

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28th MAY
2025 COMMENCING 07.30PM
IN THE METHODIST HALL, MILLOM**

PRESENT: Cllr G McGrath (Chair), Cllr S Faulkner, Cllr J Brown, Cllr J Kellett, Cllr R Williamson, Cllr D Billing, Cllr B Crellin, Cllr E Chatterton, Cllr D Myers and Cumberland Cllr/MTC Cllr B Kelly, Cumberland Cllr Andy Pratt and 4 members of the public were also in attendance.

The chair welcomed everyone who were in attendance.

15/25: APOLOGIES:

Late apologies were received from Cllr Liebhart.

16/25: EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC:

Nothing on the agenda to exclude the press or public.

17/25: CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:

Due to the resignation of the Chair, the clerk informed the council that there had been one expression of interest for the position from Cllr Williamson. The clerk asked the councillors present if anyone wished to contest Cllr Williamson's application. Cllr Myers proposed that Cllr Williamson be appointed as chair for the forthcoming year, this was seconded by Cllr Brown and all agreed. Cllr Williamson then completed the Acceptance of Office form and then took the meeting.

Cllr Williamson gave a brief introduction and thanked everyone for their support.

18/25: MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Cllr Faulkner (Mayor) stated that due to the previous presentation etc that there was nothing more to add.

19/25: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

No Declarations of pecuniary interest were made

**20/25: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS A CORRECT RECORD OF MEETING
HELD ON 30TH APRIL 2025**

Cllr Myers proposed that the minutes from the meeting held on 30th April 2025 be signed as a true and correct record. This was seconded by Cllr Billing and agreed.

21/25: ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- The only outstanding action from the previous minutes was that the clerk still to look into who own the miner's statue in the square. Cllr Kelly proposed that the Clerk write to Cumberland Authority and ask if it is on their asset register and if not MTC to adopt. This was seconded by Cllr Crellin and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to Cumerland Authority about ownership of Miners statue.**

22/25: OPEN TO PUBLIC:

There was nothing to review from the members of the public who were in attendance.

23/25: TOWN DEAL UPDATE:

Cllr Faulkner informed the meeting that work on the old Nat West building, a presentation was also shown Cllr Faulkner on the work that already had been carried out. Cllr Faulkner also informed the meeting that amended plans for the iron line should be re-applied for shortly.

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24/25: CUMBERLAND & COUNCILLOR UPDATES/WORKGROUPS:

Cllr Kelly (Cumberland Cllr/MTC Cllr) informed the meeting that regarding outstanding issues within the Cumberland Authority they were experiencing lack of staff and funding. Cllr Faulkner asked Cllr Kelly if he could provide names of somebody who could help with the town council with their Economic Development Plan. **Action: Cllr Kelly to provide information**

Cllr Kelly also informed the meeting that funding had now been allocated, and the project signed off for the upgrading of the sewerage system in Millom. No time had yet been given for works to commence.

Cllr Pratt (Cumberland Cllr) – following a request for Cumberland officers to attend a meeting in Millom Cllr Pratt stated that were very reluctant to attend. Cllr Pratt informed the meeting that a report from UU/EA stated that they are proposing a scheme to rectify the water quality in the area. Cllrs and members of the public should report to Cumberland Authority if they see anything untoward in the waters.

Cllr Pratt informed the meeting that for 7-weeks there is a proposed Hub-to You bus coming into the area with specialist services ie: parents/elderly information etc.

Cllr Billing proposed that a letter be sent to the Chief Executive stating that Millom Town Council are not happy that answers to their representatives sometimes do not get a response to the matters that have been raised. Cllr Myers seconded this stating that answers are needed, and the outstanding issues addressed and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to Chief Executive**

Cllr Myers said that the Andy Man's club of which he is part of is working very well addressing mental health and social issues alongside the Millom Surgery for mental health and social subscribing.

Cllr Brown stated that the road around the big lamp in Haverigg was now becoming a danger zone as no white lines are evident. As the holiday period is now upon us and Haverigg traffic threefold Cllr Brown proposed that this issue be reported to Highways. This was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed. **Action: Clerk to report highways matters to Cumberland Authority**

Cllr Chatterton gave her sincere apologies for her recent absence due to illness and thanked the councillors for all their hard work.

