



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

www.morecambe.gov.uk



Members of Morecambe Town Council:

Cllr C Cozler - Chairman

Cllr P Hart - Vice Chairman

Cllr C Ainscough, Cllr J Ainscough, Cllr D Blacow, Cllr D Bottoms, Cllr L Bradbury, Cllr T Clarke, Cllr B Cooper, Cllr F Cooper, Cllr R Dennison, Cllr W Dixon, Cllr K Gee, Cllr J Goodrich, Cllr J Hanson, Cllr C Kent, Cllr D Knight, Cllr G Knight, Cllr J Livermore, Cllr M Pattison, Cllr J Pilling, Cllr J Rogerson, Cllr J Slater, Cllr M Stenneken, Cllr R Walsh, Cllr D Whitaker.

MINUTES - 25 MAY 2023

Minutes of Morecambe Town Council's Full Council Meeting held at 7pm on the twenty-fifth day of May 2023 at Morecambe Town Hall, Marine Road, Morecambe, LA4 5AF.

Record of Attendance:

Councillors: C Ainscough, J Ainscough, D Black, D Bottoms, L Bradbury, P Clarke, B Cooper, F Cooper, C Cozler, R Dennison, J Goodrich, J Hanson, P Hart, C Kent, D Knight, G Knight, J Livermore, M Pattison, J Pilling, J Slater, M Stenneken, R Walsh, D Whitaker.

Officers: Luke Trevaskis (Chief Officer), Scott Harris, Steven Doran.

Press: One member of the press - Beyond Radio.

Public: Seven members of the public.

Mr Luke Trevaskis, CiLCA, PSLCC.
Chief Executive

Minute 2023/24-001 - Election of Chairman

Nominations were received for Cllr Geoff Knight and Cllr Claire Cozler.

Cllr Claire Cozler was duly elected Chairman.

Minute 2023/24-002 - Election of Vice Chairman

Nominations were received for Cllr Geoff Knight and Cllr Paul Hart.

Cllr Paul Hart was duly elected Vice Chairman.

Minute 2023/24-003 - Apologies

Apologies for non attendance received from Cllr Wayne Dixon, Cllr Keri Gee, Cllr Jackie Rogerson.

Minute 2023/24-004 - Declarations of Interest

Cllr John Livermore declared an interest in Grant Application 2023/4-002 and advised he would withdraw from the meeting for that item as his business had made a donation to the applicant.

As a grant applicant, Cllr Roger Dennison declared an interest in Grant Application 2023/4-001 and advised he would withdraw from the meeting for that item as his business.

The following members declared membership of Lancaster City Council:

Cllr Margaret Pattison
Cllr John Hanson
Cllr John Livermore
Cllr Paul Hart
Cllr David Whitaker
Cllr Joanne Ainscough (Cabinet Member)
Cllr F Cooper
Cllr R Dennison
Cllr D Bottoms
Cllr C Cozler

The following members declared membership of Lancashire County Council:

Cllr Margaret Pattison

The following members declared employment at Lancashire County Council:

Cllr Christian Ainscough
Cllr David Whitaker

Minute 2023/24-005 - Minutes

The minutes of the full council meeting held on 4 April 2023 were approved subject to the addition of Cllr P Clarke being added to the attendance register and a record of apologies sent by Cllr M Pattison being noted.

Minute 2023/24-006 - Public Participation

A resident reflected on the recent vandalism to the tree planted in memory of the late Janice Hanson and requested the Council or its Environment Committee explore options for a suitable replacement and protection from future damage.

Minute 2023/24-007 - Policies

The Council unanimously approved the Finance Regulations, including the proposed amends.

The Council considered the Standing Orders.

Amends were proposed by Cllr Geoff Knight as follows:

Standing Order 1(a)

“Meetings of the Council shall be held monthly on such dates and times and at such place as the Council may direct, except during the months of August and December. The Council should publish a list of full council meetings annually. The Proper Officer has delegated authority, in consultation with the Chairman, to cancel a meeting should there not be enough business to consider.”

