



Morecambe Town Council

Morecambe Town Hall,
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Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

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clerk@morecambe.gov.uk

Proper Officer: Mr Luke Trevaskis

Members of Morecambe Town Council

Cllr R Walsh - Chairman
Cllr G Knight - Vice Chairman

Cllr C Ainscough, Cllr J Ainscough, Cllr D Blacow, Cllr D Bottoms, Cllr L Bradbury, Cllr P Clarke, Cllr B Cooper, Cllr F Cooper, Cllr C Cozler, Cllr R Dennison, Cllr W Dixon, Cllr K Gee, Cllr P Hart, Cllr J Goodrich, Cllr J Hanson, Cllr C Kent, Cllr D Knight, Cllr J Livermore, Cllr M Pattison, Cllr J Pilling, Cllr J Rogerson, Cllr J Slater, Cllr M Stenneken, Cllr D Whitaker

Minutes - 16 May 2024

Minutes of Morecambe Town Council's Full Council Meeting held at 7pm on the sixteenth day of May 2024 at Morecambe Town Hall, Marine Road, Morecambe, LA4 5AF.

Record of Attendance:

Councillors: R Walsh (Chairman), C Ainscough, J Ainscough, D Blacow, D Bottoms, L Bradbury, B Cooper, C Cozler, R Dennison, W Dixon, K Gee, J Goodrich, J Hanson, C Kent, P Hart, G Knight, J Livermore, M Pattison, J Pilling, J Rogerson, J Slater, M Stenneken, D Whittaker

Officers: Luke Trevaskis, Peter Fisher, Joel Beal

Press: Beyond Radio

Public: None

Minute 2024/25 - 001 - Election of a Chairman

Cllr Russell Walsh was duly elected to serve as Chairman of Morecambe Town Council for the 2024-2025 Civic Year.

An acknowledgement of thanks was offered to Cllr Claire Cozler for her service as Chairman of Morecambe Town Council 2023-2024.

Minute 2024/25 - 002 - Election of a Vice-Chairman

Cllr Geoff Knight was duly elected to serve as Vice-Chairman of Morecambe Town Council for the 2024-2025 Civic Year.

An acknowledgement of thanks was offered to Cllr Paul Hart for his service as Vice-Chairman of Morecambe Town Council during 2023-2024.

Minute 2024/25 - 003 - Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance received from Cllrs D Knight, F Cooper, P Clarke

Minute 2024/25 - 004 - Declarations of Interest

Cllrs R Dennison, P Hart, M Pattison, M Bottoms, J Livermore, J Ainscough declared an interest as a Councillor of Lancaster City Council.

Cllrs C Ainscough and D Whittaker declared they are employees of Lancashire County Council.

Cllr M Pattison declared an interest as a Councillor of Lancashire County Council.

Minute 2024/25 - 005 - Minutes

The minutes of the last full council meeting were approved.

Minute 2024/25 - 006 - Public participation

To receive representations from electors that have requested to speak by 10am regarding a matter on the agenda. ([Morecambe Town Council Standing Orders - Sections 1d-1f](#)).

None.

Minute 2024/25 - 007 - Frontierland Project Board

Members were asked to consider the invitation from Lancaster City Council, to nominate a member of Morecambe Town Council to join the Frontierland Project Board, that is directing the production of the procurement brief to secure a development partner for the site. The elected Member would represent the views of the Council, not independent or political views.

Cllr Russell Walsh was duly elected.

Minute 2024/25 - 008 - Parking

Morecambe Town Council resolved to contact the Highways Authority (Lancashire County Council) to request the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) at the earliest opportunity along the full seaward side of Marine Road from the Battery car park to Teal Bay, with signage indicating **'No parking of motorhomes, camper vans, or other vehicles used as such between the hours of 8pm and 8am'**.

The Council would also request additional signage be provided by Lancaster City Council, indicating the nearest camp sites which are understood to be located at: Morecambe Lodges, Greendales, Westgate, Ocean Edge, Venture, Sunnyside, Glen.

Minute 2024/25 - 009 - Planning Application 24/00460/FUL

Members were asked to consider the concerns raised by members of the Planning Committee with regard to Planning Application 24/00460/FUL (55-57 Alexandra Road) and consider the objections to this application.

The proposed objection raised a number of concerns around converting the property into a 10-bedroom HMO which was seen to have a detrimental effect on the area including - parking issues, noise pollution, loss of family homes, pressure of waste disposal services and potential for anti-social behaviour. The objections raised along with the principles outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Members considered the objections raised and approved for objection to be submitted to Lancaster City Council planning department.

