

**MINUTES OF A ZOOM MEETING OF MILLOM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT: Cllr A Dixon (Mayor), Cllr R Peter (Deputy Mayor), Cllr T Dixon, Cllr J Brown, Cllr J Jakubowski, Cllr R Cummings, Cllr G Brace, Cllr R Kelly, Cllr B Crellin, Cllr T Fitzwilliam, Cllr S Faulkner, Cllr S Donnelly, Cllr S Carter, Cllr R Pattinson, Mrs Vicky Bradley (Clerk) and Mrs Cath Jopson (Assistant Clerk)

Members of the Public: Lorraine Parr & Ellie Church (CBC)

060/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr D Billing

061/20 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A copy of the Mayor's announcements had been circulated for the councillor's perusal, prior to the meeting, The Mayor reminded councillors that only agenda items would be discussed, and that the zoom meetings were beginning to work well.

062/20 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest received.

063/20 ACTION UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Chair went through the previous meeting actions to ensure that all had been completed; The clerk noted that 048/20 – Photos of the obsolete furniture had been sent to two auction house, but to date no response had been received, Cllr Billing sent a note to the clerk regarding 050/20 saying that a draft flyer had been done and would be circulated for comment soon. Cllrs Dixon and Billing commented regarding 053/20, Cllr Billing has done some work but still wanted some further clarification; Cllr T Dixon informed that an update would be given later in the meeting under the social housing item. Cllr Dixon also noted that most of the ward inspections had been carried out and thanked everyone for their work on these; these inspections have highlighted a weed problem in most areas of the town. Cllr Faulkner informed us that we are awaiting further map/guidelines regarding the gorse removal before any quotes can be obtained.

The clerk informed the meeting she is awaiting further information regarding the Beach warning signs at Haverigg

064/20 TO APPROVE THE AMENDED MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH AUGUST 2020

It was **AGREED** that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting, this was proposed by Cllr T Dixon and seconded by Cllr Faulkner, and the chair signed these.

065/20 TO NOTE THE MINUTES FROM THE A&R MEETING HELD ON 4TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AND RECEIVE ANY UPDATES:

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A copy of the draft minutes from the recent A&R meeting had been circulated for councillor's information. The clerk informed the meeting that a quote for £180 had been received for the removal of the cantilever equipment in Millom Park – All Agreed to this quote – **Action: Clerk to confirm with contractor**

Cllr Jakubowski gave an update regarding the funding bids, the bid submitted to FCC had passed the first stage, they wanted further information which has been given, and we should hear by first week of December of any progress. It was also noted that the £500k bid from the Towns Fund Accelerator Bid had been successful, which included MTC Millom Park Plan phase 1. The chair thanks Cllr Jakubowski for all her efforts.

066/20 TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE CHRISTMAS MEETING HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER:

These were noted for information only and at present it was hoped that the market could still go ahead. The clerk will keep us informed of any government guideline changes.

067/20: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – There was no public participation.

068/20 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE:

Cllr Faulkner gave an update of the Working Together Scheme which has been set up by CCC, to help volunteer groups carry out duties safely following the correct risk assessments. It was noted that they should be informed of any volunteer activities that are taking place on the highways with 6 weeks' notice so they can ensure all safety measures are in place. They want to encourage more volunteers.

Cllr Kelly gave a report following the 3 tier meeting, there is much pressure for a unitary authority for Cumbria which would be more efficient, at the moment it looks like Carlisle, Allerdale and Copeland would become one and South Lakes and Barrow could possibly be merged with Lancaster. These would have an elected mayor and presumably would be run from Carlisle; Cllr Brace was interested to know what role the town and parish council would have to play in this.

The clerk reported that Cllr K Hitchen had been in touch to say that he had no updates at the moment

069/20 COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE:

Leanne Parr and Ellie Church from Copeland Borough Council gave an update of the Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035: preferred options consultation which is due to run from 21st September until 15th November 2020. The representatives talked the council through a series of slides highlighting the plan and key sectors. The representatives then took questions from the council and encouraged people to complete the consultation using the link: <https://www.copeland.gov.uk/content/local-plan-consultations>. A hard copy of the plan and slides are available from the clerk if you wish to see them.

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It was asked if paper copies would be available for those who cannot access the internet.