Cllr Williamson reported that the work on the Haverigg Dune Park begin at the beginning of June. Cllr Williamson also informed the council that the School Survey for the proposed pump track came back as follows:

- Yes – 65%; No – 25%; and don't know/maybe: 9.5%

Cllr Williamson stated that he had got one price so far for the proposed pump track and was waiting for a second, this quote was in the region of £234k. Cllr Myers proposed that once the quotations had been received that the clerk submit for funding, this was seconded by Cllr Faulkner and agreed.

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Cllr Williamson reported that he had had an interim meeting with a resident from Bank Head Estate in relation to the forthcoming public meeting. Cllr Williamson asked the council if he could continue to be the go-between with the groups prior to a public meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Myers and all agreed. **Action: Cllr Williamson to liaise with Bank Head residents**

Cllr Williamson also reported that he still had to get a price for the clearance of the two Lincoln Street Allotments.

25/25: SALVATION ARMY BUILDING UPDATE:

Following the extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 27th May where it was agreed to put an offer in for the purchase of the Salvation Army Building. The clerk informed the meeting that the offer letter had been sent and was just waiting for a response as to whether the offer had been accepted.

26/25: ACCOUNTS/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- (a) To examine and Approve accounts for payment (sheet Circulated). Cllr Faulkner proposed that the accounts for payment sheet be signed as a true and correct record, this was agreed by Cllr Brown and all agreed
- (b) To receive and note the bank reconciliation, Cllr Faulkner proposed that this be signed as a true and correct record, this was again seconded by Cllr Brown and all agreed.
- (c) To receive and agree internal auditor's response for year 2024/25 – Cllr Faulkner proposed that this be agreed, this was seconded by Cllr Brown and all agreed that the internal auditor's response was excellent.
- (d) To agree submission of the Annual AGAR and associated papers
Cllr Faulkner once again proposed that **Section 1 of The AGAR** form be signed accordingly, this was seconded by Cllr Brown and all agreed. The form was then duly signed.
- (e) To agreed submission of the Annual AGAR and associated papers.
Cllr Faulkner proposed that **Section 2 of The AGAR** form be Signed accordingly, this was seconded by Cllr Brown and all agreed. The form was then duly signed.

27/25: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION:

Correspondence received was within the working papers or sent out via email. These were as follows:

- Review of South Copeland GDF Community Partnership
- Invitation to attend drop-sessions on the future of the library services
- Letter from Nuclear Free Local Authorities
- Draft minutes from the Finance meeting held on 22.05.25

28/25: PLANNING:

The following planning applications had been received for Council's comments:

4/25/2145/0F1 – Demolition of vacant former tannery buildings & formation of Storage compounds – Former Tannery Building, Haverigg Industrial Estate, Haverigg - The council were concerned that the front art-deco would be lost and it part of the history of the tannery. Cllr Brown proposed that a letter be written to the planning

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authority with concerns about the front of the building being lost. This was seconded by Cllr Kellett and agreed. **Action: Clerk to write with councillors concerns and asking for a site visit before planning had been agreed.**

4/25/2157/0F1 – Removal of existing rear porch and the construction of a first-floor extension, replacement windows throughout, new entrance door with glazed side panel plus internal and external alterations to an existing dwelling – 2 Caton Street, Haverigg – the council had no objections in principle to this application.

Action: Clerk to write with council's comments

4/25/2170/0F1 – Proposed two storey pitched roof rear extension – Poolside Barn, Haverigg – the council had no objections in principle to this application.

Action: Clerk to write with councils' comments.

29/25: ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The clerk raised the question to the Cumberland Councillors asking where the Health Visitors were situated at now. Cllrs Kelly and Pratt asked that the clerk write to them both asking the question and that they would look into it.
- Another issue that was raised by the clerk was that Cumberland Authority had not let the office know that at the present time the Cumberland Office at the Millom Hub was not opening on a Tuesday and that the office constantly sends people over there and was not aware of the closure. Cllr Kelly asked again that this be put in an email to himself and he would look into it.
- Cllr Billing informed the meeting that he had personally emailed back about the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership recent review which showed short-falls within the group. He confirmed that he had been answered and accepted the recommendations to re-start the partnership. Cllr Pratt is to be the interim chair of this group until a new chair is appointed. Cllr Billing thanked Cllr Pratt for his input.

The meeting then closed at 08.30pm.

Signed: Chair Dated: 25th June 2025