Minute 2024/25 - 010 - Standing Orders

To consider the Standing Order and agree any amendments. Members were asked to consider and approve the following minor amendments:-

Standing Order 1(a) is amended to read that '*meetings of the Council shall be held monthly on such dates and times and at such place as the Council may direct, except during the months of July, August and December*'.

Standing Order 1(e) is amended to delete '*and/or business rate payers*', and amend the penultimate sentence to read - '*on the day of the meeting to advise both of their wish to speak and to provide the proper Officer with a verbatim copy of the content they wish to present*'.

Standing Order 5(a) is amended to add that - '*all committees will have nine members appointed in line with the principles of proportional representation*'.

Members unanimously approved the standing order amendments.

Minute 2024/25 - 011 - Financial Regulations

Members were asked to note that the Model Financial Regulations document produced by NALC is currently being reviewed and is due to be circulated in the coming weeks. Once received, the Finance and Governance Committee will review the current Financial Regulations and discuss any recommended amendments prior to presentation to Full Council at a future meeting.

The Council accepted this note on Financial Regulations.

Minute 2024/25 - 012 - Committees

To consider the Terms of Reference and membership of each Committee, appointing a Member to sit as the Chairperson of each Committee. The following Members were elected to each committee.

Finance and Governance Committee 2024/25

Cllrs B Cooper (Chair), C Kent, M Bottoms, G Knight, L Bradbury, J Ainscough, J Goodrich, D Whittaker, J Pilling

Grants Committee 2024/25

Cllrs J Slater (Chair), K Gee, W Dixon, D Knight, M Bottoms, C Cooler, C Ainscough, J Goodrich, J

Livermore

Festivals and Events Committee 2024/25

Cllrs L Bradbury (Chair), K Gee, R Walsh, F Cooper, G Knight, M Pattinson, C Cozler, J Hanson, J Livermore

Environment Committee 2024/25

Cllr C Kent (Chair), G Knight, D Blacow, J Rogerson, J Slater, J Aiscough, C Cozler, P Hart, J Livermore

Personnel Committee 2024/25

Cllr G Knight (Chair), B Cooper, J Slater, R Dennison, C Ainscough, J Goodrich, P Hart, M Stenneken, P Clark

Planning and Regeneration 2024/25

Cllr G Knight (Chair), R Walsh, L Bradbury, C Kent, M Bottoms, D Whittaker, C Cozler, J Pilling, P Clarke

Minute 2024/25 - 013 - External Audit 2022-2023 - Response to Elector Challenges

Members were asked to consider the draft response to the challenge correspondence raised by an objector to the FY2223 accounts, review the proposed responses and agree to accept the document in full, following the recommendation of the Finance and Governance Committee, which reviewed the document as its meeting held on 30 April 2024.

The Council unanimously approved the response.

Minute 2024/25 - 014 - Meeting Calendar

Members asked to consider and agree the meeting calendar for Civic Year 2024-2025.

Members approved to hold Full Council meetings as follows

- 20 June 2024
- 19 September 2024
- 17 October 2024
- 21 November 2024
- 16 January 2025
- 20 February 2025
- 20 March 2025
- 17 April 2025

Minute 2024/25 - 015 - Exclusion of Press and Public

[*\(Public Bodies \(Admission to Meetings\) Act 1960 - Section 1\)*](#)

The Council is recommended to pass the following recommendation in relation to the following items:

“That, in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press

and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings”.

Approved.

Minute 2024/25 - 016 - Central Government Grant - Community Ownership Grant

Members were updated by the Proper Officer on progress with the preliminary investigation work that has been carried out since the last meeting, noting that a further meeting will be required to consider any final submission to the fund, following community engagement consultation activity.

As previously outlined, the Community Ownership Grant is an initiative to restore ‘at risk’ derelict assets into opportunities to deliver social value to communities. This is a fund available only to Parish and Town Councils, with up to £2m available as a grant. This fund is not available to principle authorities.

Morecambe Town Council is eligible to apply for a grant of up to £2m. If successful, the money would be used to transform the derelict Grade II Queens Hotel (Marine Rd, Morecambe) into a multi-purposed space, to be used by the local community, council officers and Members, and to host other attractions and services that would benefit residents and visitors to the town.

Members were asked to consider and approve a number of work parcels and associated costs, to be undertaken as part of the preliminary process ahead of any submission. The actions have been delegated to Officers to facilitate and support the preparation of a full submission bid to the Community Ownership Fund for the restoration of a local asset, with all paperwork to be considered by Full Council at a future meeting.

The Council considered and approved the financial increase for this work.