



# Morecambe Town Council

Morecambe Town Hall,  
Marine Road  
Morecambe  
Lancashire  
LA4 5AF

[www.morecambe.gov.uk](http://www.morecambe.gov.uk)

## Members of Morecambe Town Council

*Cllr R Walsh - Chairman*  
*Cllr G Knight - Vice Chairman*

*Cllr C Ainscough, Cllr J Ainscough, Cllr D Blacow, Cllr D Bottoms, Cllr L Bradbury, Cllr P Clarke, Cllr F Cooper, Cllr C Cozler, Cllr R Dennison, Cllr W Dixon, Cllr K Gee, Cllr P Hart, Cllr J Goodrich, Cllr J Hanson, Cllr C Kent, Cllr D Knight, Cllr J Livermore, Cllr M Pattison, Cllr J Pilling, Cllr J Rogerson, Cllr J Slater, Cllr M Stenneken, Cllr D Whitaker*

**Minutes of Morecambe Town Council's Full Council Meeting held at 7pm on the 20 February 2025 at Morecambe Town Hall, Marine Road, Morecambe, LA4 5AF.**

### Record of Attendance:

**Councillors:** Russell Walsh (Chairman), Geoff Knight (Vice Chairman), Joanne Ainscough, Martin Bottoms, Lee Bradbury, Trish Clarke, Claire Cozler, Roger Dennison, Wayne Dixon, Paul Hart, John Goodrich, John Hanson, Clark Kent, Debbie Knight, John Livermore, Margaret Pattison, Jackie Rogerson, Monika Stenneken, Jim Pilling, Jason Slater, David Whitaker.

**Officers:** Luke Trevaskis, Peter Fisher, Joel Turner.

**Press:** Beyond Radio

**Public:** 3

### **Minute 2024/25 - 079 - Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance received from Cllrs D Blacow, F Cooper, K Gee.

### **Minute 2024/25 - 080 - Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs M Pattison, R Dennison, J Hanson and M Bottoms declared membership of Lancaster City Council Planning Committee. Cllr C Cozler declared membership of Lancaster City Council's Local Plan.

Cllrs R Dennison, P Hart, J Hanson, M Pattison, M Bottoms, J Livermore, J Ainscough declared an interest as a Councillor of Lancaster City Council.

Cllrs P Hart and M Bottoms declared cabinet membership of Lancaster City Council.

Cllr M Pattison declared an interest as a Councillor of Lancashire County Council.

### **Minute 2024/25 - 081 - Minutes**

The minutes of the last full council meeting were unanimously approved.

### **Minute 2024/25 - 082 - Public Participation**

There had been no requests to speak from members of the public.

### **Minute 2024/25 - 083 - Financial Year 2526 Budget and Precept**

The Council reviewed the draft budget, proposed precept, and Financial Plan for FY2526, as recommended by the Finance and Governance Committee, including budget lines, costs centres, reserves, and delegations.

Some questions were clarified regarding civic expenses, casual staffing, the reserve for the Traffic Regulation Order, and the election reserve.

Councillors indicated the importance of festivals and events in the budget, and some members spoke of this increasing further in coming years.

The Council resolved to set a budget for FY2526 of £1,300,500.00

The Council resolved to use £115,000 from its reserves to subsidise the budget, as detailed in the Financial Plan.

The Council resolved to use £64,000 from its current year (FY2425) projected underspend to subsidise the budget, as detailed in the Financial Plan.

The Council approved to set its precept at £1,007,671.93

All the content of the report was accepted, and the Council noted it had significantly decreased the precept last year by approximately £50.00 for a Band D property. Based on the total precept required for FY2526, a Band D household would receive a charge that represents an increment of £3.99 (4.09%). As the majority of homes in Morecambe fall within Band A-C, this would mean that the annual increment for most households would be £2.66-£3.55 per year.

Members noted they had been able to keep the budget as low as possible this year due to cost savings, and thanked officers for their work. The new budget presents an opportunity to maintain current service delivery whilst also focusing on some specific projects that the community has brought forward - including the return of Spring Planting in Morecambe, a Morecambe Kite Festival, and a sum of money that can be used to contribute to the implementation of a Traffic Regulation Order on Morecambe Promenade (which aims to reduce overnight camper van parking in unsuitable locations along the Promenade, and redirect camper vans to a more suitable facility with adequate provision for waste disposal).

### **Minute 2024/25 - 084 - Planning Application 24/00116/FUL - Former Park Hotel**

It was proposed by Cllr Joanne Ainscough, and seconded by Cllr Claire Cozler, to submit a letter of support for this application. Following an accepted friendly amendment from Cllr Lee Bradbury to request conditions that protect the renovation of the Park Hotel, and that this is considered in conjunction with the new build properties, to ensure it is not solely the new build part of the project that is complete. The Council unanimously resolved to submit a letter of support for this application.

### **Minute 2024/25 - 085 - Planning Application 25/00114/FUL - 81 Balmoral Road HMO**

It was proposed by Cllr Joanne Ainscough, and seconded by Cllr Claire Cozler, to submit the drafted objection to this proposal.