

**MINUTES OF AN ZOOM MEETING OF MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr R Peter (in the chair), Cllr R Kelly, Cllr A Dixon, Cllr T Dixon, Cllr G Brace, Cllr B Crellin, Cllr S Faulkner, Cllr S Carter, Cllr R Pattinson (joined 19.39), Cllr D Billing, Cllr J Jakubowski (left the meeting at 21.00hrs), Cllr T Fitzwilliam, Cllr S Donnelly, Mrs Vicky Bradley (Clerk) and Mrs Cath Jopson (Assistant Clerk), CBC Cllr Ged McGrath, CCC Keith Hitchen,

**Also, in attendance were:** Mark Dobson (joined 19.42), Mike Brophy, Mark Cullinan (Copeland GDF Working Group). David Faulkner, Andy Pratt (Chairman CALC) and Chris Shaw (CALC Officer)

**159/20: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies were received from Cllr J Brown and Jenny Brumby (CBC Shop Local Co-ordinator)

**160/20: MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Mayor's announcement had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting this is the detail:

I have spent much of this month just being grateful that I do not chair Handforth Parish Council but I am pleased that the level of public interest in the work of local councils in general has increased.

This month, Paul Stewart of Millom Network Centre and Unit three is leaving us after 15 years of very hard work on behalf of the community. His many kindnesses and engagement with Millom have been much appreciated and I would like to thank him for his work and wish him on behalf of the Council the very best for his future.

Finally, if you consider 2020 as just the Covid year, I would urge you to look at the online list of things that we have managed to accomplish in that time. It even surprised me.

The chair also noted the absence of CBC Shop Local Co-ordinator Jenny Brumby due to a family illness, the chair sent best wishes to her and the family.

**161/20: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:**

Cllr A Dixon stated that she would be carrying out the role of CEO to the Millom Network Centre commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March and wanted to declare a pecuniary interest in item 11 on this agenda. No other declarations were received.

**162/20: ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – TO REVIEW ANY INCOMPLETE ACTIONS:**

The clerk informed the Councillors that all the actions which had to be carried out by the clerks had been completed. Cllr D Billing requested that a little more detail be carried out when listing the actions to be carried out. The clerks agreed to this request. **Action: Clerks**

**163/20: TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021:**

Subject to an amendment on Item 152/20 Millom in Bloom – Addition of allotment section it should have read that Cllr Billing, Cllr Pattinson and Cllr A Dixon should look into the criteria. It was proposed by Cllr T Dixon, subject to this amendment being carried out that the minutes should be signed as a true and correct record. This was seconded by Cllr S Faulkner and agreed. **Action: Clerk to amend.**

**164/20: TO NOTE THE MINUTES FROM THE A&R MEETING HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2021:**

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It was noted that the minutes from the recent A&R Meeting had been circulated for information to the Councillors. Cllr Faulkner commented that AR086/20 should read Haverigg Park Skate Park/Pump Track update and not Millom. Clerk to inform the members of the A&R Meeting of this error and it to be amended. **Action: Clerk to amend**

**165/20: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

No members of the public were present

**166/20: CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL: Any updates/issues to be addressed:**

Cllr Peter stated that it was important that the Council should respond to the consultation and asked Cllr Billing if he would be willing to put a draft response from the Council for consideration before submission. Cllr Peter also stated that it was important that all respond on a personal basis too. **Action: Cllr Billing – to prepare a draft response to consultation.**

Cllr Hitchen informed the Council that there was to be a reduction in the Highways Authorities budget but stated that the proposed works on Devonshire Road and Huddleston Road in Millom were still going to go ahead. It was also stated that the Highways Authorities were in the process of re-working proposed schemes to deal with the reduction in funds.

Cllr R Kelly said that he was disappointed to hear that there would be insufficient budgets to carry out works that had been previously proposed.

Cllr Billing raised the question in regard to the re-siting of the library and CBC offices. Cllr Hitchen stated that there was no information forthcoming at present and that the decision would be based on the requirements of the NDA wanting office accommodation.

