

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2022 AT 5.30PM IN EGREMONT MARKET HALL**

Present:

Ms Elaine Woodburn (EW) Chairperson
Mr Stephen Bell (SB) Vice Chairperson

Also:

Mr Sam Pollen (SP) Mr David Wright (DW) who arrived at 5.40pm
Mr Neil Ferguson (NF) Mr Gareth Stringer (GS)
Mr Michael McVeigh (MM) Mrs Jean Lewthwaite (JL)

Mrs Geraldine Pritchard (GP) Town Clerk
Mrs Nicola Cattanach (NC) Assistant Clerk
Mr David Southwards (DS) County Councillor
Mr Chris Whiteside (CW) County Councillor

97.22.23	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RESOLVED to accept apologies (with reasons noted) from G Stringer who would be arriving late.</p>	NC
98.22.23	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA RESOLVED to note the following declarations of interest: EW, SP, GP & GS declared under correspondence re: Egremont Amenity Committee.</p>	NC
99.22.23	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DS updated Councillors on nuclear initiatives including the manufacturing of small moderate reactors and siting them on the Moorside site. DS reported that going forward with the LGR, infrastructure, railways and highways should be put at the forefront as the nuclear industry provides thousands of jobs in West Cumbria and is therefore of paramount importance. SP said that he is working with SNEB (Strategic Nuclear and Energy Board) to continue to work towards a designated site in the future. DS and CW raised the problem of Sellafield workers parking outside houses at Cringlethwaite following a complaint passed on via the office. DS said the parking is not dangerous but it is inconvenient to residents though there is parking available on the lane behind the houses. CW said that St Bees Parish Council had spoken to both Sellafield Ltd and Copeland Councillors and were told the problem is not so much with direct Sellafield employees but with contactors within the supply chain. The County Councillors said there is not much that can be done but they suggested that with regards limited visibility when driving onto the road, some keep clear white lines could be painted on both sides but these are not enforceable. MM spoke of a resident not being able to park outside of her home at Cringlethwaite & that as Sellafield pays for secure parking at the Rugby Union Club, the workers should be parking there & not outside of residents' homes. DS reported that Lowes Court Gallery had flooded again but not much can be done to prevent this from happening again due to the position of the drains. SP said that the Environment Agency have been informed so they may be able to assist. CW reported on successfully obtaining a reduction of £1,000 towards the cost of the road closure for the Winter Wonderland event, EW on behalf of the Egremont Amenity Committee thanked both Councillors for this & stated that the actual application for funding was very difficult to complete. CW listed road repairs to be carried out in the local area and also said that Egremont was on the reserve list for the verge pollinator scheme.</p>	

CW said the Borderlands Town Team had carried out marketing with local businesses and areas highlighted for improvement were: signage, pathway lighting, cycle paths & the repair of the Town Hall clock.

SP said that although the Borderlands plan was taking a long time, at least there was a structure to work with going into the new Council next year with the opportunity to discuss initiatives with external partners for matched funding etc.

CW said that there is no ideal way to move from one Council structure to another & that the majority of County Councillors are working harder than ever to make the transition as smooth as possible. SP agreed & said that the same applies to Copeland with employees considering what their roles will be in the future.

CW finished by saying he had a briefing regarding the immigrants housed in the old Waverley Hotel, on the whole there has been no violence apart from an incident resulting in a resident having to be moved. DS said that the people who are housed there, have no money & nothing to do at present which is not ideal, CW will send a powerpoint presentation to the Town Council office for information.

EW thanked DS and CW for attending the meeting and they duly left.

100.22.23 CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

There were no Chairperson's remarks.

101.22.23 TO CONSIDER, APPROVE & SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING:

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Egremont Town Council held on 20th September 2022. EW duly signed them.

102.22.23 TO CONSIDER & REVIEW ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4/22/2390/0E1 Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use following planning approval 4/22/2257/0F1
Jasmine House, Moor Row
No objections

4/22/2403/0F1 Rear Extension
Seatallan, 6 Downfield Lane, Bigrigg
No objections

103.22.23 TO RATIFY COMMENTS WITH REGARDS PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following plans were ratified:

4/22/2375/0F1 Outline Planning Application including access for up to 30 No. self-build dwellings
Land at Summergrove Park, Whitehaven

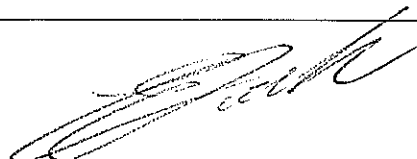
Comments Egremont Town Council supports the principle of residential development on the above land. We know there is a great demand on our excellent schools with many pupils coming from outside Egremont Town Council's area to travel to school each day. Therefore, more houses in desirable locations should reduce pupils having to commute from further afield. This proposal would see direct investment into the local economy, support existing services in Egremont & provide more modern, desirable homes within the local area.

If planning permission is granted we ask that a planning condition be imposed to ensure a suitable Construction Traffic Management Plan is submitted and approved by the Local Planning Authority to ensure that there is no unreasonable

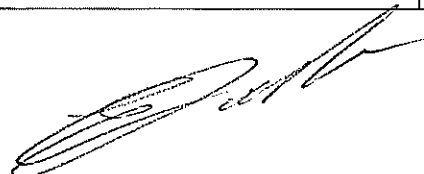
<p>104.22.23</p>	<p>impact on the local highway network, particularly around the Moor Row area to protect residents and residential amenity in the local area</p> <p>4/22/2375/0F1 Proposed Dwelling Site of former 3 Mill House, Vale View, Egremont</p> <p>Comments Councillors were concerned with the build given the history of the previous dwelling, so close to water flow and also as to how other houses in the area would be affected by the construction.</p> <p>TO CONSIDER ANY REPORTS INCLUDING FINANCE, PERSONNEL, CEMETERY, BOWLING GREEN, MARKET HALL, WEBSITE, ALLOTMENTS, DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS, HEALTH & SAFETY, CUMBRIA IN BLOOM, PUBLIC REALM & WC PARTNERSHIP</p> <p><u>Finance</u> RESOLVED the quote of £4,772.49 + vat from Copeland for summer planting was accepted.</p> <p><u>Website</u> Luke Johnston is working with Freethought to transfer the website over to Cumbria Media. SP said social media is a great communicative tool and as many photographs and stories should be included on the Town Council facebook page. GP requested that all Councillors should submit articles with a photograph so it can be put direct onto the website.</p> <p><u>Bowling Green</u> SB confirmed it is the Bowling Club's annual general meeting next week & then the club will be closed for the winter.</p> <p><u>Allotments</u> GP said that a meeting was required with the Allotment Committee to discuss a recently terminated tenancy & the possible relocation of an existing tenant to the plot. GS questioned whether the Town Council could pass the management of the Sandholes site back to Copeland as they are the owner & the management has no benefit to Egremont Town Council. He said the problems arising are the same ones as 10 years ago. EW said that this should be an agenda item for the next Town Council meeting & the legalities & costs involved would need to be considered.</p> <p><u>Cemetery</u> MM requested that a letter of thanks should be sent to the tenant of cemetery house for raising the alarm when cows escaped from a nearby field into the cemetery in August, GP confirmed that this had already been done.</p> <p><u>Market Hall</u> GP thanked those Councillors that attended the Boxing Club open day on Saturday 15th October & confirmed that the club will officially open on 25th October on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday evenings.</p> <p><u>Christmas Lights</u> The planning of the Winter Wonderland event is well underway with regular meetings taking place.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>NF.GS. GC.MM.</p> <p>GP</p>
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105.22.23	<p><u>Borderlands/Public Realm</u> A virtual meeting was held on the afternoon on 18th October with Michele MacCallam from Groundworks along with EW, SB & GP to discuss further details of the plan. SP thanked EW for continuing to push to get this plan moving before the end of the financial year.</p> <p><u>Egremont Castle</u> DW said he had recently attended the meeting of Friends of Egremont Castle and the group had asked him for a date of when the bench promised to them would be installed. EW confirmed that this could be done anytime & did not have to wait until the rest of the street furniture was placed. RESOLVED GP to liaise with E Flecken from Copeland & K Nichol from the Friends to get the bench sited as soon as possible. DW said that there were big plans to create a flowerbed for the King's Coronation in May 2023. DW said the castle group are planning to hold events for Halloween & in future put on plays, he also said that advertising should be more visible so that people are aware of what is going on in the town. The promotion of our heritage, signposting visitors to the castle, Florence Arts Centre, Market Hall etc to encourage spending should also be promoted.</p>	GP
	<p>CONSIDER & REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from West Cumbria Carers asking for free hall hire to host their Christmas party (which may or may not go ahead), RESOLVED that if the event did take place, free hall hire would be given. 2. A quote of £895.00 + vat was received from Newsquest to advertise in the Christmas supplement of the local papers as well as a facebook campaign. Egremont Amenity Committee had met with the representative & they asked the Town Council if they would allow the Amenity Committee to utilise the facebook campaign to promote their Winter Wonderland event if the committee paid half of the costs, this was RESOLVED. 3. Letter from Adopt Coast to Coast to request the use of the Town Council platforms to help find homes for babies and children, RESOLVED to research the organisation first o check that it is part of the County Council services and if so, RESOLVED to promote via poster advertisement. 4. Email received from the County Council regarding details of trees being pruned on Main Street, the email was responded to & this was accepted. 5. Email from Cringlethwaite resident re: dangerous parking by Sellafield workers, SP & NF stated that they will be meeting with transport representatives shortly & they could raise this issue, RESOLVED to put on hold inviting them to a Town Council meeting until the outcome of the meeting with SP & NF is known. 6. Egremont Amenity Committee had submitted a request to reiterate in writing that Egremont Amenity Committee is a recognised sub-committee of Egremont Town Council, this was RESOLVED. 7. GP explained to Councillors about the imminent removal of a horse chestnut tree within Braithwaite Court. Looking back at planning permission to remove this tree which is covered by a tree preservation order (TPO), showed that in May, the tree was deemed to be in good health with a life expectancy of 20+ years so the planning application to remove the tree was refused but it was 	GP NC SP.NF



