

PRESENT: Cllr B Kelly (in the Chair), Cllr S Faulkner, Cllr G Brace, Cllr J Brown, Cllr D Billing, Cllr D Burness, Cllr McGrath, Cllr Brace, Cllrs S & R Peter, and Cath Jopson Town Clerk, Gillian Hoyle RFO/Assistant Clerk
1 member of the public was in attendance.

Prior to the start of the meeting the chair asked for a minute's silence in honour of a Millom Past Councillor – Brian Crawford.

230/23: APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllr B Crellin due to ill health

231/23: EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC:

No members of the press or public were in attendance

232/23: MAYOR'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor's Report – Cllr B Kelly

For many people the changeover from Copeland and Cumbria to Cumberland for local government purposes may well have gone unnoticed. Probably for some time to come there may be few significant changes for people to experience. However, change will come with new bodies being set up with new priorities and new processes for consultation. It is in this light that I invited the new Chief Officer of Cumberland to visit Millom, a town he had never previously visited. I took him round to see the many good things we have in Millom and Haverigg – the park and its play equipment, the recreation centre, the front at Haverigg, the sports grounds, Hodbarrow and the sites for the Towns Fund Developments. I also raised the various problems we face – lack of employment, lack of bus services, problems of car parking, the shortage of suitable low-cost housing, pot-holes etc etc. So at least he has some awareness of where we are and what we need – he raised the point that Travelodge has expressed some interest in expanding in the area and that is a possibility for development near to us.

In a similar light I invited two people from the Highways Department to come down and Simone and myself raised a whole series of issues with them. They listened and although they continue to reject ideas of any one-way streets, they were more receptive to suggestions about changing speed limits and parking regulations. They will report back to us in the near future stating what they can do and giving reasons for what they can't or won't do so at least a dialogue is developing.

The mayor's charity event was as successful as I could have hoped with about fifty people in attendance, raising almost £800 for local charities. I want to thank Denise and Cath for all the work they put in to setting it up, the organisers and staff of Millom Cricket Club for providing a friendly and suitable environment (even if the heating did fail!), Dennis Horan for his role in providing music, the Harvest Bakery for providing masses of enjoyable food, Graham, Tony and everyone else who manned the doors and helped with the entertainment, but in particular everyone who attended and set a great spirit for the occasion.

Just one more report before my role as Mayor is over but again, I want to note the incredible amount of work Simone has done during this month and the whole year – she really has been incredible in the support she has given.

Cllr Kelly reported that he and Cllr Faulkner along with representative from South Cumbria Musical Festival on Tuesday 25th April presented a trophy and a bursary award to local boy Ollie Park, they all wished him every success in his music career.

Deputy Mayor's Report – Cllr S Faulkner

During the month I carried out the following:

06.04.2023 Meeting with the British Legion-regarding Coronation buffet for all veterans.

13.04.2023 Meeting with two young constables who were in Millom to meet the community.

19.04.2023 Meeting with CGP representatives for a review! What is working well and what could be done better! The company appears to be very pleased with the Council's delivery of the funding! We are meeting the criteria set out by CGP to give to needy community groups.

25.04.2023 Meeting with the Prison to discuss community work and summer flowers.

26.04.2023 Invitation to the unveiling of the Norman Nicholson bust. This has now been relocated from the old Library to the new one in Salthouse Road.

I have also been asked to be part of the "Friends of Waterloo House Surgery" panel! Not sure of the title but it is an opportunity to incorporate community input directly to the group of doctors and staff!

Cllr Faulkner went on to inform the council that herself and the clerk had met with a representative from HMP Haverigg to discuss work parties in the area. Cllr Faulkner showed the leaflet from the prison regarding work forces being able to carrying out employment in the area if needed. Cllr Faulkner proposed that Millom Town Council support this avenue of help in both Haverigg and Millom. This was seconded by Cllr McGrath and all agreed.

Grateful thanks to both Mrs Jopson and Mrs Hoyle for doing a sterling job keeping us all on the right track. It cannot be easy juggling the everyday tasks as well as finance reports, election papers, Mayors Fund Charity Event and the Coronation celebrations. We all appreciate your hard work!

233/23: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

Cllr B Kelly declared an interest in agenda items 9 and 13 as being member of both committees

Cllr G McGrath declared an interest in item 16 on the agenda as being a member of the committee

234/23: ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES/TO REVIEW ANY INCOMPLETE ACTIONS:

The clerk informed the council that all actions had been completed by herself and the RFO.

235/23: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 29th MARCH 2023:

Cllr McGrath proposed that the minutes from the meeting held on 29th March 2023 be signed as a true and correct record. This was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and all agreed.

