



Morecambe Town Council
Morecambe Town Hall,
Marine Road
Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

www.morecambe.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Morecambe Town Council's Full Council Meeting held at Morecambe Town Hall at 7pm on the twenty-third day of February 2023.

Attendance Record

Councillors: C Matthews, P Anderton, D Whitaker, J Bates, V Boyd-Power, W Cowley, I Clift, M Pattison, P Clarke, J Pilling, P Forster, G Blaikie, B Jackson, C Pilling, L Dagdeviren, P Hart, L Stansfield, R Dennison, G Dennison, J Ashworth, P Heath.

Officers: Luke Trevaskis (Chief Officer)

Press: No members of the press.

Public: No members of the public.

Minute 20473

Apologies

Apologies for absence received from Cllr A Ashworth.

Minute 20474

Declarations of Interests

Cllr Margaret Pattinson - Lancaster City Councillor / Lancashire County Councillor

Cllr Roger Dennison - Lancaster City Councillor

Cllr Paul Anderton - Lancaster City Councillor / Trustee Morecambe Winter Gardens Trust

Cllr Gerry Blaikie - Lancaster City Councillor

Cllr Vicky Boyd-Power - Lancaster City Councillor

Cllr Cary Matthews declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda items 5, 8, 9 as a Lancaster City Councillor.

Cllr Tricia Heath declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda items 5, 8, 9 as a Lancaster City Councillor.

Minute 20475

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Minute 20476

Public Participation

None.

Cllr Heath left the council chamber prior to the next item being discussed.

Minute 20477

Morecambe's Tourist Information Service

It was resolved that Morecambe Town Council forms a working party (open to all members) to explore the feasibility of undertaking the operation of a Tourist Information Service for Morecambe, following the announcement that Lancaster City Council is unable to fund the service beyond October 2023.

Minute 20478

Finance

Cllr Heath returned to the council chamber.

The Council considered its budget and precept for 2023-2024. It was resolved to accept the 'Budget + Precept Proposal 2023-2024' report, and all proposals made within it in full, including setting the budget at £739,000.00 and setting the precept at £1,431,853.66.

Among the accepted proposals, included an earmarked reserve of £1M to kickstart a Community Action Fund to safeguard community use on the former Frontierland site and bring forward a project that will play a substantial role within Morecambe as it evolves over time, empowering residents to participate in community activities, whilst providing attractions that will also drive tourism.

The Council noted that many residents had indicated that they would like to see further consultations and focus groups formed to deliver optimum community impact.

Following a question from Cllr John Bates, it was confirmed that the report included no proposal to offer to purchase the site from Lancaster City Council for £1M. Further, it was clarified that the £1M would be used to attract additional match funding for the community project.

It was noted that the year-on-year increment would equate to £1.32 per week for a Band A property.

When the motion to accept the proposals was tabled, a recorded vote was requested. Those members 'FOR' included Cllrs Matthews, Anderton, Whitaker, Bates, Boyd-Power, Cowley, Clift, Pattison, Clarke, J Pilling, C Pilling, Forster, Blaikie, Jackson, Dagdeviren, Hart, and Stansfield. Those members 'AGAINST' included Cllrs Heath, J Ashworth, G Dennison, R Dennison. The motion was passed.

Minute 20479

Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on 9 March 2023.

Minute 20480

Exclusion of Press and Public

The council resolved 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 business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

Cllr Heath and Cllr J Ashworth left the council chamber.

Minute 20481

Frontierland

It was resolved to create a Community Forum to drive the community project forward, consisting of local residents who had responded to the community survey with ideas that were considered to best meet the needs of townspeople and tourists both now and in the future.

The Council resolved, following a meeting of the Community Forum, to submit a bid to Lancaster City Council, and continue liaising through the working party during the pre-election period, with officers delegated to pursue progress as necessary.

Minute 20482

UKSPF

Members approved officer delegation to submit a UKSPF application to support projects that could benefit from funding.