



Morecambe Town Council

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Proper Officer: Mr Luke Trevaskis

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Morecambe Town Council held remotely (via online Zoom platform) at 7pm on third day of December 2020

Present: Councillors Cary Matthews; Tony Anderson; Paul Anderton; June Ashworth; Alex Ashworth; John Bates; Vicky Boyd-Power; Roger Cleet; Patricia Clarke; Glenys Dennison; Roger Dennison; Merv Evans; Jake Goodwin; Patricia Heath; Janice Hanson; Margaret Pattison; Paula Ross-Clasper; Jim Pilling and David Whitaker

In attendance: Mr Luke Trevaskis (Proper Officer) and five members of the public.

Minute 20148

Apologies

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Mariusz Balcer, Cllr Mirka Balcer, Cllr Burns, Cllr Clift, Cllr Firth, Cllr Newton.

Minute 20149

Declarations of Interests

Cllr Pattison noted membership of Lancashire County Council.

Minute 20150

Minutes - 2 July 2020

It was proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2020 be amended to clarify that Cllr J Ashworth stated that the 'balance' of the environmental funds be moved back from the 'resilience fund' to the 'environmental fund'. A recorded vote was requested.

In favour: Cllrs Anderton, A Ashworth, J Ashworth, Bates, Boyd-Power, G Dennison, R Dennison, P Heath, C Matthews.

Against: Cllrs Anderson, Cleet, Clarke, Evans, Hanson, Pattison, Pilling, Ross-Clasper, Whitaker.

The Chairman offered a casting vote in favour of the proposed amend.

A vote was then taken on the substantive motion including the amend.

In favour: Cllrs Anderton, A Ashworth, J Ashworth, Bates, Boyd-Power, G Dennison, R Dennison, P Heath, C Matthews.

Against: Cllrs Anderson, Cleet, Clarke, Evans, Hanson, Pattison, Pilling, Ross-Clasper, Whitaker, Goodwin.

The motion was not carried.

A vote was then taken on the draft minutes in their original form.

In favour: Cllrs Anderson, Anderton, A Ashworth, J Ashworth, Boyd-Power, G Dennison, R Dennison, Evans, Goodwin, Heath, Matthews, Pilling, Ross-Clasper, Whitaker.

Against: Cllrs Bates, Cleet, Clarke.

It was noted that much dispute remained regarding the minutes, with varying opinions, and the Council resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2020 subject to no amends.

Minutes - 5 November 2020

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2020.

Minute 20151

Public Participation

No members of the public participated in this item.

Minute 20152

Policies

Grievance Procedure

It was unanimously resolved to accept the Grievance Procedure.

Disciplinary Procedure

It was unanimously resolved to accept the Disciplinary Procedure, subject to the below amend.

1) The second sentence in Section 30 will read "This also excludes the investigator".

Data Protection Policy

It was unanimously resolved to accept the Data Protection Policy.

Publication Scheme

It was resolved to accept the Publication Scheme. A recorded vote was requested.

In favour: Cllrs Anderson, Anderton, A Ashworth, J Ashworth, Bates, Boyd-Power, Clarke, G Dennison, R Dennison, Evans, Goodwin, Hanson, Heath, Matthews, Pattison, Pilling, Ross-Clasper, Whitaker.

Privacy Notice

It was resolved to accept the Privacy Notice.

Minute 20153

Committees

Innovation Working Group

It was unanimously resolved to form an Innovation Working Group, its Terms of Reference and its membership consisting of Cllrs Goodwin, Matthews, Mirka Balcer, Bates, Ross-Clasper, Boyd-Power, Pilling, Cleet, Whitaker, Pattison.

Grants Committee

It was unanimously resolved to add “on completion of the project/purchase...” at the beginning of condition (i) on the ‘Criteria’ for the Grants Committee.

Festivals, Sponsorships and Events Committee

It was unanimously resolved to approve the ‘Criteria’ and ‘Application Form’ for the Festivals, Sponsorships and Events Committee and add “on completion of the project/purchase...” at the beginning of condition (i) on the ‘Criteria’.

Minute 20154

Finance

It was noted that the Proper Officer has now gained access to the bank account and a new signatory has been added.

It was resolved to purchase Alpha Rialtas Business Support software at a cost of £645.00 for the first year, as recommended by the Finance and Governance Committee and the internal auditor.

The Council noted the contractual requirements for particular payments to be paid by particular dates and approved that standing orders / direct debit payments continue for contractors on an ongoing basis including CF Corporate Finance, M B Digital, Plus Net, Kingfisher Leasing, and employees.

It was resolved to accept the findings of the mid-year internal controls review as considered by the Finance and Governance Committee.

20155

Audit (2018-2019)

The report of the Proper Officer and recommendations of the Finance and Governance Committee were considered. It was resolved to solely focus on the accounts for the current financial year (2020-2021) and ensure better controls and practices are put in place to achieve clean audits in the future.

The meeting closed at 20:45. The next meeting is to be held on 17 December 2020.