

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BECTIVE ROOM
LUNESDALE HALL, KIRKBY LONSDALE
ON WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2023 AT 7PM**

Present: Councillors Mike Burchnall (Chair), Isabelle Bradshaw, Geoffrey Buswell, Paul Cassell, Mike Marczyński, Allan Muirhead, Braddan Quayle, Robin Ree and Madeline Williams.

Also in attendance: Sgt Suzanne Scott-O'Neill and PC Jamie Callon from Cumbria Police, five members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

23/55 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 8th March 2023 were approved to be signed by the Chair.

23/56 Requests for Dispensations: None.

23/57 Declarations of Interest:

Councillors Marczyński and Muirhead declared an interest in any matters relating to the Community Interest Company (CIC)

23/58 Public participation:

- a. Tribute was paid to Councillors Allan Muirhead and Nick Cotton, and also Mr Peter Weeks, all presently retiring, who have given so much to the community for many years.
- b. A question was asked as to who 'polices' the 'We are Kirkby Lonsdale' site. This is an independent site and not under the control of the Town Council.
- c. It is not known if 'second homes' are charged double for their Council Tax at present or not, although this has been under discussion locally for some time now. The Clerk will make enquiries.

23/59 Police:

Sgt. Suzanne Scott-O'Neill gave a full presentation on the work of the Police in this area. Items mentioned were:

- a. Regular Newsletter circulated to all Councillors and others.
- b. Arrangements for the forthcoming Appleby Horse Fair. This year there will be no 'drop-ins' but it was emphasised that the Police are easily contactable for help and advice at any time. Campers are due to arrive on the Loop Road from 25th May.
- c. The lack signage for the town's CCTV will be investigated.
- d. It is hoped that parking issues on summer weekends will not be as problematic as last year.

- e. PCSO Mandy Coleman will be returning to Kirkby Lonsdale. PCSO Hayley Newman will be looking after Milnthorpe and Arnside.
- f. PC Jamie Callon was introduced as the Community Beat Officer.

23/60 Community Interest Company (CIC):

Judith Collins gave a full report on the current position of the CIC. The main priority at present is the financial position, which is not strong, but some funding has been made available for Phoebe Rodway to organise events for the Coronation of King Charles III.

23/61 Kirkby Lonsdale Christmas 2023:

Councillor Burchnall had submitted a brief report and this was considered. It was resolved that the Town Council will contribute 50% of the cost of a part-time member of staff, employed by the CIC, to organise Christmas events for 2023. This is likely to be around £5,000 in total, to be shared between the Council the CIC and other partners in the Community Share. It is believed that this event provides much increased footfall for business in the town.

23/62 'The Ram':

Councillor Marczynski said there is not a lot to report at present. WAF Highways has not responded yet to correspondence and a suitable piece of rock for the plinth has yet to be found.

23/63 Play Park:

Edward Waller has met with two contractors and obtained estimates for replacement of the Play Park gate. Details will be passed to Councillor Marczynski and this will be an agenda item for the next meeting. The Clerk will follow up the problem of the potentially dangerous tree in the Play Park again.

23/64 Community Share Meeting/Coronation weekend:

The events for the Coronation of King Charles III are as outlined previously.

23/65 Digital Communications Policy:

The revised Policy, with some small alterations, had been circulated prior to the meeting, and this was formally adopted.

23/66 Memorial – Alan Day:

Councillor Buswell reported that the memorial bench is likely to cost between £600 and £700 in total. The Chamber of Trade are contributing towards it and it was agreed the Town Council would contribute £200. It was wondered if the Civic Society might possibly help.

23/67 Planning sub-group: There were no planning matters at present.

23/68 Red/Grey Squirrels:

Councillor Ree raised this issue and he outlined the support and interest he had obtained. If red squirrels are encouraged to this area, it is good for the environment and there is much support available. Underley Estates are believed to favour this project as is the new Westmorland Furness Council. It was resolved that Councillor Ree proceeds, with the approval of the Council.

23/69 Westmorland Furness Councillor Reports: None.

23/70 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

For KLTC:

KL&LV CIC	5750.00	Second half of grant (from 2022-23)	
Craig Bradshaw (February)	4696.50	Maintenance (including additional work to open up river bank and hire of chipper)	
Craig Bradshaw (March)	1452.00	Maintenance	
CALC	372.62	Annual subscription	
CALC		19.00	Training booklets
P J S Pease Business ac/C		375.00	Allotment rent
Lunesdale Home and Garden Ltd		36.90	Padlock
K M Price		288.76	Quarterly expenses

For CIC:

Healthmatic	390.00
Charlesworth Tree Care & Fencing Ltd	288.00
Thomas Graham	297.53
Thomas Graham	227.28

For The Brow:

Fairhurst	11607.60 (to be queried)
Sam Millar	1250.00
Lorna Keeler	1780.00

b. The Interim Accounts for 2022-23 were noted, having been circulated to all Councillors. These will now proceed to Internal and External Audits.

23/71 Woodland Creation Grants:

The leaflet on Woodland Creation Grants had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillors Bradshaw and Marczynski agreed to meet and discuss the way forward. Professional help is available to facilitate environmental improvement.

23/71 Correspondence:

Two items of correspondence had been received:

- a. Street signs requiring cleaning. The Council supports this suggestion and will ask for volunteers to assist.
- b. Street furniture causing problems for elderly shoppers. It was resolved to pass this on to WAF Council and also to the Chamber of Trade.

23/72 Retirement of Councillor Allan Muirhead:

Councillor Burchnall summarised Councillor Muirhead's contribution to both the Council and the community over many years and the meeting was followed by a presentation and some refreshments. In reply Councillor Muirhead said he had enjoyed his time as a Councillor and was grateful for the support of fellow Councillors; he was particularly glad to see the presence of younger Councillors in recent years and felt this augured well for the future.

23/73 Retirement of County Councillor Nick Cotton:

Councillor Cotton has now retired, having been a County, District and Town Councillor over many years and also involved in YDNPA. The Council expressed its thanks to Nick for all his hard work on behalf of the Town.

An event to mark this occasion has been arranged at the Royal Barn on 16th April, from 6pm onwards and anyone is welcome to attend. Food can be provided if sufficient notice is given.

23/74 Future events:

The following meetings are scheduled:

- a. Joint website for the town (14th April)
- b. Meeting with Fairhurst (The Brow) for Town Councillors only (21st April)

23/75 Date of the next meeting:

Wednesday 17th May 2023 at the Bective Room, Lunesdale Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale at 7pm (This will be the Annual Town Meeting and the Annual Council Meeting).

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed:

Dated:

