

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022 IN THE MAIN HALL OF EGREMONT MARKET HALL &  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE AGM**

Present:

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

Also

Mr Sam Pollen (SP)                                Mr David Wright (DW) who arrived at 6.05pm  
Mr Neil Ferguson (NF)                            Mr Gareth Stringer (GS)  
Mrs Jean Lewthwaite (JL)                        Mr Tom Higgins (TH)  
Mr Graham Calvin (GC)

Mrs Geraldine Pritchard (GP)                Town Clerk  
Mrs Nicola Cattanaach (NC)                    Assistant Clerk  
Mr Chris Whiteside (CW)                        County Councillor

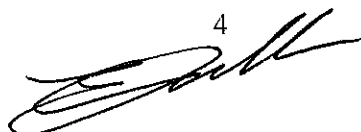
Members of the public

Mr Brandon Mawson - Newsquest

011.22.23	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> RESOLVED to accept apologies, with reasons noted from Michael McVeigh and David Wright (who was going to be late), also from County Councillor David Southward.</p>	
012.22.23	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</b> RESOLVED to be noted that GC &amp; TH declared an interest in all planning applications. TH also declared an interest in matters relating to the West Cumberland Hospital.</p>	
013.22.23	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> Chairperson welcomed Brandon Mawson from Newsquest &amp; said it was nice to see a reporter in attendance again. Chairperson welcomed CW to the meeting &amp; he reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Highways working group were in full support of Egremont Town Council's suggestions as requested via the recent TRO.</li> <li>b. RESOLVED that CW would forward on the Town Council's willingness to be involved with any emergency planning procedures being put in place in case of future emergencies.</li> <li>c. CW said he would try and get an update regarding the speed bumps at Moor Row.</li> <li>d. GC stated that trees had been cut down on land at Moor Row and caused a lot of damage; CW said he would try and obtain further information.</li> </ul> <p>EW thanked CW for attending and he duly left the meeting; DW arrived at this point.</p>	
014.22.23	<p><b>CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. EW thanked Councillors and staff who attended the online Code of Conduct training course &amp; she gave everyone their certificate.</li> <li>b. EW reminded Councillors about the Jubilee tea dance on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June and said that she expected all Councillors to be present, it was a Town Council event &amp; though GP, NC, SB had planned it all &amp; they were giving up their</li> </ul>	ALL



	<p>bank holidays to set up &amp; attend, the Town Council should show their support by being there to welcome guests and help out where needed.</p> <p>c. EW said that a teams meeting had been arranged with Inspector Richard Smillie for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May; NF will attend &amp; Councillors were invited to email in any concerns they wished to be raised.</p> <p>d. A meeting is due to be held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May with Churches Together and Councillors to discuss the Remembrance Day parade; all Councillors are welcome to attend.</p> <p>e. No reply from Physiofirst regarding a request to place a defibrillator on their building. RESOLVED to chase this up.</p> <p>f. It was confirmed by all that nothing more had been heard re: Beck Green Nursery.</p>	<p>NF.ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>GP</p>
015.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER, APPROVE &amp; SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes of the Egremont Town Council meeting held on 19th April 2022 are approved &amp; signed.</p>	
016.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; REVIEW ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p>There were no planning applications to consider.</p>	
017.22.23	<p><b>TO RATIFY COMMENTS WITH REGARDS PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS 4/22/2138/TPO</b></p> <p>Removal of a chestnut tree protected by a tree preservation order. Braithwaite Court, Market Street, Egremont</p> <p>Comments sent: Councillors felt unable to comment further due to not seeing the tree surgeon's report/recommendation</p>	
018.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER ANY REPORTS INCLUDING FINANCE, PERSONNEL, FINANCE, PERSONNEL, MARKET HALL, BOWLING GREEN, ALLOTMENTS, CEMETERY, PUBLIC REALM, WEBSITE</b></p> <p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>Councillors chose a suitable bench with a plaque for the three primary schools, Bookwell, St Bridgets &amp; Moor Row to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Orgill school requested a donation instead to purchase their own bench to fit in their planned allotment within the school grounds. RESOLVED that the three benches at a cost of £494.63 + vat including a plaque are purchased &amp; a plaque is purchased also for the Orgill bench (the difference between the £500 donation &amp; the cost of the plaque will be paid to them as a financial donation).</p> <p>Also RESOLVED that a bench is purchased at a cost of £704.35 + vat (also including a plaque) to commemorate all those who were affected by covid &amp; to thank all those who helped. Also RESOLVED that this seat is incorporated into the public realm scheme and is sited on the Main Street and NOT within the castle.</p> <p><u>Market Hall</u></p> <p>Brackets have been put up on the walls in the supper room in preparation of the boxing club commencing. It was confirmed that the brackets will not impede on any other bookings up to the commencement of the club &amp; the club is also aware that they have to take down the equipment for pre-bookings where the supper room is required. EW said the boxing club had enquired about siting a storage container outside &amp; that potentially Egremont Town Council could share the facility, DW said technically this</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>GP</p>



