

MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Monday 26 February 2024 at the Town Hall, Senhouse Street, Maryport at 7.00pm.

Present

Councillor S Ashworth, (Chairman)	Councillor C Bell
Councillor B Copeland	Councillor V Cuthbert
Councillor J Cuthell	Councillor I Greaney
Councillor G Hampson	Councillor J Hastewell
Councillor P Hetherington	Councillor G Kemp
Councillor C McCarron Holmes	Councillor S Merrin
Councillor G Mitchell	Councillor J Newton
Councillor D Peggs	Councillor L Radcliffe
Councillor C Slater	

In Attendance

P Bramley (Clerk)
Mrs L Douglas (Clerk)

109/23 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor W Pegram.

110/23 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Councillor J Newton, Item 6(1), Personal as a relative of a Netherhall School employee; & Councillor D Peggs, Item 6(1), Personal as a Netherhall School Governor.

111/23 Requests for Dispensation

None received.

112/23 Minutes of Meeting held on 22 January 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2024 be agreed & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

113/23 Public Participation

No questions received.

114/23 Correspondence

Resolved that the schedule of correspondence be received & noted, & that Netherhall School be awarded a grant of £1,000 towards a project in support of peripatetic musical instrument lessons & that the school be advised that, as the project is ongoing, applications for funding in excess of £1,000 should be made to the Council by 30 September of the prior year.

115/23 Accounts for Payment

Resolved that accounts for payment, in accordance with the schedule, totalling £35,960.90, be agreed.

116/23 Finance Report

Resolved that the report for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 January 2024 be agreed, including a virement of £700 from Remembrance Day to Payroll Services & transfers from the following reserves:

- Environmental Improvements Reserve to Property Maintenance: £11,000
- Environmental Improvements Reserve to Ground Maintenance: £13,000

117/23 Financial Regulations

Resolved that the Council's Financial Regulations be agreed.

118/23 Allotment Rent

Resolved that, further to Allotment Committee Minute 37/16, the annual rent for an allotment plot be increased by £5 per annum to £90 with effect from 1 April 2025.

119/23 Furnace Lane

Resolved that Cumberland Council be requested to carry out maintenance works to trees & shrubs in the grounds surrounding Mill Street Car Park.

120/23 Royal Mail Service

Resolved that, further to Ofcom's recent consultation on proposed changes to the Royal Mail Service, the Council advise that a six-day delivery service should remain in place to ensure timely customer deliveries, particularly in respect of important correspondence such as medical appointments.

121/23 Remembrance Day Service

Resolved that:

- 1) The organisation & timings of the Remembrance Day arrangements remain as are current, (Minute 84/21(1) refers).
- 2) A representative of the Maryport & Solway Sea Cadet Corps act as the Commander of the procession & ceremony.
- 3) Representatives of the Duke of Lancaster Regiment be invited, along with affiliated Naval crew members.

- 4) The Council permit suitable vehicles transporting participants with walking difficulties in the parade, subject to prior notification.

122/23 Taste of the Sea Funding request from Cumberland Council

Resolved that:

- 1) Funding of £17,300 be awarded towards the funding uses proposed for the 2024 Taste of the Sea Festival.
- 2) Provisional agreement be made towards £2,700 of funding towards the 2024 Festival, subject to Council agreement to the proposed application of such funding when notified.
- 3) In awarding the funding, the Council's concerns with the poor management of the 2023 event by Cumberland Council be notified, & that its concerns with the apparent over-reliance on one member of staff in running the event be expressed.

123/23 Information relating to the new Pharmacy First Scheme

Resolved that the updated arrangements for medical attention be noted & that the revised service be publicised on the Council's social media site.

124/23 Dog Fouling

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council express its concerns at the extensive problem of dog fouling in the Maryport area, noting that the responsible authority for dealing with the matter, Cumberland Council, was currently developing actions to address the problem.
- 2) The information provided by Councillor Hetherington be welcomed & that Cumberland Council be notified of the details of the campaign mounted by Renfrewshire Council.
- 3) The Council make available on social media & local newsletters information on how to report issues to Cumberland Council.
- 4) Information on the extent of ongoing dog fouling problems be evidenced for reporting to Cumberland Council.
- 5) It be agreed that Councillor Cuthell represent the Council on the matter in discussions with the Maryport Business Group.
- 6) Cumberland Council Officer P Shearsby be invited to a future meeting to report to members on how the problem was being addressed.

125/23 Items for the next agenda

None Received.

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

Signed

Chairman

Date