Action: Clerk to obtain some leaflets

The chair thanked the CBC representatives and they left the meeting

070/20 MILLOM TOWN COUNCILLOR AND CLERKS UPDATE:

a) **Office Move update/computer quote** - The clerk informed the meeting that no draft lease has been received as yet and the solicitors are not happy with some of the wording on the Heads of Term, this is being chased up so we can get a completion date asap. The clerk also noted that the prison working party is unable to paint the office so it was agreed to source someone local to get this done. **Action: Clerk to seek quotes.** A quote had been received for new computers/wireless network setup in new office, the total was £3005, all **agreed** to this quote. **Action: Clerk to confirm**

b) **Remembrance Day plans** – It was agreed that no parades would take place this year in light of the current situation, however a small wreath laying ceremony would take place on Wednesday 11th November at 11am at the Cenotaph and at Haverigg memorial. Cllr Falkner agreed to attend the HMP Haverigg service subject to guidelines. **Action: Clerk to contact RBL and inform on social media**

c) **HMP Working party update** - The clerk has sent a schedule of works to the HMP representatives, they have confirmed they will make a start as soon as they are able.

d) **Youth Councillor update** - The Clerk informed the Council she had spoken to the school representative and no school council had been formed yet. Cllr T Dixon stated he had a pupil who may be interested and he is to make contact with Rory Moore at school to discuss details. **Action Cllr T Dixon to liaise with School.**

e) **Press and Media Policy** – The council **agreed** to the policy and the chair duly signed.

071/20 IAN ARMSTRONG PROPOSED BUSINESS IDEA:

Cllr Jakubowski has spoken to Mr Armstrong, who was unavailable due to work commitments regarding his proposed idea for a mini golf facility on some land near to the tennis courts in Haverigg. They would fund the idea themselves and fence round the area and erect a small wooden kiosk. The council agreed in principle that this could be a good idea but concerns were raised regarding the location as Haverigg is very busy and could cause some parking/walking issues. The question was asked if a site could be found further up towards the Rugby, Cllr Brown stated the MTC own a large amount of land up there and it might be more suitable. It was also noted about what rent would become payable for the land. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged with Mr Armstrong and the Haverigg councillors to discuss further, and Cllr Jakubowski to circulate the plans for others to review. **Action: Clerk to arrange meeting, Cllr Jakubowski to circulate plans.**

072/20 PUBLIC REALM/BUS SHELTER:

Cllr Kelly informed that meeting the over 2 years ago CBC Mike Graham agreed to remove the shelter and tourism sign, this has never been done, Cllr Billing also sent a note to the

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clerk regarding wanting some action to be taken by CBC for this.. The meeting agreed that it was unsightly and a vote was taken, it was unanimously **agreed** to contact CBC about the removal and to make the public aware of the removal. **Action: Clerk to contact.**

073/20 SOUTH COPELAND PARTNERSHIP MEETING:

Cllr Kelly attended this meeting and informed the council that there had been a lot of discussion, but not much had come out of the meeting and no firm resolutions had been made, although he had no concerns.

074/20 CARE HOMES MEETING UPDATE:

Cllr Faulkner gave an update on this, MP Trudy Harrison attended the meeting and took away all the information she was given, to date no update has been received from her office, it was agreed that we need to keep the pressure on. **Action: Cllr Faulkner is to draft a letter and pass to the clerk for distribution.**

075/20 MARKET STREET PARKING PLAN:

The clerk had circulated the proposed plans for increasing the parking bays on Market Street, this new layout would increase parking by 18 cars. All **agreed** that this would a great improvement for the town and were happy for them to proceed. **Action: Clerk to advise**

076/20 CHURCH WALK FOOTPATH: The clerk had circulated the application made by CCC to a public right of way at Church Walk, Millom. The council all **agreed** that this was a good idea and were happy for them to proceed. **Action: Clerk to advise.**

077/20 SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE:

Cllr T Dixon reported that two meetings of the working party had taken place prior to this meeting; minutes of these meetings would be available for distribution as soon as they had been agreed as a correct and true record.

Cllr T Dixon reported that as yet it was in its early stages. Different strategies for social housing projects had been discussed at length and their viability for Millom. It was felt by the Millom Town Council members present at the meeting that perhaps the best way forward would be the building of modular type houses if suitable land were available rather than the purchase of terrace housing. The working party are to look further into this project and will report back to the Town Council with their findings.

078/20 WARD INSPECTIONS UPDATE: Cllr T Dixon informed the meeting that the majority had been done, just a couple in Newtown to complete. The main issue appears to be weeds and in general the drains/pavements were fine, Cllr Kelly highlighted a speeding issue in the Lowther Road area, Cllr Peter noticed a great change in the drainage the nearer to the Slaggy you got.