Cllr Hitchen also informed the Council that there was around £200k for environmental projects ready to put forward as soon as possible. If anyone or any organisation are interested then they are to contact him direct when he will forward their request. **Action: Cllr Hitchen if any applications are requested.**

**167/20: COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**A) Copeland GDF Working Party Presentation:**

A short presentation was given by Mark Dobson and Mark Cullinan on the setting up of the Copeland GDF Working Party. The siting process would be dealt with in great detail and would only be considered after considerable investigatory works had been carried out and deemed suitable and safe for the disposal of radioactive waste.

He stated that the working group had to begin seeking local engagement, identify search areas for a community partnership to consider and initial membership for that partnership and not making commitments or judging suitability of the individual sites.

To sum up the proposals this would be a multi £billion major infrastructure project that would live within a community for over 100-years, therefore, it would be a huge opportunity to think long-term. The only area in Copeland to be excluded at the initial stage would be the National Park and any proposed boundary changes for this.

RWM would be committed to working closely with local communities, local authorities and place leaders on this project.

Community involvement and support in this consent-based process is essential – it must have a suitable site and a willing community which will shape the project and significant

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additional investments. This would be an opportunity to maximise positive impacts in green regeneration and sustainable growth.

Cllr Kelly raised the question that if a suitable site were found off-shore how would the community benefit from this. His question was answered in that the access to the proposed site would benefit from this as infrastructure would have to be placed in the area identified.

Cllr Andy Pratt (Chairman of CALC) informed the Councillors that CALC would be representing all parishes until working group was set up and in the early stages as things start to develop he would let the Council know what was happening. He and Chris Shaw would also be willing to answer any concerns anybody has and were happy to keep the Town Council in the loop. **Action: Chris Shaw to send further information in regard to the setting up of Working Parties to Council**

There being no further questions the Chairman (Cllr Peter) thanked all those who were involved in the process of the presentation for their overview etc.

**B) Update from Waste Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021:**

Cllr Brace (Chairman of this meeting) informed the Council that the meeting had been a very good constructive one and that the Clerk had written a very good comprehensive set of notes following this meeting with CBC. The question of re-cycling of skips had been brought up and following this meeting there was now a 7-day collection service being rolled out. Cllr Faulkner stated that it was working well in Haverigg as it was now a very clean and tidy area.

Cllr Brace said that we now have a positive relationship going forward with the CBC Waste Management team and that they were very open and honest about the way the service works, their staff working locally and dealing with local issues.

Cllr A Dixon said that it was very important to keep good relationships with various services to ensure that we get the best service possible and that the need to convince people that re-cycling was a good thing for the environment and their own areas. **Action: Clerk to circulate notes to all Cllrs for info.**

The Clerk informed the meeting that we would try to hold these meetings with CBC waste team every two months to maintain good working relationships.

Cllr A Pratt said that it might be of benefit if the Town Council contacted Katy Reed, Tourism Development Officer at CBC to see if there were other services available to help with any issues raised in the future.

**C) 3 Tier-Meeting -update from Cllr Kelly:**

Cllr Kelly informed the Council that a discussion/presentation had been made on behalf of the GDF. (this had been considered earlier in this meeting and that he could not add anything more to this). Cllr Kelly stated that he would keep the Town Council informed of any issues as and when they arise.

**D) To note the minutes from Weekly Community Group:**

The minutes from the weekly community group meetings had been circulated to all councillors for their perusal. It was noted that MTC did not have anyone present at this meeting, Cllr A Dixon reported that she had technical issues with attending this but was hopefully able to attend the next one.