	<p>would require planning permission as the land at the back of the Market Hall is in a conservation area; this would need to be checked.</p> <p>EW said the club are continuing to raise funds to enable them to start their club at the end of summer. All agreed that it would be good for the young people a&amp; hopefully if it all goes well, the club could secure better facilities elsewhere.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Age UK is granted for the foreseeable future, a reduced hall hire rate of £25 to provide the nail cutting service in Egremont Market Hall.</p> <p>RESOLVED to ratify the decision taken by the Chairperson &amp; Vice-Chairperson to get the urgent IT support needed in the office &amp; to set up a package going forward.</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>GP</p>
	<p><u>Bowling Green</u></p> <p>GP reminded Councillors that they were all invited to the President's Day on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June at the Bowling Green where a plaque will be unveiled to commemorate the club's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club opening.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
	<p><u>Allotments</u></p> <p>a. RESOLVED that the temporary tenancy given to a tenant is extended for a further 12 months as he has worked so hard on the plot.</p> <p>b. It was suggested that whenever a tenant is allocated a plot, they are given it for an initial 12 months, before being given a long term tenancy agreement. RESOLVED that the allotment committee is given delegated powers to discuss in more detail &amp; make a decision to adopt or not.</p> <p>c. A meeting will be arranged, shortly with the new representative of Sandholes along with a fellow tenant to discuss responsibilities etc.</p> <p>d. Following a long discussion, it was RESOLVED that dogs could be brought in at Sandholes &amp; East Road to help reduce the escalating rat problem. Brandon Mawson left at this point.</p> <p>e. NF reported on a plot adjacent to the plot of a Bridge End tenant who has slowly been extending his own plot onto the Town Council's boundary &amp; accessing the site via this plot to obtain water. RESOLVED that the lengthsman is asked to block up the space.</p> <p>f. A further complaint has been received from the same East Road tenant re: a noisy bird. GP said that this "additional" bird was apparently a stray cockerel which has been sighted by other tenants but does not belong to anyone on the site..</p>	<p>NC</p> <p>GS.NF. MM.SB. GC</p> <p>GP</p>
	<p><u>Cemetery</u></p> <p>a. The Energy Performance Certificate for Cemetery House had rated the building F which was low, however GC said this rating was not a concern as it is an old property &amp; could be expected.</p> <p>b. GP asked about finding two herras fencing panels to help disguise the skip in the cemetery, DW said he would try to source some.</p>	<p>DW</p>
	<p><u>Public Realm/Borderlands</u></p> <p>a. EW reported that she had successfully obtained an enabling grant to allow the feasibility plan to go ahead which is hopefully accepted by Copeland so they can release the public realm funding. A site visit with the contractors has been arranged for 31<sup>st</sup> May to look at how best to utilise the funding, Copeland officers had been invited so as to add their input, but none were available to attend.</p> <p>b. Places to site the covid memorial bench were discussed &amp; suggestions were: the land beside the Co-op, outside of Betfred or near the red miner's statues outside of Westlakes Academy.</p>	<p>ALL</p>