236/23: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

The member of the public who attended asked about the car parking situation in the town and stated that the 1-hour parking was not sufficient for people to shop etc. Cllr Kelly replied that this was being discussed at the new authority and he was pushing for a 2-hour rule in the town. Cllr Kelly acknowledged that parking was an issue and that he would also bring this topic up with the chair of the Town Bid committee.

237/23: ACCOUNTS:

The RFO presented the following to the Council for approval:

- Examine and approve accounts for payment
- Examine and Approve Income received
- Receive and note the bank reconciliation

Cllr McGrath proposed that all the above be signed as a true and correct record, this was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed. **Action: RFO to make payments**

A copy of the draft minutes from the Finance Committee meeting which was held on 25th April 2023 was circulated to the council for perusal. Cllr McGrath then went on to give a short statement of the finances.

238/23: CUMBERLAND SHADOW AUTHORITY:

Cllr Kelly reported that the new Cumberland Council had now appointed all but a handful of senior officers and these are now being processed. They have had several meetings about the proposed localisation development of setting up eight neighbourhoods with the task of developing local plans. The idea is to have a Community Panel made up of the local Cumberland Councillors and up to three co-optees who hopefully will have some ability to attract or provide additional finance. There will also be a Community Network panel that will include people from various interested parties in the area (Parish Councils, Voluntary Groups etc) who will feed in suggestions to the Community Panel – both will meet a minimum of four times a year and the first development plan will need to be produced by March 2024.

Several of the members have raised the issue that the area covered by our panel (Millom, Gosforth, South Egremont, Cleator etc) is too big and potentially unworkable. The decision is to try it for a year with the possibility of the southern part of what is to be called South Cumberland could develop its own plan. If it doesn't work the area could be divided into two separate entities.

So far, I this month I have invited the new Chief Executive and two Highways Officers to visit Millom and examine its potential and problems, and in a few weeks the Head of the Council is coming down to talk about local issues.

239/23: MILLOM TOWN COUNCILLOR AND CLERKS UPDATE:

The clerk had circulated all correspondence received to the councillors for their information but informed the council of the following:

- Defibrillator – this has now been purchased and will be fitted during the next couple of weeks
- Pressure Washer – this has also been purchased from local supplier Adam Jackson
- Additional hanging baskets and tubs had also been purchased
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240/23: PROPOSED STRUCTURAL CHANGES TO MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL:

The draft policy had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr McGrath gave a short summary of the changes outlining the need for continuity in the council. Cllr Burness proposed that some minor changes to the Mayoral role be changed. This was seconded by Cllr Kelly and agreed. **Action: Clerk to arrange for agreed changes to be made prior to signing off.**

Cllr McGrath also raised concern about the missing constitution which was drawn up in 1974 when CBC took over from the district council. The clerk informed the meeting that she is looking for this document.

241/23: ALLOTMENT POLICY:

The new proposed allotment policy had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Faulkner proposed that the new policy be adopted by council, this was seconded by Cllr McGrath and all agreed. Cllr McGrath thanked all involved in getting this policy put together.

242/23: TOWN FUND BID UPDATE:

The clerk had received an update from Town Fund Deal and this was circulated at the meeting

243/23: MILLOM TOWN PLAN UPDATE:

Cllr Burness had nothing new to report to the meeting at this present time.

244/23: UPDATE OF GROUP MEETINGS HELD PRIOR TO THE MEETING:

All working group papers (if meetings had been held) were circulated in the working papers. Updates from the following working groups had been circulated for information:

- Environment Working Group – meeting held on 27th January 2023

The following notes were handed out at the meeting

- Draft Finance meeting from meeting held on Thursday 20th April 2023
- Notes from meeting held with HMP Haverigg on 25th April 2023
- Notes from community police meeting held on 13th April 2023

244/23: GDF SOUTH COPELAND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATES &

Cllr Billing's notes from attending the meeting on 20th April 2023 in the Lighthouse Centre, Haverigg were circulated at the meeting for information.

245/23: HAVERIGG/HAVERIGG PARK ISSUES:

Haverigg Feasibility Study:

The clerk had nothing further to report and informed the council that she had been chasing up the allocated business to carry out the feasibility study for further information.

