

APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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Planning and General-Purposes Committee Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.24pm

Present:

Cllr Connell (Chair) Cllr Mycock
Cllr Pape Cllr Swann
Cllr Railton Cllr Davidson (Ex-officio)

Also in attendance:

Cllr Anderton Cllr Potts
Cllr Heap Cllr Turnbull
Cllr Kemp
Town Clerk and Clerk's Assistant

P1/09/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Curley.

P2/09/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest to report.

P3/09/23 Actions from the Previous Minutes

• **Broad Close Car Park**

Westmorland & Furness Council have ordered a lockable gate to be fitted across the entrance to the toilet block in the car park, which will be secured when the toilets are closed, restricting access overnight and therefore reducing vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

The speed bump across the entrance to the car park has been re-installed, but if the bays adjacent to the speed bump are un-occupied, it does not prevent cars speeding in and out of the car park. Cllr Mycock commented that re-installing the speed bumps has caused an issue for wheelchair users who struggle to navigate over the speed bump. The Clerk reported that although W&F were open to consider extending the speed bump to help with this problem, this wouldn't be until after the flood defence project is completed, as the car park will be closed during this period.

The police have issued some warnings and any offences are being dealt with appropriately. Officers are currently conducting nightly patrols from 6-10pm, ending on Sunday 17th Sept and CCTV footage is also being reviewed.

The toilets were closed for a period of three weeks to resolve drainage problems, which put additional pressure on the Market Arcade toilets, but have now re-opened, which will hopefully solve the ongoing blockage issues.

• **Yew tree on steps at Mill Hill / Jubilee Bridge - Application No. 23/0440**

This has been approved, with the W&F tree officers seeing no issues with felling the Yew tree nearest the steps. A stonemason will be asked to assess the wall before any decision is made. Cllr Potts suggested a structural engineer should be asked to look at the wall. Cllr Connell reminded the committee that this land does not belong to Appleby Town Council.

- **Heritage Open Days**

1,000 leaflets have been printed and distributed for this weekend's Heritage Open Weekend and Appleby's events have been well publicised. Appleby Community Enterprises have offered to contribute 50% towards the marketing costs to promote the weekend.

- **Doomgate FMRS update**

United Utilities started work today at High Wiend/Doomgate corner, which is expected to take 2-3 weeks. After discussions with the Clerk, the traffic management officer moved some of the cones on Chapel Street to free up additional parking spaces. The traffic lights have been working well and have been efficiently controlling the traffic flow.

The Environment Agency have produced a newsletter showing the new schedule of work and the online Appleby Flood Hub pages have been updated, including the new schedule of dates for the traffic management plans. The project is now due to start in January 2024, providing the temporary car park at Edenside is up and running.

Cllr Mycock reported that Ernie Brabbins of Appleby Cricket Club had contacted him to say that he was dissatisfied with the long-term car park solution that has been offered by the EA and also that no alternative car parking had been made available for the current road works.

- **Fingerposts, Butts Shelters and Bollards**

The Memorandum of Agreement and Works Contract Agreement has been drawn up by Westmorland & Furness Council ahead of the installation of the information boards and fingerposts. W&F will be carrying out the work and have agreed that if the costs go over the estimated figure, they will cover the shortfall from their budget. The total cost to Appleby Town Council will be £1,550.

It was **recommended** to Full Council to accept the Memorandum of Agreement from Westmorland & Furness Council in relation to the installation and ongoing ownership and maintenance of the information boards and cast iron fingerposts.

The Clerk has not received an update from W&F regarding the Butts shelters and the black and white bollards, which were awaiting costings. 24 of the bollards need complete replacement and many others need re-painting. Cllr Railton added that sometimes when contractors are strimming the grass, they bash the bollards, which damages them. The Clerk will report this to W&F.

- **MASCG and litter management for Horse Fair**

The Clerk had met with Steph Corden who confirmed W&F were looking into the process for enforcing a PCSO/bye-law relating to urinating and defecating in public places and will provide an update once they are in a position to do so. W&F Cllr Graham Simpkins will be running three drop-in sessions as the locally elected representative on MASCG. These will be held in Appleby Library on 11th October, 6th December and 9th March. Flyers with the dates and times have been publicised.

- **Dog issues on playing fields and Butts**

Cllr Heap explained the recent increase in dog ownership has had a knock-on effect, including issues with more dogs off leads, dog attacks and dog fouling and that a solution is needed to prevent these issues now and in the future. Cllrs Heap and Turnbull requested the committee supported setting up a Working Group, which will involve members of the public. Terms of Reference will be drawn up and agreed prior to setting up the working party.

It was **recommended** to Full Council to set up a temporary working group, including interested residents, to look at the various issues relating to dogs, including being off leads, dog attacks and dog fouling.

- **Additional issues**

- Cllr Swann asked for an update on the missing bollards by the leisure centre, Cllr Connell to chase W&F.

- Cllr Railton asked if any progress had been made regarding the library building. The Clerk confirmed that this had been discussed with W&F within the context of expressing an interest in re-opening the discussions that had previously taken place, regarding devolution of services and assets. W&F have confirmed that this is something they will be looking at and will let us know when they are in a position to move forward with these discussions.

P4/09/23 Planning Applications

Under Westmorland and Furness Council's consultation process, to consider the following Planning Applications, plus any late arrivals, to prepare, under delegated authority, a response from Council:

<p>23/0503 – Consultation period ended 18th Aug Barrow Coombe, CA16 6AA Proposed general purpose storage garage <i>Applicant: Mr K Inniff</i></p> <p>No comments</p>	<p>23/0502 4 Drawbriggs Mount, CA16 6HL Addition of front and rear extensions <i>Applicant: Mr A Little</i></p> <p>No comments</p>
<p>23/0570 Former Edenside Residential Care Home, CA16 6QU Change of use to a temporary public car park at site of the former Edenside Care Home. <i>Applicant: Environment Agency</i></p> <p>Cllr Swann pointed out that the EA were not meeting their commitment to provide the alternative car parking provision they had promised. He also mentioned that the two plans published on the planning portal showed different locations for the disabled bays.</p> <p>Cllr Potts suggested that if the fire engine was re-locating for the duration of the work, then perhaps the car park in front of the station could be used to make up some of the shortfall of spaces.</p> <p>Cllr Railton asked about car parking for any residents who would lose their spaces during the works. The Clerk advised that the temporary car park at Edenside was going to be free.</p> <p>Action: The Clerk will speak to the EA and report to Full Council.</p>	<p>Late Arrival – 23/0601 For Information Only Appleby Grange Care Home, Bongate, CA16 6HR Remove Horse Chestnut <i>Applicant: Tom Newbury</i></p> <p>The application is exempt from consent, as it is closed off as a dangerous tree.</p>

P5/09/23 Planning Decisions

The following decisions were noted.

<p>23/0205 – Reserved Matters Approval Up Top, Roman Road, CA16 5JH Discharge of conditions 3 (materials), 4 (drainage), 5 (boundary treatments) and 6 (landscaping scheme), attached to approval 22/0473 <i>Applicant: Mr & Mrs Lees</i></p>	<p>23/0315 – Reserved by Cond Approval Land Adjacent, Appleby Leisure Centre, Chapel Street, CA16 6QR Discharge of condition 3 (Construction Environmental Management Plan), attached to approval 22/0713. <i>Applicant: Environment Agency</i></p>
<p>23/0320 – Full Approval 75 Glebe Road, CA16 6RU Side extension to form shed and carport. <i>Applicant: Mrs Judith Lightburn</i></p>	<p>23/0502 – Full Approval 4 Drawbriggs Mount, CA16 6HL Addition of front and rear extensions. <i>Applicant: Mr A Little</i></p>

P6/09/23 Chairman's Report

There was no Chair's report in respect of this meeting.

P7/09/23 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- Cllr Mycock highlighted the increase of A-boards blocking pavements. The Clerk reported that this has already been reported and is in hand. Also, the tactile paving on Bridge Street has not been removed since the raised road crossing was removed when the roads were re-surfaced last year, which is potentially dangerous for visually impaired pedestrians. The Clerk has reported this to Highways and an Officer will be coming out to do a street assessment with us.
- Cllr Mycock also reported that a resident on Chapel Street who has an electric car has the charging cable across the pavement. With the potential increase in electric vehicles, this is likely to be an increasing issue and needs to be assessed in the future.
- Cllr Pape requested the crossing outside the Moot Hall should be made into a Belisha Beacon crossing. He recollected that plans and agreement for this had started a few years ago, but has never been actioned.
- The Clerk has received a request from residents to make Chapel Street resident parking only, which has been forwarded to W&F Highways.
- Cllr Railton asked whether a flashing 20pmh sign could be installed on Boroughgate to make the speed limit more obvious. The Clerk will make an enquiry to W&F Highways.
- Cllr Connell has received a request on behalf of older residents of Scattergate to install another bench on Scattergate Green, for those who would like to get out of the house, but cannot walk far.

P8/09/23 Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Planning and General Purposes Committee will be on **Monday 16th October 2023** at **6.45pm** in the Moot Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.36pm.

At the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 20th September 2023**, the Chairman of this meeting was authorised by the Council to sign these minutes, to confirm they are a true and accurate record:

Cllr Connell