	<p>c. A meeting will be held with Jenny Brumby on 9<sup>th</sup> June to discuss what street furniture is remaining awaiting being sited and the agreed site for the information board.</p>	ALL
	<p><u>Egremont Castle</u></p> <p>a. EW, DW, SP, NF met with Lord &amp; Lady Egremont and Charles Baker along with representatives from the Friends of Egremont Castle group on 27<sup>th</sup> April to discuss a long term management plan for the castle to include the repair of the castle gates, wild flower areas, tree maintenance, lighting &amp; the repair of the flag pole. Lady Egremont also expressed her willingness to address the steep bank at the back of the castle. EW has received a basic plan of the castle from Lady Egremont so she &amp; DW will meet to draft out a scheme.</p> <p>b. The Friends of Egremont Castle Group intends to plant up the entrance flower bed on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25<sup>th</sup> May and Councillors were invited to attend for a photo shoot.</p>	EW.DW ALL
019.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>a. RESOLVED a letter is sent to Edwin Dinsdale to inform him that the Town Council fully supports the campaign for improved local hospital services.</p> <p>b. It was reported that official enforcement signs from CBC have been erected in the castle however these signs indicate that dogs are allowed in the grounds on leads, which contradicts cemetery rules which state that no dogs are allowed so it was RESOLVED that the sign will not be displayed in the cemetery.</p> <p>c. A request from Moor Row Jubilee Club was received and it was agreed that a £100 donation can be given towards their jubilee celebrations.</p> <p>d. Age UK have requested permission to site a pop up van in Egremont, to give out advice and freebies to people. They are working with the Town Council &amp; Copeland to agree a large enough space to accommodate the van.</p>	GP GP
020.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; RECEIVE THE CLERKS REPORT</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to accept and approve the Clerks Report</p>	
021.22.23	<p><b>TO RATIFY THE PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to ratify the payments amounting to £4,034.75</p>	
022.22.23	<p><b>TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to accept, consider &amp; approve the financial statement at 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 amounting to £13,509.43</p>	
023.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATE ON THE TOWN HALL CLOCK</b></p> <p>EW confirmed that she had submitted a request for funding to get the clock working at a cost of £15,495</p>	
024.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATES ON PUBLIC TOILETS</b></p> <p>SP confirmed again, that having no public toilets is an issue for residents and visitors, alike. GP contacted CBC re: them (as the local authority) applying for funding towards public toilets from the government. CBC stated that proof of sufficient funding for 3 years cleaning and maintenance costs would need to firstly be provided.</p>	



025.22.23	<p><b>COUNCILLORS MATTERS – AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MINOR MATTERS NOT ON THIS AGENDA AND NOT FOR DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>EW reminded Councillors that the Annual Town meeting, of Egremont Town Council, is to be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00pm.</p> <p>EW confirmed the Remembrance Parade meeting where it will be suggested that the Town Council will arrange the order of the parade. It will set off from the Market Hall and a fully manned road closure will be put in place.</p> <p>SP said we must support the church and EW said it will be taken forward that the parade should be for those officially invited.</p> <p>GP raised the matter of the old Castle Mount Care Home being used as a dumping ground for old fridge freezers, piles of soil and rubbish. This has been reported to CBC who have made contact with the owner who has 21 days to clear the site.</p> <p>DW confirmed he would give a Borderlands presentation at the Annual Town Meeting.</p> <p>NF wished to offer congratulations to fellow Councillor SP on being elected Egremont Cumberland Unitary Councillor, in the recent elections.</p> <p>NF mentioned the grass overgrown at St Marys &amp; St Michaels church and Beckgreen.</p> <p>GP said she will speak to the Lengthsman.</p> <p>EW asked if the CBC flowerbed, next to the Egremont living sign could be removed as it is an eyesore and not a welcome sight when entering Egremont. GP said stated that CBC had agreed to remove this bed in February – this will be chased up.</p> <p>GC said that due to the current health of the organiser, the Moor Row Youth Club was on hold but that help and support was still taking place, behind the scenes.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>DW</p> <p>GP</p> <p>GP</p>
026.22.23	<p><b>ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA. PLEASE NOTE DECISIONS CANNOT BE MADE ON THESE ITEMS UNTIL THEY ARE FORMALLY INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To consider any update on Public Toilets - SP</li> <li>b. Annual Audit 2021/22</li> </ul>	
027.22.23	<p><b>TO RESOLVE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>RESOLVED the next ordinary meeting of Egremont Town Council will be held on Tuesday 21st June 2022 at 5.30pm in the Main Hall of Egremont Market Hall.</p> <p>The meeting was brought to a close at 7.30pm</p>	