Standing Order 1(e)

“Subject to Standing Order 1(d) above, members of the public who are registered local government electors may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda, provided that their primary residence is within the administrative boundary of Morecambe Town Council. Members of the public who would like to make representations at a meeting must contact the Proper Officer no later than 10:00 am on the day of the meeting to advise both of their wish to speak and the full content (providing a transcript if available). Other issues could be raised if written notice of the question/matter is submitted to the Proper Officer ten working days prior to the meeting and the matter is considered appropriate for the agenda.”

Amends were proposed by Cllr Paul Hart as follows:

Standing Order 1(y) (ii)

“In the case of a Committee Meeting - not less than the quorate stated in the Committee’s Terms of Reference (which will never be less than three members).”

Standing Order 5(b)

“Upon a recommendation by the Committee, the Council may dissolve a committee at any time by a resolution requiring no less than two-thirds of the full council to vote in favour”.

Deletion of Standing Order 10(k) and 10(L).

Standing Order 10(j)

“To appoint a new committee or sub-committee and its membership”.

Standing Order 10(v)

“When requested by no less than two thirds of the full council, to suspend any Standing Order, except Standing Orders that exist in relation to the creation, administration or dissolution of committees, and except those which are mandatory by law.”

Standing Order 16(a)

“A resolution (whether affirmative or negative) of the Council shall not be reversed within 12 months except by a special motion, the written notice whereof bears the names of at least 9

councillors of the Council, or by a motion moved in pursuance of a report or recommendation of a committee to which the item of business is delegated.”

Standing Order 16(b)

“When a special motion or any other motion moved pursuant to the above has been disposed of, no similar motion may be moved within a further 12 months.”

Standing Order 16(c)

“With the exception of Standing Orders that relate to the creation, administration or dissolution of committees, and except this which are mandatory by law, Standing Orders may be suspended by resolution in relation to any specific item of business. A motion to temporarily or permanently add to or to vary or to revoke one or more of the Council’s Standing Orders shall not be carried unless two-thirds of the full council vote in favour of the same at a meeting of the full council”.

A recorded vote was requested for the amends proposed by Cllr Hart. Those in favour included Cllrs Hart, Pilling, Livermore, and Stenneken. Those against included P Clarke, R Walsh, J Slater, G Knight, D Knight, C Kent, R Dennison, F Cooper, B Cooper, L Bradbury, D Bottoms, and D Blacow.

It was proposed to defer amends to the Standing Orders and revisit them after councillor training had concluded. The motion was approved.

Minute 2023/24-008 - Finance

The Council noted that the existing signatories were all no longer serving members of Morecambe Town Council and must be removed from the bank account.

The Council had previously approved Cllr Jim Pilling to become a signatory. The Council unanimously approved for Cllr Claire Cozler to be added to the bank account as a signatory.

Both Cllr Jim Pilling and Cllr Claire Cozler will be the Council’s two signatories to be added to the bank mandate forthwith, and all other prior signatories will be removed.

Minute 2023/24-009 - General Power of Competence

The Council unanimously reaffirmed its eligibility to exercise the general power of competence.

Minute 2023/24-010 - Committees

Grants Committee

It was unanimously resolved that the membership would include Cllrs Keri Lee, Wayne Dixon, Deborah Knight, Jason Slater, Claire Cozler, Christian Ainscough, John Goodrich, Jim Pilling, John Livermore and P Clarke.

It was resolved that the Terms of Reference would be amended to

Following a friendly amendment, it was proposed by Cllr Geoff Knight that Terms of Reference 3(i) be amended to read:

“To meet as frequently as required to consider grant applications received by Morecambe Town Council and approve appropriate grants for applications within the budget delegated to this Committee up to a maximum sum of £3,000.00, with any grants excess of this sum being referred to a full council meeting for approval.”

It was proposed by Cllr Joanne Ainscough to increase the maximum sum to £5,000.00 - a vote was taken and the motion fell.

A vote was taken on the existing substantive motion and was approved.

The Council also approved to change “sit on” to “attend” in section to (Membership).

Personnel Committee

It was unanimously resolved that the membership would include Cllrs Roger Dennison, Brett Cooper, Geoff Knight, Jason Slater, John Goodrich, Christian Ainscough, Margaret Pattison, Paul Hart, and Monika Stenneken.

The Terms of Reference were approved subject to above change in membership.

Festivals, Sponsorships and Events Committee

It was unanimously resolved that the membership would include Cllrs Keri Lee, Russel Walsh, Faye Cooper, Lee Bradbury, Margaret Pattison, Claire Cozler, John Hanson, John Livermore, Paul Hart, and P Clarke.