**E) Shop Local Campaign:**

Unfortunately, Jenny Brumby had been unable to attend the meeting, therefore, there was nothing to report. **Action: Clerk to ask Jenny to attend the March meeting.**

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CBC Cllr Ged McGrath informed the meeting that he had sent a response regarding the CBC customer service and this had been circulated by the clerk to all Cllrs for information. He will keep us informed of any Millom Hub update/Library building as soon as they hear something. He also informed the meeting that the CBC budget was due to be agreed at a meeting tomorrow and they are due to increase it by 1.95% in line with previous years, and he confirmed that the local government reorganisation consultation opens this week.

**168/20: MILLOM TOWN COUNCILLOR AND CLERKS UPDATE:**

**Notice Board:** A draft photograph of the proposed new notice board had been circulated by the Clerk. All agreed that it looked fine to go ahead with the purchase. **Action: Clerk to inform Boards Direct to go ahead and prepare this.**

Cllr Kelly asked about the co-option – the clerk informed the meeting that this will form part of the March meeting. **Action: Clerk to add to March agenda**

**169/20: MARKET STALLS STORAGE:** Cllr A Dixon informed the council that at present the market stalls were being stored at Millom Network Centre and stated that a fee of £30/month for storage would have to be paid. This to be discussed at the next full council meeting in March. **Action: Clerk to place on next council meeting agenda. Cllr A Dixon to confirm this in writing**

**170/20: DYNAMIC DUNESCAPES:**

Cllr Faulkner gave a short update in relation to the removal of the gorse on Haverigg shore/dunes. At present due to the weather the gorse has been taken out but left on site. An issue with removing this is now presenting a problem as well as being unsightly with litter being a large factor. Eve Mulholland (Cumbria Wildlife) proposed that a litter pick be set up for the summer time. Cllr Faulkner informed the Council that there was also an issue with the re-growth and that electronic collars for stock that could possibly graze was a proposed way forward. Concern was raised in this regard to the issues of dog owners letting their dogs off in the vicinity of stock grazing and also the straying of grazing stock out of the designated areas. **Action: Cllr Faulkner to liaise with Richard Scorton (Dunes Landscape Representative to clarify his thoughts on the issues raised.**

**171/20: STREET CLEANING:**

Cllr A Dixon raised concerns about the state of the streets in Millom which were covered in algae, moss etc. Cllr A Dixon proposed that Copeland Borough Council should be asked to sort out these issues and to add in the weeding of the road at Haverigg. This was agreed by all the Councillors present. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Copeland Borough Council regarding street cleaning/weeding of road to Haverigg**

**172/20: PATHS, MUGA, FENCING, TOILET ROOF:** Cllr T Dixon is concerned that with the new park coming along and looking good the fence, paths and toilet roof will look old and dated. He understood that the A&R committee are looking into the path repairs once the contractor has finished with the heavy machinery in the park. He also reminded the meeting that there are still the STEM groups musical instruments to go in to the sensory park area and a story telling chair and associated mushrooms. Cllr Donnelly suggested we create some sort of memory path to help with costs, this would entail the public purchasing a stone and having it engraved with names/message on, possibly through the sensory garden area in a small section. It was suggested any underspend could be used to replace the muga fencing and the pavilion, Cllr Jakubowski is going to look at the pavilion project shortly. Cllr T Dixon also noted that we have a budget for the toilet block so any

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roof repair could be made. **Action: Cllr Donnelly to look at costs for memory path, Cllr T Dixon and Clerk to look at any reserves/underspend**

**173/20: BEACH CAFÉ ROOF:** The clerk had circulated an email from Cllr Faulkner which had been received from Ross Builders regarding possible testing of the roof to check for asbestos. The clerk is to try and locate plans in office to see if they give us any further information before proceeding with tests. **Action: Clerk to locate plans**

**174/20: SAND DUNES VEHICLES:** In the absence of Cllr Brown, Cllr Faulkner informed the meeting that there has been an increased use of motor vehicles, quad bikes, motor bikes accessing the dunes even though there are signs located. It may be that new, more visible signs are required, and more policing is required during the summer months. **Action: Clerk to look into better signage.**

**175/20: PRISON UPDATE:** The clerk circulated an email received from John McNally of HMP Prison which gave an update of the situation regarding the workforce. This is limited due to Covid and the fact that limited inmates were able to work in the local area. The chair made it clear to the governor that this agreement was not one taken by MTC but an outcome of the public meeting they held in Haverigg. The chair would like a letter writing to the governor to confirm this and that maybe they need to hold a further public meeting to address the situation. Cllr Peter is also in talks with the prison regarding the life swap training and will update as and when needed.

