

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY
25th OCTOBER 2023 COMMENCING 07.00PM IN THE TOWN
COUNCIL OFFICES**

PRESENT: Cllr G McGrath (Chair), Cllr S Faulkner (Mayor), Cllr R Kelly, Cllr J Brown, Cllr B Crellin, Cllr B Amos, Cllr A Gager-Leibhart, Cllr J Micklethwaite, Cllr D Barry, Cllr J Kellett, Assistant Clerk/RFO Mrs Gillian Hoyle, Cumberland Cllr A Pratt, Speaker Hannah Kessler and one member of the public

086/23: APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllr D Billing (Holidays), and Cllr E Ormesher (sickness) and Cllr D Barry (work commitments)

087/23: EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC:

No items on the agenda needed the exclusion of the press or public.

088/23: CHAIR/MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair:

The chair informed the council the meeting was being recorded, for the purpose of minuting as the clerk was not present at this meeting.

Mayor:

This month the mayor's time has been taken up with the Allotments and the Emergency Planning.

089/23: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest

090/23: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26th JULY 2023 AS A CORRECT RECORD:

Unfortunately, a copy of the minutes from this meeting had not been included in the councillor's working papers. This item has been deferred until the next meeting.

091/23: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH AUGUST 2023 AS A CORRECT RECORD:

Cllr Brown proposed that the minutes from the extra-ordinary meeting held on 17th August 2023 be signed as a true and correct record. This was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed.

092/23: ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The Chair informed the council that all the office actions had been completed.

The following updates were given to the councillors by the Chair.

- Beach Café – the council were informed that the café was now open
- The Purchase of the Office had completed in August and MTC are now the owners of the building
- GDPR and all councillors should be receiving their email to the town council email addresses only. Cllr Brown will get her emails set up on her mobile phone, with the help of Cllr Amos
- Nature and Climate Action Group
- AGAR Auditors report is back with recommendations on the correct form filling and how to minute and publish the period for public rights. This will be referenced against when completing next year's return.
- Councillor Workshops – these had been poorly attended and the mayor is going to trial work streams via Teams in an evening
- Part Redevelopment – this is ongoing

093/23: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

The member of the public who was in attendance asked why no councillors had attended the GDF

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meeting in the Lighthouse Centre, Haverigg recently. Cllr McGrath informed him that there were three members of MTC on the panel for the GDF and that the council were fed information back via this panel. If other council member wanted to attend as a public member, then they could do so but there was no obligation for them to attend on behalf of Millom Town Council.

094/23: PRESENTATION FROM HANNAH KESSLER:

The Chair invited Hannah Kessler (CPP/Engagement Activities) to give a short presentation of her project "All Kindz". Following this presentation, the Chair gave a vote of thanks to Hannah for her information and said we would look forward to working with her, to combine one of her pebble projects within our park project.

095/23: ACCOUNTS:

The RFO presented the following to the Council for approval:

- Examine and approve accounts for payment
- Receive and note the bank reconciliation
- To approve a new photocopier. This item was deferred for the next Finance Meeting
- To approve submissions to South Copeland GDF Community Fund for the following
 - 7 seats along Haverigg Lagoon
 - 6 replacement seats for Millom and Haverigg
 - Band Stand for Millom

Councillor McGrath explained each project and the council were all in agreement to seek funding for the projects. Final decision of where to site the band stand will be made once the funding has been sought.

096/23: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Cllr McGrath explained to the council about the new Procurement Policy in connection with Tenders for project work and as this was a large policy it should all be deferred for further discussion.

The councillors were all in agreement for the clerk to arrange an Extraordinary Meeting to discuss this. **Action: Clerk to arrange extraordinary meeting**

097/23: CCTV FOR MILLOM:

Cllr Amos informed the council that he would like to look into the costs for Millom to have Public Wi-Fi and a new CCTV system. This would also replace the Park CCTV as this is a very substandard system.

Cllr Kelly asked about seeking information from the Police and Crime Commissioner and if they had any funding to link in their CCTV operators. **Action: Cllr Amos to see further information**

098/23: COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUPS:

- Cllr Faulkner gave a short update about Community Champions. She would like to set up a Roll of Achievement for anyone who is excelling or making a difference. Cllr Brown explained that everyone doesn't want the recognition or items put on social media and that some might just like a certificate for their own satisfaction.
- Cllr Faulkner informed the council that she will resend all councillors the sub-groups and any diary dates.

099/23: COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

- Cllr Gager-Liebhart asked if she could continue looking into the CCTV and work with Cllr Amos in doing this – all councillors agreed to this
- Cllr Micklethwaite had also enrolled as a Climate Champion with the authority and is looking into environment training

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- Cllr McGrath informed the council that we had some new emergency plan contact cards for all councillor's reference, some cards have also been placed in local shops etc and on social media
- Cllr Crellin updated the council on a new hand rail being fitted to the entrance to Unit 3
- Cllr Kellett informed the council of the Armistice Day Plans. Also of the WW11 Memorial Plaque, which will be unveiled (at a later date) with the British Legion wanting to cover this in their publications. Cllr Amos and his WHAMOS team are looking into live stream the Armistice Day event
- Cllr Kelly stood to update in relation to the Cumberland Authority but said he felt he was unable to the Millom Town Council duties and that he would resign. Cllr McGrath explained if he was to continue to attend the meetings to update on the Cumberland Authority, he would be better stopping as a Millom Town Councillor. Cllr Brown reiterated that Cllr Kelly is a valued member of the council and should not resign. Cllr McGrath explained that we would not accept his resignation at this time, and asked Cllr Kelly to please re-think his decision
- Cllr Brown gave an update of the work the prison teams were doing and asked if we could again write to the prison and thank the teams to give them some feedback. **Action: Clerk to write a letter to HMP, Haverigg**
- Cllr Faulkner reminded fellow councillors of her upcoming events – coffee morning and musical event in Broughton
- Cumberland Cllr Andy Pratt updated councillors of resources from Cumberland Authority that were available – attached

100/23: CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR:

One application had been received for the vacancy in the Newtown Ward following resignation of Cllr Peter. This application was submitted by Alfred McDonald. All Councillors were in agreement that Mr McDonald be co-opted onto Millom Town Council. **Action: Clerk to inform Mr McDonald of his success and sort out the relevant paperwork.**

101/23: BUS SERVICE:

Cllr Amos reported that the Stage Coach Service that was currently being operated was not actually what the public wanted. He has been in liaison with Blue Works Bus Company who are proposing to run a 17-seater bus from Waberthwaite into Millom and out to Broughton/Foxfield. This will call in all outlying areas. Alongside it will run between Haverigg Prison and Millom. This will be a CIC Funded Service. Users will be able to use their bus passes. Cllr Amos is continuing to pursue this service. Cllr McGrath proposed to use the fee currently paid to Ricky's Travel (£200 p/month) to help fund the service. This was seconded by Cllr Amos and agreed.

102/23: TOWN DEAL UPDATE:

Cllr Kelly informed that he had attending meeting this week but at this time had no new information to share.

103/23: SOUTH COPELAND GDF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP:

Cllr Billing had raised an issue. Email attached about Millom Town Council being better represented on the GDF Panel. Cllr McGrath explained the recruitment process and who is currently on the panel. Cllr McGrath explained the recruitment process and who is currently on the panel. Cllr McGrath stated that at present MTC are well represented on the panel. Cllr Kelly felt that it appeared that Cllr Billing had been misinformed. Following a short discussion it was agreed by all Councillors that MTC remain within the partnership.

104/23: CUMBERLAND AUTHORITY:

This item has been put on the agenda by Cllr Faulkner – the item has been removed due to ongoing discussions with Cllr Kelly.

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105/23: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR ACTION:

- Letter from former Cllr Burness. Cllr Brown said things should have been different but she for one was taken by surprise at the mayor not standing for chair, on reflection she realised she could have nominated Cllr Burness herself, but explained that we now needed to move forward.
- The Council acknowledged that former Cllr Burness is aggrieved by the process and a complaint had been lodged after the meeting of 24th May 2023. Draft Minutes were amended by the clerk and agreed by Cllr Kelly prior to the signing off and publication. Cllr McGrath explained that the minutes are a legal document and cannot now be changed further. Cllr Kelly asked for this to be minuted.
- Letter received regarding EV Charging points in Millom. **Action: Clerk to write to Cumberland regarding EV Charging plans.**
- Fibrus – Improving Digital Access and Broadband. Details were passed to Cllr Amos for further information
- Millom and District Flower Club would like to donate £500 to the town council for the planting of daffodil bulbs. This was greatly appreciated. **Action: Clerk to contact secretary of Millom & District Flower Club**
- Proposed closure of Haverigg St Lukes Church – **Action: Clerk to write to the Diocese asking for consideration to making this a festival church.**

106/23: PLANNING:

- **4/22/2457/OF1 – Proposed Erection of Four Self-Contained Industrial Units (Use Class B8) Storage/Disruption – Unit E2 Haverigg Industrial Estate, Haverigg**
- **4/23/2250/OF1 – Erect Building over Manure Store – Scale Hook Farm, Hawes Lane, Haverigg**
- **4/23/2263/OF1 – Construction of Detached Garage – 9 Cumberland Close, Millom –** The Council had no objections in principle to this application
- **4/23/2262/OF1 – Change of use of Property from Former Commercial (Bank) & Residential Use to Proposed Millom Arts and Enterprise Centre including Demolition of Existing Outrigger Extensions to Accommodate a Ground Floor Café – National Westminster Bank Ltd – 5 St George's Road, Millom –** The council had no objections in principle to this application
- **4/3/2249/OF1 – Erection of Welcome Building with Café, Retail Space, Staff Facilities and Car Park, Installation of Air Source Heat Pumps Repair and Stabilisation Works and Installation of Suspended Periscope Mirrors at Hodbarrow Beacon and Stabilisation Works and Installation of Camera Obscura Structure at Towsey Hole Windmill, Installation of Cladding and New Living Roof to Existing Bird Hide, Erection of New Bird Hides and Viewing Platforms. Creation of New Multi-Use Pathways with Signage, Gateway Features and Street Furniture, Making Good of Existing Byway (Boat) along the sea wall. Enhancement of Wildlife Habitats and Associated Access, Landscaping and Drainage Infrastructure – Land at Hodbarrow –** The Council had no objections in principle to this application.
Action: Clerk to write to planning office with comments

107/23: ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

None

There being no further business the meeting closed at 09.20pm

Signed: (Chair dated: 25th October 2023)

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Action:

- 096/23 :** Clerk to arrange extraordinary meeting
097/23: Cllr Amos to see further information
099/23: Clerk to write a letter to HMP, Haverigg
105/23: Clerk to write to Cumberland regarding EV Charging plans.
Clerk to contact secretary of Millom & District Flower Club
Clerk to write to the Diocese asking for consideration to making this a festival church.
106/23: Clerk to write to planning office with comments