Line Painting:

Clerk to ask if the prison work force could paint the lines outside of the inshore rescue building if the council supplied the paint. **Action: Clerk to contact HMP in regard to painting yellow lines**

Closure of Haverigg St Luke's Church:

The clerk informed the council that a letter regarding the closure of Haverigg's St Luke's Church had been received – this letter had been circulated to all the councillors for perusal. Cllr Faulkner proposed that this letter be answered by the clerk informing them that the council do not support the closure. This was seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed. **Action: Clerk write a reply with the council's concerns to the Diocese of Carlisle**

Haverigg School Crossing Patrol:

The clerk had received a letter from the nursery school raising their concerns with the proposed removal of the crossing person. The council agreed that this was a dangerous area. Cllr Kelly informed the council that he had raised this issue with the authority himself. It was proposed by

Cllr McGrath that the clerk write raising the council's concerns over health and safety at the removal of this crossing person. This was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to Cumberland Authority voicing their concerns about the removal of the Haverigg School crossing person.**

Zip Line:

The clerk informed the council that the zip line posts had become loose in Haverigg park. She contacted the chair of finance who agreed that the work had to be carried out to make this safe. The cost would be circa £1k re repair it and the clerk had set in motion the works to be done.

Action: Clerk to arrange for repairs to zip line with Playdale

246/23: MILLOM/MILLOM PARK ISSUES:

- Pavilion:
Cllr Billing informed the council that he had been in touch with re-boot to hold a meeting to discuss taking the plans further.
- Purchase of Office Building:
The clerk informed the council that the building survey had been carried out and the report should be with us early next week. The surveyor also stated that the building was worth significantly more than the council were paying for it.
- Crossing Person at Blackcombe School:
- Cllr Kelly once again informed the council that he had raised this issue with the authority himself. It was proposed by Cllr McGrath that the clerk write raising the council's concerns over health and safety at the removal of this crossing person. This was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to Cumberland Authority voicing their concerns.**
- Redevelopment of sensory part of Millom Park:
The clerk informed the council that Cllr Faulkner and herself would be reviewing and, hopefully, completing the application form for funding next week.
- Millom Castle Conservation Area:
Cllr Billing proposed that the clerk write asking for an update on this, this was seconded by Cllr Kelly and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write asking for an update**
- Car Parking in the Town:
Cllr McGrath raised concerns of the parking in the Millom area. Cllr McGrath proposed that a formal letter be sent to the new authority asking for a 2-hour disc parking and add suggestions for a quick fix for the parking situation. Cllr Kelly informed the council that he had already spoken to the authority on this and agreed that a formal letter should be sent. This was seconded by Cllr Billing and all agreed. **Action: Clerk to write letter to Cumberland Authority in this regard**
- MRLFC – 150-year celebrations:
Cllr Kelly proposed that the clerk get in touch with the rugby and ask what they would like to receive from the Town Council to celebrate this event. **Action: Clerk to contact MRLFC**

247/23: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR ACTION/INFORMATION:

All correspondence received for action/information had been forwarded either via email or placed within the working papers.

248/23: PLANNING:

The following planning applications had been received for Councillor's information and comments:

- **4/22/2437/OF1 – Proposed new build vehicle body repair workshop for use by existing business and creation of a new vehicle access – Foundry Road, King Street, Millom** – The council had no objections in principle to this application
- **4/23/2105/OF1 – Change of use from Bed and Breakfast to Single Dwelling with Addition of Single Storey rear extension to provide an accessible wet room – 1 Cambridge Street, Millom** – The council had no objections in principle to this application

- **4/23/2082/OF1 – Residential development Consisting of 8 Dwellings and Associated infrastructure – Land at North Lane, Haverigg** – The council had no objections in principle to this application but would like their previous comments regarding traffic on the busy road adjacent to these properties to be taken into consideration
- **4/23/2108/OF1 – Construction of a single storey hipped roof front extension to an existing dwelling with associated landscaping – 5 Fairfield Road, Millom** – The council had no objections in principle to this application. **Action: Clerk to inform planning regarding the above applications**

249/23: ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

The following to be added to the next agenda:

- Millom Library Building

Before close of the meeting, Cllr McGrath thanked Cllr Brace for all of his hard work during his term of councillor and wished him well for the future.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 08.45pm

Signed: (Mayor) Dated: 24th May 2023

ACTIONS:

- 237/23 :** RFO to make payments
- 240/23:** Clerk to arrange for agreed changes to be made prior to signing off.
- 245/23:** Clerk to write to Cumberland Authority voicing their concerns about the removal of the Haverigg School crossing patrol.
Clerk to contact HMP in regard to painting yellow lines
Clerk write a reply with the council's concerns to the Diocese of Carlisle
Clerk to write to Cumberland Authority voicing their concerns
Clerk to arrange for repairs to zip line with Playdale
- 246/23:** Clerk to write to Cumberland Authority voicing their concerns regarding the removal of the crossing patrol at Blackcombe School.
Clerk to write asking for an update
Clerk to write letter to Cumberland Authority regarding the parking issues around the town
Clerk to contact MRLFC
- 248/23:** Clerk to inform planning regarding the above applications
- 249/23:** Clerk to add on the next agenda Millom Library Building