Cllr Billing attended a meeting regarding the Copeland Community Work and Skills Centre, which has identified HMP Haverigg as a potential site and will be accessible for both inmates and public to use. **Action: Clerk to draft a letter to HMP Governor, Cllr Billing to attend further meetings regarding Work and Skills Centre, Cllr Peter to keep council informed of developments relating to Life Swap.**

**176/20: PLANNING**

- a. 4/21/2018 - Variation of condition 4 (discharge of surface water) of planning approval 4/17/2376 AT Allotment Gardens, Richmond Street, Millom – **The council have no objections to this application**
- b. 4/21/2027 – Variation of condition 2 (plans) of planning approval 4/20/2003 for a minor increase in the height of the extension AT Holywell Cottage, St Luke's Road, Haverigg **the council have no objections to this application**
- c. 4/21/2038 – Development of two dwellings AT Land adjacent to 2 Silverdale Street, Haverigg **the council do not object to this application but want confirmation that the drainage/sewer works have been looked at the as it is not clear in the application**
- d. 4/21/2047 – Change of use from shed/summer house to a dog grooming salon AT 7 Town Head, Haverigg – **The council have no objections to this application**
- e. 4/21/2052 – Erect double garage with games room above AT Orchard Bank House, Waingate Bridge, Haverigg – **The council have not objection to this application but want confirmation that the footpath is still available for use.**

Cllr A Dixon noted that planning application were still been addressed to the former clerk. **Action: Clerk to write again to correct**

**177/20: ACCOUNTS:** The meeting agreed all was in order and the payments could be made.

**178/20: Any other business:** The Chair informed the meeting that this item was purely to note any business to be added on to the next agenda and no discussions would take place now.

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The chair thanked Cllrs Hitchen. McGrath and all other present parties for their input in to the meeting.

There been no other business the meeting closed at 21.13.

Signed:.....(Cllr Ruth Peter) – Acting Mayor

**Actions:**

- 162/20: Clerks to give more information on action sheet**
- 163/20: Clerk to amend minutes accordingly with inclusion of Cllr A Dixon on 152/20**
- 164/20: Clerk to amend A&R minutes to read Haverigg Skate Park**
- 166/20: Cllr Billing to prepare a draft response to local government consultation**
- 166/20: CCC Cllr K Hitchen to receive any applications for environmental projects**
- 167/20: a) CALC Chris Shaw to send further information on GDF online meeting to clerk**
- 167/20: b) Clerk to circulate waste meeting notes**
- 167/20: e) Clerk to invite Jenny Brumby to March council meeting**
- 168/20: Clerk to go ahead with design of notice board**  
**Clerk to add co-option onto March agenda**
- 169/20: Clerk to place storage of market stalls on agenda for March meeting, Cllr A Dixon to confirm prices in writing to clerk**
- 170/20: Cllr Faulkner to liaise with Richard Scorton (Dune Landscapes) regarding gorse issues**
- 171/20: Clerk to liaise with CBC regarding street cleaning/weeding road to Haverigg**
- 172/20: Cllr Donnelly to investigate costs of memory path, Clerk and Cllr T Dixon to look at underspend/reserves**
- 173/20: Clerk to locate Beach Café plans**
- 174/20: Clerk to look at improved Dune signs regarding vehicle access**
- 175/20: Clerk to draft letter to HMP Haverigg governor, Cllr Billing to continue to attend Work and Skills Centre meetings, Cllr Peter to keep council updated on Life Swop**
- 176/20: Clerk to respond to planning**
- 177/20: Clerk to process monthly payments**