

MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee held on Monday 22 April 2024 at the Town Hall, Senhouse Street, Maryport, at 7.00pm.

Present

Councillor S Ashworth	Councillor C Bell
Councillor B Copeland	Councillor J Cuthell
Councillor I Greaney	Councillor J Hastewell
Councillor S Merrin	Councillor D Peggs
Councillor W Pegram	Councillor L Radcliffe
Councillor C Slater, (Chairman)	

In Attendance

P Bramley (Clerk)
C Eve, (Centre for Leadership Performance)
K Kerrigan, (Cumberland Council)
S Parnaby, (Maryport Future Town Board Chairman)

100/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors V Cuthbert, G Hampson, G Kemp, C McCarron Holmes, G Mitchell & J Newton.

101/23 Declarations of Interest

A declaration of interest was received from Councillor W Pegram, Personal, as a member of Cumberland Council Planning Committee.

102/23 Requests for Dispensation

None received.

103/23 Minutes of Meeting held on 19 March 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2024 be agreed, & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

104/23 Minutes of Meeting held on 25 March 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2024 be agreed, & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

105/23 Public Participation

No questions received.

106/23 Presentation by Sean Parnaby, Maryport Business Group

Sean Parnaby, who advised that he was speaking on behalf of the Maryport Future Town Board, assisted by Catherine Eve of the Centre for Leadership Performance & Kevin Kerrigan of Cumberland Council, gave a presentation on a proposal to establish a Social Enterprise for Maryport. He advised that Social Enterprises Groups were extensive, citing some 131,000 such Groups across the country employing some 2.3 million people. In the Town Board's appointed role of overseeing the regeneration schemes operated by Cumberland Council, he advised that the Board had a task to look at the future maintenance & management of the schemes once finished. It was noted that Cumberland Council had agreed a ten-year arrangement with British Energy Coast for it to manage the Carlton. As a Whitehaven based social enterprise group, any surplus funds generated would not stay in the Maryport area. In considering options for the management of other projects in association with Cumberland Council, it was considered that the establishment of a Maryport Social Enterprise Group would be a suitable vehicle, a means of operation supported nationally by both main political parties.

A Social Enterprise is an organisation with primarily social objectives or a community purpose, which operates as a business, but reinvests surpluses back into the organisation, & so the community. There are a number of different structural models designed to enhance the lives of the local community, which are supported by funding bodies, as a means of creating health, wealth & wellbeing, by developing interlinked retail, leisure & event strategies, reinvesting in the area & leveraging existing & new assets to secure future funding.

It was intended to set up a steering group consisting of representatives from the Town Board, Maryport Town Council & organisations such as the Maryport Harbour & Marina Authority, (MHMA), & the Senhouse Roman Museum Trust, (SRMT), the aim being to ensure an effective representation of Maryport organisations. If the Town Council was interested in partaking, members were asked to volunteer to be part of the steering group considering options of Social Enterprise structure, with a view to becoming members of the Social Enterprise Board. It was stressed that any representation on the board would not impinge on the role of the individual as a member of Maryport Town Council, nor impact on the role of the Town Clerks, although the support of the area's councils was needed to get the group up & running.

It was considered that the steering group should have three to four members of each of the Town Council & Maryport Business Group, with one or two members of each of the MHMA & SRMT. The Social Enterprise would be structured like a business, with a General Manager & appropriate operational structure & staff. It would be funded through a grant stream over, say, a five-year period, with the ability to apply for funding to bodies which don't provide funding to councils. Funders are concerned with community improvements as outcomes, & Cumberland Council would support a Social Enterprise vehicle because of the community improvements it would be responsible for developing.

Resolved that the proposal be supported in principle by the Council & that members be invited to submit to the Clerks expressions of interest for representing the Town Council on the Steering Group for consideration by the Council.

107/23 Meeting Extension

Resolved that the meeting be extended to permit consideration of the following items of business.

108/23 Planning Applications

Resolved that the following observations against each planning application be forwarded to the appropriate Planning authority:

- 1) FUL/2024/0072 Change of use from Shop to Cocktail Bar
Scott Lyon
45 & 47 Senhouse Street
Maryport
No Objections

- 2) FUL/2024/0063 Part change of use for use of room as a barbers'
shop
Rachel Newton
2 Christian Street
Maryport
**No Objections, subject to Conservation Area
requirements being met**

109/23 Planning Decision Notices

Resolved that the following planning decisions be noted:

- 1) ADV/2024/0003 Resubmission of application
ADV/2023/0009 to erect digital sign
Maryport Town Council
Lidl
Curzon Street
Maryport
GRANTED

110/23 Correspondence

Resolved that the schedule of correspondence be received & noted.

111/23 Maryport Regeneration

Representatives on Cumberland Council Maryport Regeneration New Town Board & sub-groups reported on progress made on various projects. In particular, it was reported that:

- British Energy Coast, whom Cumberland Council had given a ten-year contract to manage the Carlton facility, had been actively engaging with the Town Board recently, following earlier reticence
- Christ Church regeneration was behind schedule, with further work to the floor required, & no official opening date set
- Seating was yet to be completed on the Boardwalk
- Signposting was largely complete

- Agreement on the operation of the Play Area was awaiting signature
- Two companies out of seven approached had submitted proposals for the development of the skatepark, which were both considered to be good proposals, & investigations on the possibility of future extensions were being carried out
- Designs for the promenade shop & café were due to be received shortly
- Maryport Activity Centre was unlikely to encompass a competition climbing wall, which was not suited to general community use
- Details of nominations for the 2024 Maryport Community Champion award scheme had been provided to Cumberland Council to enable them to be invited to unveil projects at the official opening events.

Resolved that the reports be accepted.

112/23 Maryport Regeneration Projects Ownership & Management

Resolved that the item be deferred.

113/23 Building Preservation Notice served on Dixon’s Jewellers

Resolved that the item be deferred.

114/23 Items for Next Agenda

None received.

The meeting finished at 9.07pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date