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The next stage is for the clerk to collate the information and highlight the main issues and report to the relevant authorities. **Action: Clerk to collate info**

079/20 DYNAMIC DUNESCAPES UPDATE: Cllr Faulkner is awaiting further information from Richard Storton in connection with the gorse removal, they are due a site viewing in next couple of days so should be back in touch in next week or so.

080/20 KEY PROJECTS/PROJECTS FUNDS: Cllr T Dixon is concerned that some of our key projects/budget spends had not happened, due to lockdown items had been stopped. He presented a quote from a local contractor regarding the wet dashing of Haverigg Toilets. Cllrs Brown and Faulkner stated that some remedial work on the roof and fascia boards were needed first and a quote should be obtained for this work to be done prior to any other.

Action: Clerk

The clerk also informed the meeting that we will have unbudgeted costs regarding the office move which will need to be taken from somewhere. It is also hope to repair the roof and do some interior repair work in Millom Toilets. Cllr Cummings is concerned that our toilets are the only public ones in town and need to be sufficient to cope with the amount of users. Cllr Cummings also pointed out that some users of the Haverigg Toilets are washing shoes etc. in the toilets, could an outside tap be installed? Cllr Faulkner also pointed out that one of the bollards near to the gents toilet at Haverigg was broken, it was agreed to remove this bollard. **Action: Clerk to sort.**

081/20 STREET CLEANER/ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE: Cllr Brace mentioned that this had been talked about in the past and with the outcome of the ward inspections it's clear that something needs to be done. Cllr Kelly stated that CBC/CCC are no longer carry out functions around the town and only local council can easily raise the precept to include these functions but we need to make the public aware of why the precept is rising. Cllr Jakubowski it to carry out a survey and send the results to the clerk. **Action: Cllr Jakubowski**

It was noted by Cllr Peter that the precept was not increased for years and it's only the last couple of years there has been increases. The clerk informed the meeting of the current salary for our maintenance staff, it was noted that litter picking groups around the town are doing a good job and our employee is working to the best of his ability. All agreed it was more than a one person job. Cllr Pattinson raised the issue of possibly employing someone with a driver's licence and potentially a vehicle so access to more of the town/Haverigg would be possible. **Action: Clerk to add to precept meeting agenda**

082/20: PLANNING:

- **CH/4/20/2312 – Two storey gable extension and single storey front and side elevations, AT Anna croft, 58 Main Street, Haverigg – The Council have no objections to this application.**
- **CH/4/20/2328 Erect canopy along front elevation AT 24 Lowther Road, Millom – The Council have no objections to this application.**

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- CH/4/20/2360 – Single storey extension to rear and side elevations AT 5 Moor Park, Millom the Council have no objections to this application.

083/20: ACCOUNTS:

The clerk had forwarded to payments list prior to the meeting, the payments were **agreed**.

Action: Clerk to make payments

084/20: ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr Brown informed the meeting that the no overnight sign had been damaged again. KMC have kindly fixed at no cost, **Action: Clerk to send letter of thanks**

Cllr Donnelly noted that the council need to select 3 local businesses for the CBC Shop Local Scheme. **Action: Cllr Jakubowski to circulate a poll to councillors for nominations.**

Cllr T Dixon informed that council that nothing came from the CCTV/Police re the fence damage in the park; it was not deliberate so not further action would be taken.

The clerk had received some correspondence from Millom Netball regarding the use of the MUGA. **Action: Clerk to add to A&R meeting**

Footway lighting further correspondence has been received from CBC, Clerk has forwarded to CALC for advice, still awaiting confirmation of which lights they want us to take responsibility for. **Action: Clerk to add to next agenda**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.05.

ACTIONS:

- 065/20: Action Clerk to contact contractor
069/20: Action Clerk to obtain flyers
070/20: a) Action Clerk to obtain quotes for painting
a) Action Clerk to confirm estimate
b) Action Clerk to contact RBL and do social media post
d) Action Cllr T Dixon to liaise with school contact
071/20: Clerk to arrange meeting, Cllr Jakubowski to circulate plans
072/20: Clerk to contact
074/20: Cllr Faulkner to draft letter, clerk to circulate
075/20: Clerk to advise
076/20 : Clerk to advise
078/20: Clerk to collate information
080/20: Clerk to sort
081/20: Cllr Jakubowski to create survey
Clerk to add to precept agenda
082/20: Clerk to advise
083/20: Clerk to sort

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084/20: Clerk to send letter of thanks
Cllr Jakubowski to create poll for councillors
Clerk to add Netball use on to A&R Agenda
Clerk to add footway lighting onto next agenda