

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD BY ZOOM
ON WEDNESDAY 8th JULY 2020 AT 7PM**

Present: Councillors Geoffrey Buswell (Chairman), Marie Batty, Mike Burchnell, Mike Marczynski, Allan Muirhead, Robin Ree, Sarah Tatham and Edward Waller.

Also in attendance: District Councillor Kevin Lancaster, seven members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Storey (leave of absence was granted by the Council) and District Councillor Suzie Pye.

20/66 Requests for Dispensations: None.

20/67 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Buswell declared an interest in any matters relating to the allotments and Councillor Muirhead declared an interest in any matters relating to the CIC.

20/68 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2020 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

20/69 Finance:

- a. The Interim Accounts for 2019-20 were noted.
- b. The report from the Internal Auditor was noted.
- c. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement.
- d. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Accounting statements.
- e. The cash and budget statements to 30th June 2020 were noted.
- f. It was resolved to take out an annual subscription to ZOOM, to be shared with the Clerk's other Councils as required.

20/70 County and District Councillors:

Councillor Lancaster reviewed some of the effects of the lockdown on local Councils and said that all the meetings he is involved with are now held by ZOOM. Sedbergh Parish Council had lost a lot of income as their car park was closed but the Market had managed to remain open throughout. He also mentioned the number of travellers who had arrived in the area, despite the cancellation of the Appleby Horse Fair this year. The Police presence was obviously limited but in general it was felt that everyone behaved responsibly and are to be commended for this.

20/71 Planning sub-group:

The following application was considered:

SL/2020/0377 Manor View, High Biggins. Single storey rear extension.

The Council recommends that planning permission be refused on the grounds that the proposed extension would be in conflict with South Lakeland Development Management Policy DM16 (2), would set an undesirable precedent for the extension of small rural former farm buildings and is not justified as the property is already of sufficient size.

20/72 Play Park:

Councillor Batty reported that the Play Park had re-opened on 4th July. Funding has been provided by the Civic Society for two picnic tables and these are now on order. The estimated cost of the Play Park restoration is £40,000. There is still hope of some of the S106 funding from Russell Armer contributing significantly towards the cost. Various fund-raising activities are being considered and it may become necessary to ask the Town Council to underwrite the project so it can go ahead before all the funds have been raised.

20/73 Community Hub and Community Cupboard:

Councillor Burchnall reported that £600 had been contributed to each of these projects, including £100 on each occasion from the Chairman's allowance. A breakdown of the setting up and running costs was given.

20/74 Response to the Pandemic:

The following proposal was made by Councillors Burchnall, and Muirhead and carried unanimously:

"This Town Council applauds the residents and businesses of Kirkby Lonsdale and surrounding areas that have come together and responded as a strong and caring community to the Covid 19 pandemic. The town has shown a strength and resilience that all residents should be proud of.

The Community Hub has provided help and support to many residents and over 100 volunteers came forward to assist the core team in delivering services on the ground. It is unclear what the needs of the community will be over the coming months and years but the Town Council resolves to work with a Hub core team and the CIC to ensure that the key elements of the Hub are built into the future infrastructure of the Town.

The Town may be faced with minor or major emergencies in the future. In order to ensure that the town is better prepared, the Town Council will work with a wide variety of groups and individuals across the town to develop and adopt an Emergency Plan that can be implemented when needed.

The Covid 19 pandemic has shown that organisations and groups across the town can respond positively and effectively when the need arises. However we need to learn from the experience of recent months and develop better communication networks and be able to respond as one community. The Town Council will convene a Town Meeting, with representatives of all interested organisations and groups, in order to discuss and agree how the town should respond in future to issues which are important to the town as a whole and how the future direction of the town can be developed".

20/75 Town centre re-opening:

The following proposition, from Councillor Muirhead was agreed:

'This council applauds the local business and shops community for re-opening our town centre on 15th June 15 with practical precautions in place to protect staff and customers, in line with Government guidelines'.

It was resolved that the Council, the Chamber of Trade and the CIC should work together, that there should be a meeting with SLDC and regular reviews of the benefits to the town by any restrictions for traffic in the town centre.

20/76 Working with SLDC:

Councillor Muirhead reported that SLDC are going to carry out repairs to the monument before handing it over to the Council.

20/77 Disabled access in Kirkby Lonsdale:

It was resolved to defer this until the next meeting.

20/78 South Lakeland Local Plan preparation:

Councillor Burchnall said that, although the date for responses to the consultation had been extended to 17th July, it was unlikely the Council could respond by then. A 'call for sites' had been issued by SLDC, with a closing date for submissions of 18th September. It seems likely the Council will be consulted by the end of the year.

20/79 CCTV:

Councillor Burchnall reported that £6,000 is due from the Police towards this project and the Council already has £5,000 from SLDC. He had met with Andy Petty and Jordan Read this week and agreed the two locations. It was agreed that the Council should submit applications for planning permission and listed building consent in respect of the camera to be placed on The Royal Hotel.

20/80 The Brow:

It was reported that a survey had been carried out by the geologist and there was no sign of recent movement. Work will now proceed to the next stage and the site investigations but it appeared that there is no need for a relocation of the footpath. It was agreed that a letter from a member of the public, with suggestions, will be forwarded to R G Parkins, the contractor. Consideration will need to be given to the raising of very large amounts of money to tackle this work.

20/81 Booth's roundabout:

Councillor Marczynski had nothing to report.

20/82 Recycling area:

Councillor Marczynski said he had contacted SLDC but there had been no formal response to the proposals. Any decision to move the recycling bins would have to be made by CCC, who have been approached. The cost to the Town Council would be £9,000.

20/83 Haweswater Aqueduct:

Councillor Burchnall had prepared a report and this had been circulated to all Councillors. It was resolved to endorse the recommendations made therein.

20/84 Clerk's matters:

- a. Two communications had been received from residents, regarding changes to the Market provision. The Clerk had responded.

Councillor Marczynski or Councillor Muirhead will present a report about market management for the next meeting.

- b. A long-awaited response had been received from CCC Highways regarding the installation of the pedestrian crossing at Dodgson Croft. The Council agreed to ask for the work to be carried out during the October half-term.
- c. The Clerk will bring a report to the next meeting on the 'Accessibility Regulations' which become law in September and how the Council could deal with this.

20/85 Date of the next meeting:

Wednesday 12th August 2020 by ZOOM at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: