26 Appointment of Committees

Resolved that all councillors be appointed as members of the Allotment Committee, the Finance & General Purposes Committee & the Planning & Economic Development Committee for 2026/27, & that the Terms of Reference for the Council & each of its committees be as follows:

1) Council

- a) To approve the Budget & set the Precept.
- b) To approve & set the Policy Framework.
- c) To determine the Council's Standing Orders.
- d) To appoint the mayor.
- e) To determine terms of reference for committees, decide their composition & make appointments to them.
- f) To appoint Chairmen of committees, (subject to internal arrangements).
- g) To make appointments to outside bodies, unless otherwise delegated.
- h) To approve the Annual Return.
- i) To review the Council's Internal Controls.
- j) To review the Council's Risk Management arrangements.
- k) To deal with all other matters which must, by law, be dealt with by the full Council.
- l) To be responsible for the ratification of meeting records.

2) Allotment Committee

- a) To take decisions on behalf of the Council with regard to the operation of allotments.
- b) To determine policy & procedures for the operation of allotments.
- c) To review the list of applications for allotment plots on a periodic basis.
- d) To consider requests for exchange of plots.
- e) To make proposals to Finance & General Purposes Committee regarding allotment rent levels.
- f) To make appointments to outside bodies within its remit.
- g) To review all appropriate correspondence & communications dealing with matters of an allotment nature & take such decisions as are considered necessary.
- h) To consider & address any other matters in respect of allotment issues.
- i) To be responsible for the ratification of meeting records.

3) Finance & General Purposes Committee

- a) To take decisions on behalf of the Council with regard to Finance & General Purposes matters, the latter being defined as any matters not falling within the remit of another committee.
- b) To make recommendations on the budget & the precept to the Council.
- c) To make recommendations on the policy framework to the Council.
- d) To take decisions to implement the Council's policies & procedures.
- e) To determine how expenditure on services should be undertaken.
- f) To determine fees & charges levels for Council services.
- g) To monitor the budget.
- h) To determine the nature & level of reserves held.
- i) To receive reports from the Internal Auditor & take decisions as deemed necessary.
- j) To approve the Council's banking arrangements.
- k) To review & authorise payments.
- l) To consider & authorise the write off of bad debts.
- m) To consider & authorise variations to contracts.
- n) To manage the Council's assets.
- o) To determine the Council's Financial Regulations.

- p) To make recommendations on Standing Orders to the Council.
- q) To take decisions on Council staffing, including arrangements for payment of salaries.
- r) To make appointments to outside bodies within its remit.
- s) To review all appropriate correspondence & communications dealing with matters of a financial &/or general purposes nature & take such decisions as are considered necessary.
- t) To consider & address any other matters in respect of finance & general purposes issues.
- u) To be responsible for the ratification of meeting records.

4) Planning & Economic Development Committee

- a) To take decisions on behalf of the Council with regard to Planning & Economic Development matters.
- b) To consider applications for planning permission & submit observations to the appropriate planning authority.
- c) To receive notifications from the appropriate planning authority on planning issues.
- d) To review and update the town development plan & develop local policies as appropriate.
- e) To consider any matters relating to Highways.
- f) To consider any matters relating to Licensing.
- g) To make appointments to outside bodies within its remit.
- h) To review all appropriate correspondence & communications dealing with matters of a planning & economic development nature & take such decisions as are considered necessary.
- i) To consider & address any other matters in respect of planning & economic development issues.
- j) To be responsible for the ratification of meeting records.

8/26 Selection of Committee Chairmen

Resolved that:

- 1) The following members be selected as Chairmen & Vice Chairmen for the stated committees and that Chairmans responsibilities be as stated;
 - a) **Allotment Committee**
 Chairman: Councillor W Pegram
 Vice Chairman: Councillor C Slater
 - b) **Finance & General Purposes Committee**
 Chairman: Councillor S Ashworth
 Vice Chairman: Councillor C McCarron Holmes
 - c) **Planning & Economic Development Committee**
 Chairman: Councillor J Hastewell
 Vice Chairman: Councillor J Newton

2) Chairmen of Committees' Responsibilities:

- a) To ensure the overall coordination & management of the committee's functions, with responsibility for matters of detail.
- b) To chair & manage committee meetings & ensure the committee achieves its terms of reference.
- c) To ensure the efficient carrying out of the processes for which the committee has responsibility.
- d) To demonstrate fair & open decision making by or on behalf of the committee.
- e) To ensure members' information needs are met so they can contribute fully to the decision-making process.
- f) To ensure committee members obtain the necessary skills to contribute to the work of the committee & to work with officers to provide training if necessary.
- g) To be willing to learn about the professional disciplines & services relevant to the work of the committee.
- h) To initiate & develop constructive relationships with members, officers & partners.
- i) To initiate and/or evaluate potential partners' ideas prior to presentation to committees and council.
- j) To ensure accurate records of all meetings, including those outside Council & committees, are maintained.
- k) To act as a bank signatory on behalf of the Council.

9/26 Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies 2026/27

Resolved that the following members be selected as representatives on the stated outside bodies:

Cumberland Council Maryport Regeneration Town Board	Councillor S Ashworth Councillor I Greaney
Maryport Horizons CIC	Councillor I Greaney Councillor P Hetherington
Citizens' Advice Bureau	Councillor J Hastewell
Fawcett Johnson Charity	Councillors S Ashworth & J Newton
Flimby Windfarm	Councillors S Ashworth, V Cuthbert & D Peggs
Maryport Harbour & Marine Authority	VACANT
Solway Coast Protected Landscape	Councillor C Slater

10/26 Council Meeting Attendance

Resolved that the report be noted.

11/26 Resignation of Councillor G Hampson

Resolved that; (1) the resignation of Councillor Hampson be noted and that he be thanked for his time on the Council, (2) that it be noted that the vacancy was available for co-option following confirmation from Cumberland Council that an election had not been requested during the stipulated period.

12/25 Outgoing Chairman Announcements

Councillor L Radcliffe reported that she had enjoyed her time in the role, she thanked the Clerks for steering the Council, both of whom should take credit for their unfailing wisdom and support of all the Council had done collectively, as a body of representatives of the Maryport area. Finally, Councillor Radcliffe offered a 'heart-felt thank you' to fellow councillors & wished John Newton all the best for his upcoming year as Mayor.

13/25 Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks was given to the outgoing Mayor L Radcliffe, thanking her for all she had done in the area.

The Meeting finished at 7.25 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date