

MORECAMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Morecambe Town Council held on Thursday 5th September 2019 at 7.00 p.m. at Morecambe Town Hall.

Present: Councillors: P. Heath (Chairman), June Ashworth (Vice-Chair), P. Anderton, A. Ashworth, Mirka Balcer, Mariusz Balcer, J. Bates, V. Boyd-Power, S. Burns, R. Cleet, I. Clift, R. Dennison, M. Evans, J. Firth, J. Goodwin, J. Hanson, C. Matthews, J. Pilling and D. Whitaker

Officers in Attendance: N. Kitchen (Assistant Clerk)

Invited Guests: Mr A. Torevell and Mr R. Barker. Northern Power Tidal Gateway.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everybody present and warmly welcomed the return to work of the Assistant Clerk.

51. Apologies for Absence:

Councillors; T. Anderson; T. Clarke, G. Dennison, D. Jenkins, J. Newton, P. Ross-Clasper.

52. Declarations of Interests

Councillors Anderton, Boyd-Power, Goodwin, Hanson and Matthews declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, Planning Applications as they were all members of the Lancaster City Council Planning Committee.

53. Minutes of Meetings held on 1st August 2019:

The Council considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 1st August 2019.

Councillor Cleet enquired as to whether the Clerk had received a written response from Mr Price, the Chairman of West End Million, relating to Councillor's questions regarding West End Million noted at point 44.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 1st August 2019 be signed as a correct record subject to the addition of a resolution at point 45. The resolution to be included in the minutes was that the budget be noted.

The Assistant Clerk to ascertain whether a response has been received by the Clerk and report back to Council.

The Meeting was adjourned to allow residents of the town to address Council for up to three minutes.

54. Public Participation:

Mr Williams expressed that he would like to address the Council but was politely declined by the Chairman because it had been previously established that he was not a resident within the town in accordance with **Standing Order No. 1(d) at minute No. 18 Notice of Motion re Public Participation (6th June 2019)**.

“electors and Business Rates payers of the Parish of Morecambe Town Council are permitted to make representations regarding items on the agenda, although other issues could be raised if written notice of the question/matter are submitted to the Clerk 10 working days prior to the meeting”.

The meeting was reconvened.

55. Area Working:

The Chairman invited Mr Alan Torevell and Mr Robert Barker to address the meeting. The gentlemen provided an extremely informative presentation on the Northern Tidal Power Gateway and explained that a link across Morecambe Bay would provide improved transport connectivity and economic growth to the region. The project would be enabled through sustainable energy and would assist the carbon reduction process which would complement regional, national and international environmental considerations which are of current significance. The presentation was very well received with significant Member interest. Both gentlemen answered all questions posed to them with detail and enthusiasm.

The Chairman thanked the guests for their excellent and interesting presentation.

Resolved:

That the Assistant Clerk on behalf of the Council writes to Mr Torevell and Mr Barker to formally thank the gentlemen for their attendance at the meeting, and to indicate that the Council supports their project in principal.

56. Planning Applications

Councillors Anderton, Boyd-Power, Goodwin, Hanson and Matthews left the meeting at this point as they had declared an interest earlier in the meeting.

The Council considered the following Planning Applications:

Application Number	Proposal Details	Site Address
19/01139/FUL	Erection of a single storey side extension.	2 Wingate Avenue. Morecambe. LA4 4SH
19/01152/FUL	Demolition of existing garage and erection of a food store with associated parking, access, servicing and landscape arrangements (pursuant to the variation of condition 2 on approved application 16 / 01071/ VCN to allow deliveries on Sundays and Public Holidays.	Lidl. 98 Westgate. Morecambe.
19/01091/FUL	Demolition of existing side extension, erection of a single storey rear / side extension and construction of a raised terrace to rear.	22 St John's Grove. Heysham. Morecambe.

Resolved:

That in respect of the application for Lidl 98 Westgate 19/01067/VCN, the Council would like it to be noted that an increased capacity to receive deliveries on Sundays and public holidays has the potential to cause disturbances and inconveniences to the surrounding residents. As the site is surrounded on 3 sides by residential accommodation, the Council recommended that conditions should be imposed to minimise the effect of disturbance to residents with considerations regarding parking and manoeuvring of delivery vehicles. Sound screening and limitations on noise generating activities should be a condition to allow for adequate boundary noise reduction.

That the Council support in principle 19/01139/FUL 2 Wingate Avenue, Morecambe and 19/01091/FUL 22 St John's Grove. Morecambe.

Councillors Anderton, Boyd-Power, Goodwin, Hanson and Matthews returned to the meeting at this point.

57. Exclusion of Press and Public.

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

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

Members are reminded that, whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the Council itself to decide whether to consider it in private or in public. In making the decision, Members should consider the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to information.

The Assistant Clerk left the meeting.

58. Personnel.

The Council considered the proposal noted within the Personnel Committee (22nd July 2019) regarding the role of the project officer and discussed some of the operational problems within the Council's Office.

Resolved:

- (1) That Council unanimously approved the proposals regarding the role of Project Officer. The Assistant Clerk to undertake the role of Project Officer effective from Monday 9th September 2019.
- (2) That Council unanimously approved to introduce a temporary clerk for a minimum of 2 weeks to allow for normal business to continue.
- (3) That the Council note that post of Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer became a part time position, working 24 hours per week, consisting of three eight-hour days per week on the 1st September 2019.

The Assistant Clerk returned to the meeting.

59. Any Other Business.

Due to employee absence it was decided that the Morecambe in Bloom presentation evening would be postponed until the New Year.

60. Date of Next Meeting.

Thursday 3rd October 2019 at Morecambe Town Hall at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.

.....

Chairman

Nicola Kitchen, Project Officer to the Council

01524 422929 or via email to assistantclerk@morecambe.gov.uk 24th September 2019