



Morecambe Town Council

Morecambe Town Hall,
Marine Road
Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

www.morecambe.gov.uk



8 December 2023

To: **Members of Morecambe Town Council Environment Committee - Cllrs Joanne Ainscough (Chairman), Clark Kent, Geoff Knight, Dan Blacow, Jacki Rogerson, Claire Cozler, David Whitaker, Paul Hart, Jim Pilling, and Trish Clarke.**

Dear Councillor,

Dated this eighth day of December 2023, you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Morecambe Town Council Environment Committee to be held at 18:30 on the fourteenth day of December 2023.

The meeting will be held in Morecambe Town Hall, Marine Road East, Morecambe, LA4 5AF to transact business on the agenda.

Note to Councillors:

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please notify the Proper Officer of your apologies.

Note to Public:

Electors of the town wishing to address the Council are advised to notify the Proper Officer before 10am on the day of the meeting. Permission to speak at the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chairman. Public participation session at a meeting shall not require response or debate and shall solely consist of matters relating to items on the agenda. If the representation made is considered outside the remit of Morecambe Town Council, electors will be referred to the principal authority or other appropriate body.

Your sincerely,

Mr Luke Trevaskis, CiLCA, PSLCC.
Chief Executive

Agenda

1. **Apologies** - to receive apologies for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interests** - to note declarations of members' interests.

3. **Minutes** - to consider the minutes of the last meeting.
4. **Vice Chairman** - to duly elect a Vice Chairman.
5. **Public Participation** - to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion.
6. **Noticeboards** -
 - i) To note the old noticeboards have now been removed/donated (except corner of Mayfield Drive which is still to be dismantled).
 - ii) To consider the more prominent locations below to site replacement noticeboards. Once approval of preferred locations have been confirmed, officers will approach LCC for permission, and obtain quotes for inclusion with the 2024-25 budget bid.

Locations

1. *Corner of Lancaster Road and Mardale Avenue - Out Moss Ln / Lowlands Rd Ward*
2. *Corner Torrisholme Square and Lancaster Road/B5321 - Torrisholme Ward*
3. *Corner of Mayfield Drive and Bare Lane/B5275 - Bare Ward*
4. *Marine Road East (green space adjoining pavement at front of Morecambe Town Hall) - Poulton Ward*
5. *Corner of Snowden Avenue and Heysham Road - Heysham North Ward*
6. *Regent Rd in front of Regent Park - Harbour Ward*
7. *Westgate Road (on green-space near to shopping precinct) - Westgate Ward*

8. **Allotment Site** - to consider the report and agree actions.
9. **Public Realm Fleet** - to consider the report and agree actions.
10. **Enforcement Officer** - to discuss the draft service level agreement, and consider whether the Committee wishes to pursue increasing
11. **Budget Bid** - to consider and agree the Committee's annual budget request for 2024-2025.

At its meeting of 24.11.22 this Committee resolved to submit a budget request of £150K for 2023-2024. The full budget bid was subsequently approved by the Council.

It should be noted that budgets can be amended throughout the financial year to suit the needs of the Committee/Council. The Committee should focus on agreeing a total figure that it is confident will cover all expenditure in 2024-2025, assured that this can be adjusted when the new financial year commences.

Item	Description	Proposed Budget Bid
Public Realm Enhancements	<p>At its meeting of 24.11.22 the Committee resolved to submit a budget request of £150K for 2023-24. At the time, the Committee had anticipated five land parcels would be transferred from Lancaster City Council to MTC for community improvement. A sum of £20K per land parcel was allocated for this initiative.</p> <p>At its meeting held on 21.9.23 the Council resolved to pursue community asset transfers for two parcels of land (Maylands Sq and Mardale Avenue). At its meeting held on 20.7.23 the Council resolved to allocate £8K of this budget to finance the repair of Morecambe Skatepark.</p> <p>Much of the budget has remained unspent in 2023-24, and it is recommended that a sum is carried forward to ensure there is adequate resource to undertake any future enhancements to public land which the Council may wish to consider in 2024-25.</p>	£50,000.00

Public Realm Equipment / Fleet / Repair / Maintenance	Equipment purchase, maintenance and repair.	£15,000.00
Insurance	Motor Insurance	£1,200.00
Public Realm PPE	Personal Protective Clothing.	£5,000.00
Allotments	North Heysham and West End Allotment Site	£2,500.00
Public Realm Unit	<p>Lancaster City Council has indicated that the garage at the Town Hall currently used by the Public Realm team may be inaccessible for a considerable period of time at some point in the near future for essential structural repairs to the roof.</p> <p>The City Council has also indicated when the construction for Eden Morecambe begins, it may not be possible to accommodate the Public Realm team in the garages at the Town Hall due to the relocation of the flood defences.</p> <p>The Allotment Site is currently the only asset under the jurisdiction of MTC that could be immediately used to accommodate the Public Realm team.</p> <p>This sum has been allocated to facilitate the possible siting of a base for the Public Realm team on the Allotment Site, which can be used by officers to explore match funding and other grants to facilitate a more permanent structure for the storage of equipment and recharging of the fleet.</p>	£10,000.00
Casual Workers	<p>It is an every increasing challenge for the public realm team to keep up with the persistent clearance of alleyways of fly tipping, litter, and vegetation.</p> <p>Good progress has been made in 2023 to reduce the scale of the weeding problems in Morecambe, and recently the Council has engaged two local casual workers which has had a substantial impact on efficiency, staff morale, and positive feedback.</p> <p>Agency workers can provide flexibility in staffing, enabling MTC to adapt to varying workloads, seasonal demands, or special tasks without the long-term commitments associated with permanent hires. Agency workers are also cost effective, as they are not paid for annual leave or any pension entitlements. Staff are provided without the need to undertake extensive recruitment exercises which reduces the administrative burden, and helps to tackle a backlog in public realm work as it arises whilst bringing fresh ideas and best practices from their experiences working with other organisations (often Lancaster City Council and Lancashire County Council).</p> <p>Given the quantity of work submitted to be undertaken in spring and anticipated workloads in summer, this sum has been recommended to the Committee to consider providing some continuity to the current casual workers (x 2) for twenty-six weeks @ £14.75ph.</p>	£30,680.00
Enforcement Officer	<p>MTC has historically entered into a SLA with Lancaster City Council to provide an Enforcement Officer to tackle issues such as dog fouling in Morecambe.</p> <p>LCC has drafted a further SLA for consideration by the Council to address the increasing level of dog fouling, and fly tipping violations in the town.</p>	£30,000.00
Contingency	Each committee is recommended to approve a sum for unanticipated costs which may arise during the financial year.	£15,000.00
Total		£159,380.00