



Morecambe Town Council

Morecambe Town Hall,
Marine Road
Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

www.morecambe.gov.uk
clerk@morecambe.gov.uk

Proper Officer: Mr Luke Trevaskis

[REDACTED]
Sent to address: [REDACTED]

Response to Request made for Information considered under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Reference: 2020/08

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to respond to the request made for information, considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 submitted to Morecambe Town Council on 3 November 2020.

For reference, Morecambe Town Council has incurred a cost of £50.00 in responding to this request.

It should be noted that public authorities are obliged to respond to requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for recorded information held by the authority. Explanations to questions raised is not always information held by the authority in a recorded form, therefore it should be noted some of this correspondence does not fall within the scope of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you would like to submit a revised request to be considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please specify exactly what information you require. If you are not sure how to formulate a request under the Act, you may find the following guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office useful:

www.ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/

Notwithstanding the above, please find the below responses to your correspondence.

Your correspondence comments on a number of historic matters relating to maladministration and asks "does the present administration intend to take legal action for this negligence".

Response from Morecambe Town Council:

It is confirmed that the authority does not hold this information.

Your correspondence advises the layout of the documentation for the June 2020 meeting "is difficult to navigate".

Response from Morecambe Town Council:

Morecambe Town Council value feedback and aim to make all information on the website as easy as possible to navigate. Amends have now been made to the area of the website you have highlighted in an effort to make the information easier to identify.

Your correspondence asks "that the Town Council responds by return to my above e mail address and advises me of the target date when all the information from the second generation website will be fully transferred and if the Town Council will again utilise the expensive AV recording equipment purchased by residents and publish on its website the whole of the Full council business meeting on 5 November and future meetings.

Response from Morecambe Town Council:

It is confirmed that the authority will be considering the adoption of a Publication Scheme at its meeting scheduled for 3 December 2020. The Publication Scheme will advise what information will be available on the website in the future. It is confirmed that upon a resolution which confirms the accuracy of the minutes of a meeting, any previous draft minutes or recordings of the meeting shall be destroyed in line with Section 1 (15) (f) of the Standing Orders adopted by the Council on 5 November 2020.

Your correspondence states “the annual town meeting 2020 is yet to be held and is already five months overdue” and asks “when is this meeting scheduled to be held”.

Response from Morecambe Town Council:

It is confirmed the authority does not hold this information. The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 offer no confirmation of how an annual town meeting can be facilitated at this time.

Your correspondence requests “that the present administration makes a public apology in the local press to the town” and “assures the public that in future it will fully comply with the law, its policies, code of conduct and will, at all times, act in the public interest”.

Response from Morecambe Town Council:

It is confirmed the authority has published a statement on its website to apologise for its failings and reassure the public that it is doing everything possible to improve. This statement has been sent to press and can be found at the URL below.

<https://www.morecambe.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Statement-Morecambe-Town-Council-Audit-2018-2019.pdf>

Morecambe Town Council will consider appeals, referrals or complaints in respect of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 request and you must submit these in writing to clerk@morecambe.gov.uk within twenty days of receiving your response.

If you remain dissatisfied you may also apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision about whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. The Information Commissioner’s website is www.ico.gov.uk and their postal address and telephone number is as follows:

Information Commissioner’s Officer
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely,



**Mr Luke Trevaskis
Proper Officer
Morecambe Town Council**