	<p>recommended that the tree was pruned, the Town Council commented on this application & agreed with the arborist's recommendation to prune.</p> <p>It was only when via a third party that we learnt that the tree would be removed that we found out another arborist report had been compiled by the same arborist stating that the tree is a risk and can be taken down which was then passed by the planning panel the very next day.</p> <p>Councillors were concerned that there appears to be no reason for a second inspection or as to why the tree had deteriorated so much in a matter of weeks that warranted its removal.</p> <p>RESOLVED to write a letter to Copeland highlighting these points & requesting any further information that will help them understand that decision that was taken.</p>	GP
106.22.23	<p>TO CONSIDER & RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept, consider and approve the Clerk's report.</p>	
107.22.23	<p>TO RATIFY THE PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS</p> <p>RESOLVED to ratify the payments amounting to £2,245.76</p>	
108.22.23	<p>RECEIVE & APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 12th OCTOBER 2022</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept, consider & approve the financial statement at 12th October 2022 amounting to £15,974.13.</p>	
109.22.23	<p>TO RATIFY THE MONTHLY STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING CORRECTIVE AMENDMENTS</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept following amendments</p>	
110.22.23	<p>TO CONSIDER AND ACCEPT THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT</p> <p>A matter was raised whereby the asset register figure for 2020/21 had not been restated following a revaluing of assets, this was noted.</p> <p>It was also advised to ensure that the proper provision is made for the exercise of public rights is made in 2023/24.</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept this report.</p>	
111.22.23	<p>TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS AND CONFIRM ATTENDANCE FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ON 13th NOVEMBER 2022</p> <p>EW said that there would be a meeting held shortly to discuss the final order of the parade & she reminded Councillors that everyone will meet in the Market Hall prior to the parade this year & she hoped as many Councillors as possible will attend.</p>	ALL
112.22.23	<p>TO DISCUSS THE PROVISION OF A WARM HUB IN EGREMONT - SP</p> <p>SP said that he is working with Churches Together & volunteers to create a warm hub in the Methodist Church which will provide warmth, professional advice and basic food every Friday from 12.00pm – 3.00pm from November to April. These hubs are taking place all over Copeland & EW hoped that this hub will be gaining the same assistance from Copeland as are others in the borough, SP will continue to request this. As the foodbank will be operating on the same day, he has volunteered the use of the Council's display boards to act as room dividers.</p>	SP