It was unanimously resolved that the Chairman of the Committee would be Cllr Margaret Pattison.

Following a friendly amendment, Cllr Geoff Knight proposed the below amends to the Terms of Reference.

Amend 1:

Terms of Reference 3(i) be amended to read “to meet as frequently as required to consider applications for sponsorship and events received by Morecambe Town Council and approve appropriate grants for applications within the budget delegated to this Committee up to a maximum sum of £3,000.00 with any grants in excess of this sum being referred to a full council meeting for approval”.

Amend 2:

Terms of Reference 3(vii) be amended to read “agree and arrange a schedule of events, along with necessary expenditure, for the benefit of residents of Morecambe, within the budget delegated to this Committee up to a maximum sum of £3,000.00 per event, with any expenditure in excess of this sum being referred to a full council meeting for approval”.

Both of the above amends were approved.

Finance and Governance Committee

It was unanimously resolved that the membership would include Cllrs Clark Kent, Martin Bottoms, Brett Cooper, Geoff Knight, John Goodrich, Joanne Ainscough, David Whitaker, Jim Pilling, John Livermore.

Cllr John Goodrich and Cllr Brett Cooper were nominated to undertake the role of Chairman. Following a vote, Cllr Brett Cooper was duly elected Chairman of the Committee.

Environment Committee

It was unanimously resolved that the membership would include Cllrs Clark Kent, Geoff Knight, Dan Blacow, Jacki Rogerson, Joanne Ainscough, Claire Cozler, David Whitaker, Paul Hart, Jim Pilling and P Clarke.

It was unanimously resolved that Cllr Joanne Ainscough be duly elected Chairman of the Committee.

Following a friendly amendment, Cllr Geoff Knight proposed the below amend to the Terms of Reference.

Terms of Reference 3(iii) be amended to read “to expend all monies allocated to this Committee’s budget up to a maximum sum of £3,000.00 per item, with any items in excess of this sum being referred to a full council meeting for approval (excluding existing commitments and delegations to officers for continuation of existing public realm service).”

The proposed amend was approved.

Frontierland Committee

A proposal was moved by Cllr Paul Hart without notice to constitute a Frontierland Committee.

The proposed Terms of Reference were not approved.

However, it was resolved in principle to form a Frontierland Committee, with the membership and Terms of Reference to be deferred to a special meeting to be held forthwith, following a more in depth briefing being provided to members about the history of the Council’s activities to date.

Minute 2023/24-011 - Meetings

It was approved that meeting of the Council shall be held monthly on such dates and times and at such place as the Council may direct, except during the months of August and December. The Council should publish a list of full council meetings annually. The Proper Officer has delegated authority, in consultation with the Chairman, to cancel a meeting should there not be enough business to consider.

The Council accepted the date of the next meeting which will be held on 29 June 2023.

It was resolved to defer the dates of future meetings until the next meeting.

Minute 2023/24-012 - Exclusion of Press and Public

It was 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.

Minute 2023/24-013 - Grant Application 2023/4-001

Grant Application 2023/4-001 - the Council agreed to award a grant of £3,500.00 to the Lancaster Military Heritage Group for the Armed Forces Weekend. Cllr Roger Dennison withdrew from the meeting for this item.

Minute 2023/24-014 - Grant Application 2023/4-002

Grant Application 2023/4-002 - the Council agreed to award a grant of £11,500.00 to Sleazy Festivals for the ‘Nice n Sleazy Festival’. Cllr John Livermore withdrew from the meeting for this item.

Minute 2023/24-015 - Grant Application 2023/4-003

Grant Application 2023/4-003 - the Council agreed to award Bare Community Association a grant of £2,500 for Bare Fest, Christmas on the Crescent, Bare Village Music Festival, and Bare Remembers.

Minute 2023/24-016 - Grant Application 2023/4-004

Grant Application 2023/4-004 - the Council agreed to award More Music a grant of £4,000.00 for Catch the Wind Kite Festival.

Minute 2023/24-017 - Grant Application 2023/4-005

Grant Application 2023/4-005 - the Council agreed to award a grant of £2,000.00 to More Music for 'Keep On: a VR project for the West End'.