

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY
23rd FEBRUARY 2022 AT 07.30PM IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES**

PRESENT: Cllr R Peter (in the Chair), Cllr R Kelly, Cllr B Crellin, Cllr G Brace, Cllr S Faulkner, Cllr J Brown, Cllr D Billing, Cllr T Dixon, Cath Jopson Town Clerk and RFO/Assistant Clerk Liz North

Prior to the start of the meeting Mayor Cllr Peter introduced the new councillor Tim Lees to the council and hoped that he would enjoy his time as a Town Councillor.

219/21: APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Pattinson, A Dixon and G McGrath

220/21: EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC:

No members of the press or public were in attendance.

221/21: MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The following Mayor's announcement had been circulated to all councillors for their information it read as follows:

"I was most sorry to see the departure of Jenn Jakubowski and Simon Donnelly. They both put a huge amount of work into the new park in conjunction with less than one term, achieved a great deal for the town. I would like to thank them both

However, it is my great pleasure to welcome our new Councillor, Tim Lees and I hope that he has a happy and productive time at MTC.

As you all know, we have a meeting on April 1st with our local MP which is focusing on connectivity for this area both physically and digitally. I would be most grateful if Cllrs give this thought in the meantime in order that the meeting is as effective as possible.

Finally, we have at last started repairs to Church Walk which have been needed for some years. I would like you to know that I was congratulated by a random member of the public for this work in particular"

222/21: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

- Cllr T Dixon declared an interest in Item 20 of the agenda – planning application no: 4/22/2041-OF1
- Cllrs B Kelly and Cllr T Lees declared an interest in item 18 – Citizens Advice Bureau

223/21: ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES/TO REVIEW ANY INCOMPLETE ACTIONS:

The clerk reported that all the office actions had been completed.

224/21: TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26TH JANUARY 2022:

A draft copy of the minutes had been circulated to all councillors for their perusal and amendment if required. Following the circulation, it was proposed by Cllr B Kelly, seconded by Cllr T Dixon and agreed that the minutes be signed accordingly as a true and correct record.

225/21: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr Simon Donnelly had attended the meeting to ask if the council would back a celebration picnic in the park for the Queens platinum jubilee in the Millom Park on 4th June 2022. Cllr R Peter proposed that the town council support this as long as all risk assessments, insurance be completed prior to the event. This was seconded by Cllr G Brace. **Action: Clerk to be in contact with Mr Donnelly prior to the celebration taking place.**

226/21: CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL:

Following contact with the local CCC representatives they stated that they had nothing to report this month.

227/21: COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL:

As Cllr McGrath had given his apologies no updates were received from CBC

228/21: MILLOM TOWN COUNCILLOR AND CLERK'S UPDATE:

The Clerk's report had been circulated in the working papers; an additional report was circulated to the councillors who attended the meeting. The clerk asked permission from the council to give her approval to arrange for a weeping wall of poppies on the clock tower to celebrate this year's armistice day. Approval had already been given from the owners of the Clock Tower. Approval/support was unanimously given to the clerk to go ahead with the project. **Action: Clerk to arrange weeping wall and volunteers.**

Millom Striders information had been circulated prior to the meeting for councillors' comments for them holding a Lighthouse 10k Run. **Action: Clerk to inform Millom Striders that the council wish them all the best for this event.**

229/21: DISCUSSION ON THE REASONS WHY SO MANY COUNCILLORS HAVE LEFT:

Cllr Faulkner proposed that the Standing Orders be suspended at the present time to raise the issue of concern regarding the resignation of councillors over the past few months. Cllr R Kelly seconded this. A short discussion took place around this issue and it appeared that Millom Town Council are being side-lined by Town Fund Bid. The question was what as a Town Council do to improve standing in town. It was felt that perhaps there was a lack of awareness about the role of being a councillor.