113.22.23	<p>TO CONSIDER INVITING JANE MINDAR AND ALAN IRWIN FROM AGE UK TO GIVE AN UPDATE FOLLOWING THEIR INITIAL ATTENDANCE IN MARCH 2022</p> <p>RESOLVED to invite them both to the next meeting on 29th November.</p>	GP
114.22.23	<p>COUNCILLORS' MATTERS - AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MINOR MATTERS NOT ON THIS AGENDA AND NOT FOR DISCUSSION</p> <p>a DW said that Florence Arts Centre was welcoming 50 architect students from the University of Manchester on 20th October. He said that the centre is a good facility however more could be done to be in touch with Egremont residents e.g. they run a film club on a Friday but this might be better on a Sunday when those that work or families can also attend.</p> <p>b NF confirmed that Egremont Youth Partnership are conducting interviews for the position of Manager on 20th October. Once in place it would be an idea to invite the candidate to a Town Council meeting. He also said that the organisation has recently secured £30,000 of funding.</p> <p>c NF mentioned the Town Council organising more litter picks in Egremont. SP agreed that this would be a good incentive to tidy up prior to the Christmas event in November.</p> <p>d JL reported that an acquaintance had informed her that a number of ducks were not well kept at East Road Allotment site. NF and MM confirmed that on their last visit all seemed well, however it would be beneficial to ask Cllr GC to have a look on site.</p> <p>e SP commented on the Baybarrow depot and residents' complaints from the rock crushing resulting in noise and air pollution often at unsociable times. He has a meeting arranged with the Head of Planning, the Environment Agency & Enforcement to discuss this. SP also gave an update on continuing flood works and initiatives at Clintz quarry. GS asked what the residents' concerns were as the area has been used as a working yard in one form or another for years & it is good to see local businesses in the area. SP invited GS to attend the meeting to share his thoughts.</p> <p>f SP said that there needed to be a greater police presence in Egremont & a meeting is to be arranged with Councillors, EW and the Town Clerk.</p> <p>g GP announced that as from Sunday 30th October the cemetery gates would close at 6.00pm making the cemetery open from 8am – 6pm every day.</p> <p>h EW stated that Lad Barber will shortly have to leave their premises so could Councillors keep their eyes open for any vacant premises that could be used as we do want to lose any businesses in our town.</p> <p>i The same applies to the Boxing Club, the supper room is suffice for now but ideally they need to have larger premises.</p> <p>MM apologised & left the meeting at this point.</p>	<p>NF</p> <p>GC</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
115.22.23	<p>ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA</p> <p>To discuss available options with regards allotment sites</p> <p>Police presence</p> <p>Public representation - Age UK representatives</p>	
116.22.23	<p>RESOLVED THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED the next meeting of Egremont Town Council will be held on Tuesday 29th November 2022 at <u>5.30pm</u> in the Main Hall of Egremont Market Hall. Please note that this meeting covers both November and December meetings.</p> <p>The meeting was then moved into private</p>	

