



Penrith Town Council

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Minutes of the meeting of

PENRITH TOWN COUNCIL

Held on **Monday 27 September 2021**, at 6.00 pm, at Penrith Parish Centre, St Andrews.

PRESENT

Cllr. Burgin	South Ward	Cllr. Kenyon	North Ward
Cllr. M. Clark	South Ward	Cllr. Knaggs	West Ward
Cllr. Davies	West Ward	Cllr. Lawson	Carleton Ward
Cllr. Fallows	East Ward	Cllr. C. Shepherd	East Ward
Cllr. Hawkins	East Ward		
Cllr. Jackson	North Ward		

Acting Town Clerk

Deputy Town Clerk

The Town Council resolved from 20 May 2019, until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, to adopt the General Power of Competence.

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL

27 September 2021

Cllr Shepherd announced that the following items had been withdrawn from the agenda prior to the meeting:

Item 4 Fibrus Broadband

Item 15 Approval for Reason for Absence of a Councillor from Meetings

PTC21/54 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bowen, M. Shepherd and Snell.

Cllrs S Clarke and Donald were absent without apologies.

PTC21/55 Minutes

a) RESOLVED THAT:

It be noted that the minutes from the following committees had been circulated, and published on the Council website since the previous meeting:

- i. Planning Committee: 06 September 2021
- ii. CCEG Committee: 26 July 2021 & EOM 06 September 2021
- iii. Finance Committee: 20 September 2021

b) RESOLVED THAT:

The Chair be authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of Penrith Town Council held on Tuesday 13 July 2021 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 27 July 2021.

PTC21/56 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

Members were asked to disclose their interests in matters to be discussed whether disclosable pecuniary or other registrable interest, and to decide requests for dispensations:

- a) Councillor Davies declared that he was a candidate in the Eden District Council Penrith West by-election and declared an interest in the following Agenda items: 10 Omega Proteins Liaison Group, 11 A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project, 12 Parking and Movement Study, 13 Local Government Reorganisation & Devolution of Transfer of Assets, 19 Direction Signpost Beacon Edge, 20 20mph Speed Limit Order.

PTC21/56 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations, continued

He further declared an interest in the withdrawn Agenda items 4 Fibrus Broadband, 15 Approval for Reason for Absence of a Councillor from Meetings.

- b) Councillor Burgin declared that he was a candidate in the Eden District Council Penrith West by-election and declared an interest in the following Agenda items 10 Omega Proteins Liaison Group, 11 A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project, 12 Parking and Movement Study, 13 Local Government Reorganisation & Devolution of Transfer of Assets, 19 Direction Signpost Beacon Edge, 20 20mph Speed Limit Order. He further declared an interest in the withdrawn Agenda items 4 Fibrus Broadband, 15 Approval for Reason for Absence of a Councillor from Meetings.
- c) Cllr. Lawson declared an interest in Agenda item 18, Gambling Act 2005 Review of Policy Consultation as he was a District Councillor and member of the Licensing Committee.

PTC21/57 Fibrus Broadband

This item was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

PTC21/58 Public Participation

a) Public Representations

Members noted that there were no questions or representations that had been received from members of the public prior to the meeting.

b) Reports from District and County Councillors

- i. Members noted that there were no questions, petitions or statements that had been received from County or District Councillors prior to the meeting.
- ii. Members received the following reports:

County Councillors

County Councillor Carrick informed the meeting that Cumbria County Council were scheduled to make improvements to the Salkeld Road / Inglewood Road junction but had been required to undertake some further consultation which had delayed the project. The scheme proposal is being presented to Eden Area Local Committee in November 2021. Cllr Carrick reported that Salkeld Road was scheduled to be resurfaced and that she had requested that this be carried out at the same time as the junction improvements to reduce disruption.

District Councillors

There were no District Council reports.

PTC21/59 EXCLUDED ITEM: Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960

Members confirmed that item 22 on the agenda should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960.