Going forward the council agreed that it needed to improve the standing relationship with the town. It was unanimously agreed that Millom Town Council should not be in competition with other organisations in the town but should have a parallel relationship with these groups for example Around the Combe and other social media groups. It was felt that this is something that should be looked at in greater detail by arranging a new committee/working party when the new mayoral year starts. **Action: Clerk to put this item on the agenda after the new mayoral year begins.**

230/21: THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN:

Cllr Faulkner informed the council that she thought the council should get involved with the Great British Spring Clean. As there was a cost to this it was agreed that the town council should arrange this themselves. It was proposed by Cllr Faulkner, seconded by Cllr Pattinson that March would be a good time to arrange this, hopefully with volunteers from the parish. **Action: Cllr Faulkner to let the clerk know the date. Clerk to advertise and make posters when a date in March had been agreed.**

231/22: AMENDED POLICIES TO BE SIGNED:

Following the January meeting minor amendments were made to the following policies and signed by the mayor:

- Child Protection Policy
- Vexatious Complaints Policy
- Appraisal Policy

232/21: TOWNS FUND BID UPDATE:

Cllr Kelly reported to the councillors that he had attended a key meeting and that there were 4 key projects in the pipeline, **Heritage, Civic, Swimming Pool/Leisure, and Connectivity.** It was requested by Cllr Peter that a letter be sent to the Chair of the Towns Fund Bid asking for a short presentation and an update to the council. **Action: Clerk to contact Chair of the board**

asking for an update on the towns fund bid.

233/21: QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

- Beacon – The clerk informed the councillors that this was being arranged by CCC Doug Wilson on Haverigg beach area
- Jubilee Celebrations – Following Mr Donnelly's request to use the park for the celebrations it was felt that this would be the Celebration that Millom Town Council would support
- Tree Planting – Cllr Pattinson had informed the clerk that all the 200+ trees had been planted in the park by the Haverigg Working Party as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. It was also proposed that celebration trees should be purchased for both Millom and Haverigg. All agreed.

234/21: UPDATE OF MEETINGS HELD PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING:

- HMP Meeting – the meeting with HMP at the cenotaph went extremely well. Going forward we are awaiting quotations for the planting of the cenotaph area and market square.
Action: Clerk to chase up quotations from HMP
- Open Spaces – this meeting did not go ahead another arranged for 11th March
- CBC – Copeland Plan – Cllr Billing liaising via email forwarding of councillors' comments to CBC – **Action: Cllr Billing to liaise with MTC Comments.**

235/21: GDF PARTNERSHIP UPDATES/CORRESPONDENCE:

All councillors who attended the meeting held on 7th February in the council offices felt that it was very helpful. Going forward there is a need to prioritise potential quick win projects such as the following:

- Re-surfacing of both Millom and Haverigg MUGAs/Tennis Courts
- Haverigg Beach Front re-design
- Pump track – Haverigg beach.
- Market Square – Public Realm design
- Repairs to footpaths both in Millom and Haverigg
- New signs for Millom and Haverigg
- Repairing of main lamp site in Haverigg

It was proposed going forward by Cllr Faulkner that a project manager should be sought to take on the feasibility study for overall design of Haverigg beach area. This was seconded by Cllr Peter and agreed. **Action: Clerk to look project manager costs for a feasibility study going forward**

236/21: HAVERIGG/PARK ISSUES/UPDATE:

- **Holiday Homes** – Cllr Brown raised concern about the number of holiday/second homes in Haverigg being outpriced for locals. It was proposed by Cllr Brown and agreed by the council to send a letter to CBC with concerns about the village being severely affected by the increased percentage of non-residents, therefore, the impact of shops/schools/services going forward in the future as has happened in other coastal and small villages. These issues need to be considered when looking at any future tourism development plans.
Action: Clerk to write to CBC

237/21: MILLOM/MILLOM PARK ISSUES:

- **Speed Bumps – St George's Road** – A short discussion took place following Cllr Burness concern about the speed bumps outside the public toilets. Unfortunately, the road has since been re-surfaced and no alteration can be made to these.
- **Speed Restrictions** – A short discussion took place in regard to the possibility of placing vehicular activated speed signs for the new road from Kirksanton to Millom. **Action: Clerk to look into prices for these.**
- **Millom Citizen Advice Bureau** – Placed on the agenda by Cllr B Kelly. Cllr Kelly reported

