



MORECAMBE TOWN COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES of the Meeting of Morecambe Town Council held on Thursday 2nd January 2020 at 7.00 p.m. at Morecambe Town Hall.

Present: Councillors: P. Heath (Chairman), J. Ashworth (Vice-Chair), T. Anderson, P. Anderton, A. Ashworth, Mariusz Balcer, J. Bates, V. Boyd-Power, S. Burns, R. Cleet, T. Clarke, I. Clift, G. Dennison, R. Dennison, M. Evans, J. Goodwin, J. Hanson, D. Jenkins, J. Pilling, M Pattison, D. Whitaker

Officers in Attendance: B. Bailey (Town Clerk), N. Kitchen (Assistant Clerk).

The Chairman opened the Meeting by welcoming everybody present.

20001. **Apologies for Absence:** Mirka Balcer, J. Firth, C. Matthews, J. Newton, P. Ross-Clasper.
20002. **Declarations of Interests:** Councillors Cleet, Clift, Hanson, Pattison, Whitaker all declared an interest with respect agenda item 7, Grant Funding, in relation to the Promenade Orchestra Concert.
- Councillors Anderton, Boyd-Power, Goodwin, Hanson and Matthews declared a personal interest in agenda item 9, Planning Applications, as Members of Lancaster City Council's Planning Committee.
- Councillor Anderton declared an interest on any discussions relating to Morecambe Winter Gardens.
20003. **Minutes of Meetings held on the 5th December 2019:** The Council considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on the 5th December 2019, and it was **RESOLVED** that, subject to minor amendments, the minutes be signed as a correct record.
20004. **Public Participation:** There were no residents in attendance.
20005. **Chairman's Urgent Business:**
- 1) **Room Bookings:** The Chairman advised Members that the Clerk and Assistant Clerk had experienced some issues with receiving confirmations of room bookings for scheduled Meetings.

- 2) **Personnel Committee:** Members were advised that the Personnel Committee would be meeting on a date to be confirmed to allow the Assistant Clerk to address Members on the grievance that had now been concluded and upheld. The Chairman advised that Members that whilst the Assistant Clerk's statement on her grievance would be exempt, all Town Council Meeting may attend.
- 3) **Bloom Celebration Evening:** The arrangements for the Morecambe in Bloom Presentation Evening for the 2019 competition were considered and after much discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Presentation Evening be cancelled, and a press release issued.
- 4) **Standing Order and Financial Regulations:** The Chairman advised Members that Standing Orders and Financial Regulations need review. After some discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that a Working Group be formed to undertake a review the Council's Standing Orders and financial regulations and make recommendations to full Council on any amendments.

20006. **Motion by Morecambe Bay Independents:** The Chairman presented the following motion;

'Morecambe Town Council will look to buy the Frontierland site, by compulsory purchase order if necessary, for the benefit of the residents of Morecambe and Heysham. The derelict site has monopolised the promenade for too many years already and must be put back into leisure use. Some of the suggested uses are a conference hotel, an ice hockey/skating rink and a velodrome, but any positive leisure ideas would be considered. The site can no longer be left neglected as a detrimental divide between the central and west end of Morecambe'.

After a period of discussion, and the acceptance of a friendly amendment, the statement was amended and then presented as:

'Morecambe Town Council will set up a 'feasibility group' to consider the possibility, logistics and merits of acquiring and developing the Frontierland site for leisure purposes, including by compulsory purchase order if appropriate, for the residents of the district. The Town Council will ask for this to be done in conjunction with officers of Lancaster City Council. The derelict site has monopolised the promenade for too many years already and must be put back into leisure use. Some of the suggested uses are a conference hotel, and ice hockey/skating rink and a velodrome, but any positive leisure ideas would be considered. The site can no longer be left neglected as a detrimental divide between the central and west end of Morecambe'.

After some discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that a feasibility group be established with a view to working with Lancaster City Council to consider the risks and benefits associated with Morecambe Town Council acquiring and developing the Frontierland site for leisure purposes.

20007. **Budget Setting and Precept 2020/21:** The Town Clerk advised Members that the deadline for submission of the precept to be demanded from Lancaster City Council is 3rd February 2020. As the date of the next Full Council is 6th February 2020, it was **RESOLVED** that a short extension of time be requested to enable the Town Council to consider proposals for its 2020/21 budget and precept at its next meeting.

The Town Clerk advised Members that if Lancaster City Council did not permit any extension, it will be necessary to arrange an earlier extraordinary meeting in order to meet the stated deadline.

20008. **Grant Funding:** Members considered recent applications for grant funding outlined by the Town Clerk and his conclusion that the applications and supporting documentation and information had met the specified criteria.

After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the payments in respect of: Vintage Bus Day, Promenade Orchestra Concert and Galloways be approved and that the application for the Park Run be declined on this occasion.

Members noted that there are still festival grants that had not yet been claimed and it was **RESOLVED** that arrangements for withdrawing funding for any claims not made be considered as part of the planned review of festival and grants funding.

20009. **Payment's List:** Members considered the *payments list* for January 2020. Questions were raised about the Town Council's contribution to Morecambe BID towards the funding of Christmas lights and what, if any, arrangements will be made in the future for areas of the town outside the Morecambe BID area. It was then **RESOLVED** that payments as set out be approved and authorised.

20010. **Planning Applications, Temporary Road Closures and Planning Decisions:** Members were informed that a Planning Committee had been established and had adopted a revised Terms of Reference. Councillors Cleet and J. Ashworth had been elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. The Committee will meet prior to the Town Council Meeting to consider planning applications and make recommendations to full Council.

Councillors Anderton, Boyd-Power, Goodwin, Hanson and Matthews left the meeting having declared an interest as Members of Lancaster City Council's Planning Committee.

Members then considered that following planning applications all of which the Planning Committee had recommended that the Town Council supports in principle.

Application No:	Description & Site Address
19/000042/REF	Retrospective application for the change of use of 2 industrial units to mixed use units; 1 comprising a warehouse with shop & office and 1 comprising warehouse, brewery, bar/shops, smoking hut and a beer garden area – Newgate, White Lund Industrial Estate, Morecambe
19/01478/FUL	Retrospective application for the installation of replacement windows – 1 Skipton Street and 238 Marine Road Central, Morecambe
19/01488/FUL	Change of use of shop to café, installation of a new shop front, replacement windows and doors and installation of glass balustrades to create external seating area – 1 – 7 Euston Road, Morecambe LA4 5DB
19/01493/ADV	Advertisement application for the display of one externally illuminated fascia sign – 269 Marine Road Central, Morecambe LA4 5BX
19/01498/FUL	Erection of a part single storey and part two-storey side extension; erection of a single storey rear extension and construction of dormer extension to the front and rear elevation - 73 Gringley Road, Morecambe LA4 4SF
19/01505/FUL	Erection of a two-storey side extension - 11 Hyde Road, Morecambe LA4 6NU
Temporary Traffic Regulation Order: Prohibition of traffic on Back Marine Road, Morecambe from junction of West End Road to junction with Albert Road from 0930 to 1530 on Wednesday 22nd January 2020 or until completed	

After some comments, it was **RESOLVED** that all planning application be 'supported in principle' and that the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order be noted.

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

20011. **Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 6th February 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.

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Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bob Bailey, Town Clerk

01524 422929 or via email to clerk@morecambe.gov.uk

27th January 2020

DRAFT