ROUTINE BUSINESS MATTERS

PTC21/60 Report from the Council Chair

Members noted that the mayor had attended the Kendal Mayor Making Ceremony, the Coronation Garden plaque unveiling in recognition of Jeff Fawcett and the Royal British Legion Standard Bearers Competition at Newbiggin Village Hall where he escorted the High Sherriff. He also reported that the Council's external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP, had signed off the accounts with no qualifications and thanked the staff for their hard work.

PTC21/61 Reports from Members

There were no oral reports from Councillors regarding meetings that they had attended as representatives of the Town Council and matters of interest to the attention of the Council for information or future discussion:

PTC21/62 Resolutions Report

Members noted the report.

PTC21/63 Omega Proteins Liaison Group

Members noted that there had been no further meetings.

PTC21/64 A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project

- a. Members received a verbal update on meetings attended from Cllr C. Shepherd.
- b. Members were advised of the dates and locations of the Highways England Consultation on proposals for the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project.
- c. Members were asked to consider a response to the statutory consultation for the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The verbal report received from Cllr C. Shepherd be noted.
- ii. The dates and locations of the Highways England Consultation on proposals for the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project be noted.
- iii. Members submit their comments on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project statutory consultation to the Acting Town Clerk by 08 October 2021 for officers to prepare a Council response and consider whether a further meeting of Council should be called prior to the deadline of 06 November 2021.

PTC21/65 Parking and Movement Study

Members noted the verbal report from the lead officer.

PTC21/66 Local Government Reorganisation & Devolution Transfer of Assets

Members considered a report setting out the position of Local Government Reorganisation and the Devolution of Assets Project.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The Local Government Reorganisation position be noted.
- ii. The Council resubmits the Expression of Interest Letter to EDC which was sent in December 2020 with the inclusion of the Old London Road Depot. The letter sets out the assets and services the Council would, in principle, be interested in considering for transfer and copy the letter to South Lakeland District Council, Barrow Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.
- iii. The Council writes to the leader of Eden District Council to request that all efforts are made to retain local service provision in Penrith including access to offices, officers, and services and copy the letter to South Lakeland District Council, Barrow Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.
- iv. The Council writes to the leader of Eden District Council to stress the importance of protecting and retaining local authority jobs in Penrith which in turn serves and supports the local economy and copies the letter to South Lakeland District Council, Barrow Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.
- v. The Council authorises the Town Clerk to begin preparing a Town Council plan for Local Government Reorganisation.
- vi. The position with regards to the Devolution Transfer of Assets Project be noted.

Moved by Councillor Davies

Seconded by Councillor Hawkins

AND RESOLVED THAT:

The Council writes to Cumbria County Council stating that Penrith Town Council supports Cumbria County Council's Cabinet in calling for a judicial review into the decision for Local Government Reorganisation.

PTC21/67 Matters from Finance Committee

- a. Members were asked to ratify matters a, b, c as approved by Finance Committee on 20 September 2021.
- b. Members were asked to consider and approve an additional budget of £2000 be allocated to the Thacka Beck Field budget from the Devolution Reserve to enable minor improvement works to be undertaken.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The following matters approved by Finance Committee be ratified a, b, c.
 - a. **Budgetary Control Statement** for the period 31 August 2021.

PTC21/67 Matters from Finance Committee, continued

b. Risk Assessments

for:

- i. Allotments
- ii. Bandstand
- iii. Business Continuity
- iv. Bus Shelter
- v. Fairhill
- vi. Finance
- vii. Fire
- viii. GDPR
- ix. Governance
- x. IT & Website
- xi. Lone Working
- xii. Musgrave Monument
- xiii. Morrisons Recycling Bring Site
- xiv. Office
- xv. Seats
- xvi. Thacka Beck Field
- xvii. War Memorial (St Andrews)
- xviii. Remembrance Day Parade and Service

c. Policy Review

- a) Procurement Policy
- b) Financial Regulations.

And

- ii. Approved that an additional budget of £2,000 be allocated to the Thacka Beck Field budget from the Devolution Reserve.