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to the council that concern had arisen about the possible closure of the Millom CAB Office. A letter had been received written by CAB to Cllr McGrath (this was copied and circulated to all councillors at the meeting) reassuring him that the Millom Office service would not be removed but that they could not rule out the current premises being re-sited to another venue. It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed that a strong letter opposing the possible closure of the CAB and asking if they would like to come and address the council directly. **Action: Clerk to write letter to CAB inviting them to talk to the councillors at one of the town council meetings.**

238/21: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

All correspondence which had been received by the clerk had either been circulated via email and list sent for councillor's information.

239/21: PLANNING:

The following planning applications had been received for Councillor's information and comments:

- **4/22/2041/OF1 – Erect Two Storey Extension to Front Elevation and Single Storey Extension to Rear Elevation – 4 Bank Head, Haverigg**
- **4/22/2050/OF1 – Single Storey Side and Rear Extension to an Existing Dwelling – Rivendell, Poolside, Haverigg**
- **4/22/2045/OF1 – The Construction of a New Front Porch with Oak Posts, New Balcony with External Staircase Supported off Brick Work Columns, and Internal and External Alterations to an Existing Dwelling. Fairbank, Butler Street, Millom**

The council had no objections in principle to any of the above planning applications. **Action: Clerk to inform CBC Planning on council's comments.**

240/21: ACCOUNTS:

Furness Building Society Trust Account & Millom Disaster Account

Liz North RFO to MTC asked that she be allowed to be a signatory on the Furness Building account Trust Account and the Millom Disaster account. It was proposed by Cllr T Dixon and seconded by Cllr Peter that the RFO arrange for this to be done. **Action: RFO Liz North to arrange for signatory on account**

A list of outstanding invoices/salaries were presented to the council and it was proposed by Cllr Peter and seconded by Cllr T Dixon that these be paid accordingly.

It was proposed by Cllr T Dixon and Seconded by Cllr Kelly that a donation of £1000 be paid to the Millom Heritage & Arts Centre but to inform them that going forward this donation might not be always possible. **Action: RFO to arrange payment of donation**

241: ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA:

- Cllr Burness was concerned that the Town Plan had been removed from the agenda. **Action: Clerk to ensure that Town Plan discussion is on future agendas**
- Website – to look into the possibility of updating the town council website – **Action: Cllr Lees to look into possible quotations for upgrading website and report to the Finance committee at the next finance meeting**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed: (Mayor) Dated: 31st March 2022

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ACTIONS:

- 225/21:** Clerk to be in contact with Mr Donnelly prior to the celebration taking place.
- 228/21:** Clerk to arrange weeping wall
Clerk to inform Millom Striders that the council wish them all the best for this event.
- 229/21:** Clerk to put this item on the agenda after the new mayoral year begins (May 22)
- 230/21:** Cllr Faulkner to let the clerk know the date. Clerk to advertise and make posters when a date in March had been agreed.
- 232/21:** Clerk to contact Chair of the board asking for an update on the towns fund bid.
- 234/21:** Clerk to chase up quotations from HMP
Cllr Billing to liaise with MTC Comments.
- 235/21:** Clerk to look project manager costs for a feasibility study going forward
- 236/21:** Clerk to write to CBC
- 237/21:** Clerk to write letter to CAB inviting them to talk to the councillors at one of the town council meetings
Clerk to look into prices for these.
- 239/21:** Clerk to inform CBC Planning on council's comments.
- 240/21:** RFO to ensure all payments are made as cheque sheet
RFO Liz North to arrange for signatory on MTC Trust Account and Disaster Fund account
- 241/21:** Clerk to ensure that Town Plan discussion is on future agendas
Cllr Lees to look into possible quotations for upgrading website and report to the Finance committee at the next finance meeting