

# MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 10 July 2023 at the Town Hall, Senhouse Street, Maryport at 7.00pm.

## Present

<b>Councillor S Ashworth, (Chairman)</b>	<b>Councillor C Bell</b>
<b>Councillor I Greaney</b>	<b>Councillor J Hastewell</b>
<b>Councillor C McCarron Holmes</b>	<b>Councillor S Merrin</b>
<b>Councillor G Mitchell</b>	<b>Councillor W Pegram</b>
<b>Councillor L Radcliffe</b>	<b>Councillor C Slater</b>

## In Attendance

**P Bramley, (Clerk)**  
**Mrs L Douglas, (Clerk)**  
**V Patterson (Press)**  
**Two members of public**  
**Isla Hadden, Work Experience Student**

### **12/23 Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor G Kemp.

### **13/23 Declarations of Interest**

None received.

### **14/23 Requests for Dispensation**

None received.

### **15/23 Minutes of Meeting held on 12 June 2023**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2023 be agreed & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **16/23 Correspondence**

**Resolved** that the schedule of correspondence be received & noted & that a grant of £870 be awarded to Flimby Allotment Society to support its annual activities & show.

### **17/23 Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved** that accounts for payment, in accordance with the schedule, totalling £113,776.70, be agreed.

### **18/23 Finance Report**

**Resolved** that the Finance Report for the period 1 April to 31 May 2023 be agreed.

### **19/23 Police Report**

Police Constable Sam Steele, in attendance, reported that crime, in particular anti-social behaviour, was down compared to last year. It was reported that the area in Furnace Road/Mill Street had an ongoing issue with youths, & PC Steele thanked the Town Council for its proactivity concerning the cutting back of the foliage and trees in the area of the Coke Ovens, which had given more visibility and not so much coverage for the youths to hide in. He was working with the Cumberland Council to get another area cut back, and possibly some benches being removed, and hoped that would deter the youths from hanging around the area. He had a meeting later that week with multi agency members to develop a solution which would help the residents in the area who were dissatisfied with the ongoing situation.

PC Steele thanked members for making him feel so welcome over the previous twelve months, advising that it wasn't not easy being a PC in any town but he had been made to feel welcome by the Council and others alike. He advised that he anticipated getting a co-worker in the near future.

Members requested that he try to arrange some co-working with Cumberland Council in regard to anti-social parking, parking on pavements and on corners where double yellow lines were visible. He explained that they were working on an initiative where members of the public would work with him to identify areas where accessibility was a problem, such as for wheelchairs and pram users and where pavements were blocked, which required enforcement.

### **20/23 Online Payments & Payment Card**

**Resolved** that:

- 1) It be agreed to introduce an online payments system, operated by the Clerks, with dual controls & payments schedules authorised by two bank signatories, which would be reported to Finance & General Purposes Committee in line with current arrangements.
- 2) It be agreed to introduce a debit card for occasional online or shop purchases, in appropriate cases, with usage restricted to the Clerks & a limit of £5,000 per transaction, such purchases to be listed for approval by two bank signatories & reported to Finance & General Purposes Committee in line with current arrangements.

### **21/23 Best Kept Garden Competition & Container Competition,**

**Resolved** that it be agreed to hold a Best Kept Garden & Container Competition in 2023 & that the judging panel consist of Councillors S Ashworth, W Pegram, L Radcliffe & C Slater.

**22/23 Hanging Baskets**

**Resolved** that the item be deferred until a later meeting.

**23/23 Cumbria in Bloom**

**Resolved** that the Council support the Maryporters Group in the Cumbria in Bloom 2023 competition.

**24/23 Alternatives for Agenda Pack and Delivery**

**Resolved** that the item be discussed at the Budget meeting, subject to Councillor Mitchell providing supporting information as required.

**25/23 Taste of the Sea Festival**

**Resolved** that the update on preparations for the Taste of the Sea Festival 2023 be noted & that a stall be not operated at the 2023 event, but that consideration be given to operating a stall at the 2024 event.

**26/23 Coke Ovens**

**Resolved** that a Working Party be set up to consider suitable support for the effective promotion of the Coke Ovens site & report back to Finance & General Purposes Committee, consisting of Councillors S Ashworth, C Bell, I Greaney, C McCarron-Holmes & C Slater.

**27/23 Items for Next Agenda**

1) Floral Displays

C McCarron-Holmes

Following the meeting, a meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee took place.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....