NEW BUSINESS

PTC21/68 Approval of Reason for Absence of a Councillor from Meetings

This item was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

PTC21/69 Approval of Reason for Absence of a Councillor from Meetings

Members considered a request from Cllr Snell for approval of a period of absence from attendance at meetings between 6 May and 27 September for the reasons stated and that approval be given for absence from 27 September until it is safe to attend meetings in person as set out in paragraph 1.3 of the report.

PTC21/69 Approval of Reason for Absence of a Councillor from Meetings, continued

Moved by Councillor Davies

Seconded by Councillor Burgin

that a dispensation be given until the end of January 2022 but remove Councillor Snell from the committees she sits on and allow other members to fill those vacancies to allow Council business to continue and also remove Councillor Snell as Vice-Chair of the Council and Deputy Mayor.

A vote was taken, and the motion was lost on the Chairs casting vote.

Moved by Councillor Davies

Seconded by Councillor Jackson

and **RESOLVED THAT:**

Cllr Snell's absence from attendance at meetings between 06 May and 27 September 2021 be approved for the reasons as stated in the report.

Moved by Councillor Davies

- a) Councillor Snell be granted a dispensation until the end of January 2022; and
- b) Due to wider implications for Council business, the roles of Vice Chair and Deputy Mayor be rescinded, and officers communicate with Councillor Snell to see what her intentions are with regard to committees.

There was no seconder, so the motion fell.

Moved by Councillor Shepherd

Seconded by Councillor Jackson

And **RESOLVED THAT**

Councillor Snell be granted a dispensation for absence from meetings for 6 months until the 27 March 2022.

PTC21/70 CCEG Committee Additional Standing Deputy

Members were asked to consider the appointment of an additional standing deputy to the CCEG Committee.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. Cllr Burgin be approved as the standing deputy to the CCEG Committee for the remainder of the municipal year; and
- ii. The Acting Town Clerk circulates to Members an updated list of Committee Membership.

PTC21/71 Gambling Act 2005 Review of Policy Statement Consultation

Members considered a response to EDC's consultation on its 'Gambling Act 2005, Statement of Policy'.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. As the policy being only includes minor amendments and was last reviewed as recently as 2019, Councillors submit any comments no later than Friday 01 October 2021 to the Acting Town Clerk who will then prepare a response to EDC and submit it on EDC's Consultation Response Template.
- ii. Should the Acting Town Clerk receive no comments then a Consultation Response Form will be submitted stating 'no comments'.

PTC21/72 Directional Signpost Beacon Edge

Members considered whether to make a financial contribution to the restoration of the directional signpost on Beacon Edge.

Moved by Councillor Shepherd
Seconded by Councillor Burgin

That the Council supports the restoration of the directional signpost on Beacon Edge and contributes £500 to its restoration.

Amendment by Councillor Kenyon
Seconded by Councillor Hawkins

That the Council supports the restoration of the of the directional signpost on Beacon Edge and contributes £1,000 to its restoration.

Councillor Davies requested that a named vote take place.

A Vote was taken where there were:

For the Motion – 5

(Cllr Fallows, Cllr Hawkins, Cllr Kenyon, Cllr Knaggs, Cllr Lawson)

Against it – 4

(Cllr Burgin, Cllr M Clark, Cllr Davies, Cllr Jackson)

Abstentions – 1

(Cllr C Shepherd)

RESOLVED THAT:

The Council makes a financial contribution of £1,000 to Cumbria County Council towards the restoration of the directional signpost on Beacon Edge and funds this from the Town Projects budget.

PTC21/73 20mph Speed Limit Order

Members noted Cumbria County Council's response to the Council's request to create a Penrith wide 20mph Speed Limit Order.

PTC21/74 NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting which is the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Council would be held on Monday 29 November 2021 at 6.00pm, at Penrith Parish Centre, St Andrews.

PART II Private Section

PART II – PRIVATE SECTION

Members agreed that there was one item in this part of the agenda to be considered in private as it would involve the disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972: Exempt information relating to members of staff.

PTC21/75 Staffing Matters

Members noted the Acting Town Clerks verbal report on staffing matters.

CHAIR:

DATE:

**FOR INFORMATION FOR ALL
MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**